Discovery Place Summer Camp Procedures & Protocols

Updated May 2022

Mission and Focus
Every year, Discovery Place offers hundreds of future scientists, innovators and world problem-solvers the opportunity to spend part of their summer with us by participating in our Summer Camps. We are excited to welcome you and your family this season.

Essential Functions of a Summer Camp Participant
A Camper must have the following capabilities to participate in Summer Camp at Discovery Place:

• Be able to move independently from place to place
• Take care of their own personal needs
• Have effective interactions in our group-based environment (pair work, group projects, etc.)
• Abide by the code of conduct and behavior guidelines

If you have any questions about the essential functions listed above, please contact us. We would be happy to talk to you about your Campers’ specific needs. Please note:

• Discovery Place is not a therapeutic setting; however, we work with families to accommodate their children’s needs as long as they can abide by the essential functions of a participant (above).
• If a Camper has a current IEP issued from the school system that requires an aide or other resources, Discovery Place will accommodate those individuals. Caregivers or members of the family are not considered a licensed aide or support person.
• Discovery Place does not administer oral or topical medications. Campers must be able to administer their own medications during the program hours.

What to Bring
• Campers must bring lunch and snacks for the day. No food options are offered on site. Please ensure all food is nut-free.
• Campers will have access to the water bottle filling station and should bring a refillable water bottle.
• Additionally, Campers may opt to wear a mask or face covering. Museum policy is masks optional.
Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Drop-off Times and Locations
Camper drop-off will be staggered based on age groups; please see details below.

Discovery Place Science:
- **Morning Camps:** Campers in Pre-K through 2nd grade should be dropped off between 8:40 and 8:50 a.m. Campers in 3rd grade or higher should be dropped off between 8:50 and 9:00 a.m.
- **Afternoon Camps:** Campers in Pre-K through 2nd grade should be dropped off between 12:50 to 1:00 p.m. Campers in 3rd grade or higher should be dropped off between 12:55 to 1:00 p.m.
- For those with Campers in both age groups, the parent/guardian should choose which drop-off time they prefer.

Discovery Place Nature:
- **Morning Camps:** Campers in Pre-K through kindergarten should be dropped off between 8:40 and 8:50 a.m. Campers in 1st and 2nd grade should be dropped off between 8:50 and 9:00 a.m.
- **Afternoon Camps:** Campers in Pre-K through kindergarten should be dropped off between 12:50 to 1:00 p.m. Campers in 1st and 2nd grade should be dropped off between 12:55 to 1:00 p.m.
- For those with Campers in both age groups, the parent/guardian should choose which drop-off time they prefer.

Discovery Place Kids-Huntersville:
- **Morning Camps:** Campers in Pre-K through kindergarten should be dropped off between 8:40 and 8:50 a.m. Campers in 1st and 2nd grade should be dropped off between 8:50 and 9:00 a.m.
- **Afternoon Camps:** Campers in Pre-K through kindergarten should be dropped off between 12:50 to 1:00 p.m. Campers in 1st and 2nd grade should be dropped off between 12:55 to 1:00 p.m.
- For those with Campers in both age groups, the parent/guardian should choose which drop-off time they prefer.
- Park in the deck and walk your Camper to the Learning Garden, located across from the parking deck entrance. Camp Presenters will be at the drop-off point for check-in.

Pick-Up Times and Locations
Campers can be picked up beginning 15 minutes prior to the scheduled end of Camp at the same location as drop-off.
- **Science/Nature:** Picking up a Camper will be a contactless process. A pick-up pass will be provided to registrants that must be displayed in their vehicle at the time of pick-up.
- **KIDS-Huntersville:** Caregivers should park in the deck, walk to the Learning Garden entrance, and present their issued pick-up pass to the staff member at the gate.
- If the Caregiver picking up the Camper does not have the pass provided, then they will need to show a photo ID and be listed on the Emergency Medical and Release Form.
- The person who booked the camps may make changes to the approved pick-up list at any time by calling the Camp coordinator at the respective Camp site, at the numbers provided.

Late Arrival / Early Pick-Up Requests
• Late arrivals will need to be pre-arranged with Camp management (numbers below). Caregivers must remain outside of the Museum until the Camper can be greeted by staff.

• Early pick-ups will need to be pre-arranged with Camp management (numbers below) and must take place before 3:30 p.m. for full-day Camp and at 11:30 a.m. for half-day Camp.

**Late Pick-Up Fees**

• Pick-up for non-extended day Campers is from 3:45 – 4:00 p.m.

• All Campers must be picked up on time. Any Camper picked up at 4:15 p.m. or later will be subject to a $50 late pick-up fee. Consistent late pick-ups are grounds for dismissal from the Summer Camp program.

**Extended Care and Lunch Bunch**

Extended Care and Lunch Bunch are offered as add-ons.

• Extended Care covers one hour prior to the start of regular Camp and one hour after the conclusion of regular Camp.

• All Campers must be picked up on time. Any Camper picked up at 5:15 p.m. or later will be subject to a $50 late pick-up fee. Consistent late pick-ups are grounds for dismissal from the Summer Camp program.

**Contact Numbers:**

• Discovery Place Science: 704-619-4062

• Discovery Place Nature: 704-619-0811

• Discovery Place Kids-Huntersville: 704-619-1658

**Health & Safety**

Our team follows the latest guidance from federal, state and local health officials and has created a set of standards and procedures designed to keep your staff and your Campers happy and safe.

• Masks/face coverings are now optional for Museum visitors, which includes Campers.

• We advise staff and caregivers to be alert and stay home if they or anyone else in the household is showing any signs of illness or if they have been exposed to COVID-19. The presence of any of the symptoms generally suggests a person has an infectious illness and should not attend Camp, regardless of whether the illness is COVID-19.

• Enhanced cleaning protocols have been put into place at our Museums to limit the spread of germs.

• Campers will be required to wash their hands throughout the day.

• Discovery Place will notify caregivers if there has been a potential Covid exposure. Identifying information of any individuals will remain confidential for privacy protection.
** Our procedures and protocols may change as the conditions around COVID-19 change. Updates to our policies and procedures will be communicated via our website and pre-camp email from the Camp Director. **

**Refunds and Cancellations**

- Programs with low enrollment are subject to cancellation. Discovery Place will make this determination three weeks prior to the start of a session.
- If a Camp is cancelled due to low enrollment, you will be notified and given the opportunity to select another Camp or receive a refund.
- If you wish to cancel registration, you must give 3 weeks’ notice prior to the start of Camp for a refund, minus cancellation fee ($50 for full day Camps, $35 for half-day Camps).
- Any cancellation less than three weeks prior to the start of Camp will not be refunded. Camp registrations may be rescheduled up to two times and will be charged a $20 fee per transfer.
- Refunds will not be offered for missed days and cannot be applied to future dates.

For additional questions, please call 704.372.6261 x300 or email camps@discoveryplace.org.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Will my child be required to wear a mask?**
Our current Museum policy is masks optional for staff and visitors, which includes those attending our Camps.

**What are your cleaning practices? What about hand washing?**
In addition to daily deep cleaning, classrooms will be cleaned regularly throughout the day. Campers will be required to wash their hands throughout the day.

**Do you offer extended care?**
Yes. Extended care is offered as an add-on option and is available provided minimum enrollment is met.

**What if I need to drop off my child late or pick-up early?**
Any need for a late drop-off or early pick-up must be pre-arranged with Camp management. See phone numbers listed under the Drop-Off/Pick-Up Section above.