

CURIOSITY CAMPS 2021 INFORMATION AND POLICIES

Rochester Museum & Science Center

Welcome to Curiosity Camps at the Rochester Museum & Science Center! We're so glad you're here! We've got an awesome summer lined up for you, filled with messy, unbelievable experiments, tinkering and testing, and learning led by fun! Check out this document for everything you need to know about Curiosity Camps this summer, and please reach out to [Camp Administration](#) if you have any questions!

Interested in our COVID-19 safety protocols? We'll be following all CDC, state, and local guidelines regarding social distancing, masking, and sanitizing surfaces, spaces, and supplies used during the program. For detailed procedures and policies, please see our [Health and Well-Being Protocols](#).

WHAT TO BRING AND WEAR

- Please send your camper with a snack, lunch, and drink/water bottle. Please note that refrigeration is not available.
 - Campers are encouraged to wear closed-toed shoes and comfortable clothing that can get messy.
 - Campers will not have recess outdoors during winter weather but may leave the building to attend shows at the Strasenburgh Planetarium.
 - The RMSC is not responsible for the loss, destruction, or theft of any personal items (including clothing, book bags, purses, toys, games, electronic devices, cell phones, money, etc.) that your child may bring to camp. We highly encourage your camper to keep valuables and other personal items at home.
-

DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

For all camps taking place on the museum campus (including those being bussed to and from the Cumming Nature Center), drop-off and pick-up take place in the Eisenhart Auditorium (not the main building) located on the RMSC campus at 657 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607.

- Please be prompt so that all camps can start at their scheduled times! All campers must be accompanied by an adult each morning and signed in at their camp's table.
- Your camper will only be released to the authorized contacts listed during registration and on the camp sign-in sheet. Authorized pick-ups must present a photo ID every time they come to pick up a camper.

Please review the procedures below as they apply to your camper(s):

2-3 Family Camp

Your day starts at 9 AM (or at 1 PM for a PM SESSION). And by you, we mean you! And your camper, of course. Remember, this is not a drop-off program. Together, campers and one of their caregivers will explore, do hands-on science, and get messy! Feel free to bring coffee.

3-4 and 4-5 Mini Camps

- AM SESSION: drop-off between 8:50 AM - 9 AM; pick-up at 11:30 AM
- PM SESSION: drop-off between 12:50 PM - 1 PM; pick-up at 3:30 PM
- Please note that Extended Care is not available for Mini Campers.

Almost Camps

- Drop-off between 8:45 AM - 9:15 AM. Campers arriving before 8:45 AM will need to register for Before Care.
- Pick-up at 2:30 PM. After Care is not available for Almost Camps. All Almost Campers must be picked up at 2:30 PM.

Full Day Camps

- Drop-off between 8:45 AM - 9:15 AM. Campers arriving before 8:45 AM will need to register for Before Care.
- Pick up between 3:45 PM - 4:15 PM. Campers who are not picked up by 4:15 PM will be placed in After Care, and families will be charged accordingly.

Early Pick-Ups

- In the event your camper needs to be picked up early, please write the early pick-up time on that day's sign-in sheet and notify a member of Camp Administration.
- Please note that early pick-ups between 3:30 - 3:45 PM are not always possible as groups are transitioning from their classrooms to dismissal.
- In the event of an emergency, call Camp Administration at (585) 271 - 4552 ext. 601 or Member & Visitor Services at (585) 697-1942.

EXTENDED CARE

Need extra time before and after the camp day? Join us for extra science fun with unstructured exploration in small group settings. Save \$5 when you sign up for the whole week!

Before Care (available for Almost and Full Day Campers): \$5/day or \$20/week

After Care (available for Full Day Campers): \$5/day or \$20/week

Campers that have not been picked up by 4:15 PM will be enrolled in After Care and charged accordingly. Campers that have not been picked up by 5:30 PM will be charged a \$10 late fee. Campers that have not been picked up by 5:45 will be charged a \$25 late fee.

Please note that Extended Care is not available for Mini Campers.

EMERGENCY AND WEATHER POLICY

In the event that the RMSC closes due to inclement weather or any other emergency, Curiosity Camps will be cancelled for the day. Closings will be listed on 13 WHAM TV and 1180 WHAM radio, and you will be notified. If the RMSC closes, refunds for that day will be given.

REFUNDS

To plan appropriately for staff and supplies and to maintain a safe, healthy environment, it is critical for us to accurately anticipate enrollment and attendance. The following details our policies regarding cancellations, withdrawals, and absences:

Cancellation Policy

- Camps that do not meet minimum enrollment requirements are subject to cancellation. If your registered camp is cancelled due to enrollment requirements, you will be issued a full refund or credit towards a future registration or transferred to another camp that week.
- If the RMSC and/or Curiosity Camps is closed due to COVID-19 regulations, we will issue you a credit towards a future registration.

Refund Policy

- Withdrawals that occur more than 17 days before the start of camp will receive a full refund.
- Withdrawals that occur between 17 and 10 days before the start of camp will receive a 50% refund.
- Withdrawals that occur less than 10 days before the start of camp will not receive a refund.
- Please note that all withdrawals are subject to a processing fee (\$50 for a Full Day Camp, \$20 for an Almost or Mini Camp).
- See below for an example!
 - This year's February Break (Snow Day Science—so fun!) is Monday, February 15 - Friday, February 19. In order to receive a full refund (minus a processing fee), withdrawals must be made on or before January 29. Withdrawals made between January 29 and February 5 receive a 50% refund (minus a processing fee). And withdrawals that occur after February 5 do not receive a refund.

Absence Policy

- Fees will not be pro-rated or refunded for any missed days of a camp session due to absence. Absences cannot be made up by having your child attend another camp on a different day.

HEALTH INFORMATION: SPECIAL NEEDS, ALLERGIES, AND MEDICATION

Curiosity Camps strives to provide an accessible and safe environment for all campers. If your camper has a medical condition, severe allergies, dietary restrictions, or special physical or behavioral needs, please note this information during registration in as much detail as necessary. Camp Administration may contact you if there are concerns regarding the successful accommodation of your camper.

Special Needs

Curiosity Camps strives to provide an accessible and safe environment for all campers. If your camper has special needs, please let us know during registration and provide details/suggestions on how we can assist your child in having the best possible experience with us. If applicable, please include tips for supporting behaviors.

Please note that RMSC Curiosity Camps cannot provide 1:1 aides. Campers will be in groups of approximately 20 campers, with a staff to camper ratio of approximately 1:5. If your camper has a 1:1 aide or receives special services during the school year, please contact [Camp Administration](#) before registering for more information about the structure of our camp program.

Allergies

If your camper has an allergy, let us know during registration (make sure to tell us what they're allergic to). Medications needed in an emergency (e.g. inhalers, EpiPens, Benadryl, etc.) are kept with the camper's instructor at all times during the day. See below for instructions on how to send your camper with medicine.

Medication at Camp

If your camper will need to take any medication (including EpiPens and inhalers) at camp, it must be brought to camp in the original container and be accompanied by a signed note from the camper's parent/guardian that includes the following:

1. Permission for Camp Administration to supervise the self-administration of the medication
2. Details explaining usage, dosage, and timing for the medication.

This note must accompany the medication to camp and be reviewed with a Camp Administrator; please do not send in advance.

Vaccinations

As of 2019, all campers must be vaccinated. Please note that New York State Law does not allow for religious exemptions. Contact [Camp Administration](#) if your camper has a medical exemption.

BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

In order to provide all campers and staff with a positive and safe experience, it is important that all campers exhibit proper behavior and self-control and act respectfully at all times. Behaviors that are not tolerated at camp include but are not limited to the following: name calling, bullying, fighting, foul language, reckless endangerment, unsafe use of equipment, leaving the group without permission, physical violence or fighting of any kind, stealing or damaging property, and other disrespectful actions.

As necessary, Curiosity Camps will take the following action steps to manage behavior incidents and/or chronic behaviors as problems arise and progress.

1. Camp Staff will address inappropriate behaviors and will redirect the camper to more appropriate behavior. Concerns will be shared with the caregivers of the camper(s) involved during Pick-Up at the end of the day.
2. If inappropriate behavior continues and is affecting the experience of other campers, the camper will be referred to Camp Administration. Camp Administration will contact caregivers to inform them of inappropriate behaviors and discuss possible solutions.
3. If inappropriate behavior continues, caregivers will be contacted to pick up the camper immediately, and the camper will be suspended from the remainder of the day (and possibly week). Depending on the severity of the behavior, the camper may be dismissed from all future programs at the RMSC.
4. Curiosity Camps has a zero-tolerance policy for physical violence and behaviors involving the endangering of self, staff, and other campers. These behaviors will result in disciplinary action, including immediate dismissal from the camp program for the rest of the camp day and/or week.

Regardless of previous concerns or action steps taken, Camp Administration reserves the right to immediately dismiss a camper from current and future camp sessions at any point for conduct that is deemed detrimental to the well-being of other campers and staff or to the overall operation of the camp. Refunds will not be given (for current or future camp sessions) if campers are dismissed from Curiosity Camps programs due to behavioral reasons.