



CAMP H₂O

Georgia Aquarium Camp H₂O Parent Guide

Dear Camp H₂O Parent,

Thank you for choosing Camp H₂O at Georgia Aquarium. Campers will spend the week engaged in fun and exciting activities, exploring the wondrous ocean ecosystem and discovering unusual and interesting facts about our aquatic friends and their habitats.

Camp H₂O Staff

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If you have any questions related to camp, please contact Georgia Aquarium Education Staff at:

Telephone: 404-581-4402

Email: education@georgiaaquarium.org

Registration Policies

General Reservation Policy

- Reservations are required prior to the program start date.
- Deposits are not required.
- Full payment is due upon reservation.
- Changes to reservations made 2 weeks or less prior to scheduled event date are subject to supervisor approval.
- Walk-up or day-of registrations cannot be guaranteed, will incur a late registration fee of \$20.00 per child and can only be purchased on site.

Refund, Cancellation and No-Show Policies

- No-show and cancellation policies apply to any customer who did not give notice prior to program start date.
- Refunds will not be issued for no-shows.
- Refunds will not be issued for days missed of summer camp week.
- Refunds will not be issued for cancellation request received within 2 weeks of scheduled camp date.

Date Change Policy

- Date changes that occur within 2 weeks of scheduled camp date will incur a 25% fee per reservation.
- Date changes are subject to availability.

General Information

Camp H2O Hours:

- Monday – Friday 8:30am – 4:00pm
- **Please review our Arrival and Dismissal Procedures for details.**

Lunch and Snack:

- Campers are **required** to bring their lunch each day. We suggest packing lunch in thermal bags.
- Campers will not have access to a microwave or refrigeration, nor will they be able to purchase a lunch on Georgia Aquarium grounds.
- Morning and afternoon snack will be provided by the aquarium and will not contain nuts.
- If your child has severe food allergies, we encourage you to pack your child's snack.

Dress Code:

- Please send campers in comfortable weather appropriate clothes each day.
- Campers should dress in attire they can manipulate unassisted.
- Closed toe athletic shoes are most appropriate for flexibility and safety. Flip flops, heels, open-toe or roller shoes are **not** permitted.
- Light sweaters or jackets are highly recommended due to indoor temperatures.

What not to bring:

- Please help us by **not** sending the following with your child to camp: money, jewelry, electronics i.e. cell phones and cameras, cards games or collectables, hats, gum or other inappropriate items.
- These items will be confiscated and given to parents at the end of the day.

Animal Contact:

- Campers may have multiple opportunities to have up-close encounters with a number of our education animals that they may touch to enrich their experience.
- If your child has a shellfish allergy, please be sure to include that information on the Camper Information Form and see information about medications on the Medication Authorization page.

Arrival/Dismissal Procedures and Directions

Each Monday during camp arrival, parents will be given a printed Camper ID#, which is required of anyone picking up or dropping off your child. Please place this ID# on the right corner of your car's windshield during arrival and dismissal. If you plan to walk, please have this number with you. For your camper's safety, we will not release your child unless the appropriate Camper ID# is provided at dismissal. If your child will be picked up by someone else, the Camper ID# can be printed on a piece of paper and presented at dismissal.

The arrival and dismissal location is on **Luckie Street**. Look for the Camp H₂O "Arrival" and "Dismissal" signs on the curb. The designated area must be used for camp arrival and dismissal. Please be aware that although the Atlanta Police Department has extended Camp H₂O the courtesy of using this lane for drop-off and pickup, they retain ultimate jurisdiction over traffic and parking.

Arrival Procedure:

- **Camp arrival is from 8:30am - 9:00am**
- Children may not be dropped off prior to 8:30am
- During arrival, an aquarium team member will greet your child and help them from the vehicle.
- For your child's safety, we are required to check in each camper before the driver leaves the location.
- **Arrivals after 9:00am** will be required to park and escort your child to the education entrance. Aquarium security will contact the education department, and we will escort your child into the building.
- The cost is \$12 - \$15.00 in the official Georgia Aquarium parking garage.

Dismissal Procedure:

- **Camp dismissal is from 4:00pm - 4:15pm**
- During dismissal, a staff member will relay the Camper ID# from your windshield to staff to prepare your camper for dismissal.
- At dismissal, we should have your camper waiting for you, provided your Camper ID# is visible from your windshield or in hand for those walking.
- If you would like to speak to your child's counselor, please park and walk up to the dismissal area after you have checked your child in or out for the day.
- Please pull out of line to adjust car seats, etc. to keep the line moving.
- *Parents who park and walk up will be checked in/out after the vehicles in queue.*
- For the safety of campers, parents and staff, please remain in your vehicle during arrival and dismissal.

- Please be patient, for your child's safety we are required to check out each camper before he or she leaves with the authorized adult.
- **Arrivals after 4:15pm** will be required to park and proceed to the education entrance. Aquarium security will contact the education department, and we will escort your child to the education entrance for dismissal.
- All campers picked up after 4:15pm will incur fees that will be due at dismissal.
- Campers picked up after 4:15pm will be charged \$10.00 per child with an additional \$5.00 per minute/per child after 4:30pm.
- All early dismissal notifications should be emailed to education@georgiaaquarium.org at least one day prior to the date of dismissal request. The early dismissal location is on Luckie Street where the arrival process takes place.
- **We do not facilitate early dismissal after 3:00pm.**

Emergency Dismissal Procedure:

- In the event of an emergency and your camper needs to be dismissed immediately please call 404-581-4242 to reach the security department or 404-581-4402 to contact the education department.
- The emergency dismissal location is on Luckie Street where the arrival process takes place.

Directions:

- Georgia Aquarium is under construction due to Expansion 2020. Please visit our website for the most up to date directions.

The following three forms are required prior to the first day of camp:

- ≡ Camper Behavior Contract
- ≡ Medication Authorization
- ≡ Photo Release

Camper Behavior Contract

Camp H₂O is going to be an exciting and hands-on experience that will leave your camper with memories that last a lifetime! In order to ensure that each camper has a safe and positive experience, we want all of our camp families to understand that the physical and emotional safety of our campers and animals is paramount. To that end, please review this Camper Behavior Contract with your child(ren).

If a camper is in violation of the behavior contract, the camper may, at the discretion of staff, face consequences up to and including dismissal from camp. *Bullying of any kind is inexcusable and grounds for immediate dismissal from camp.* Georgia Aquarium will pursue the following in the event a camper violates the behavior contract:

First Occurrence: The first occurrence will result in a call home or conversation during pick-up with Georgia Aquarium staff. In the case where kicking, biting, or other **severe behavior** occurs, the child may automatically be given one-day suspension from the program with no refund for that day.

Second Occurrence: The second occurrence of **severe behavior** will result in a conversation with Georgia Aquarium staff and parents, potentially resulting in expulsion from camp without a refund. The Director of Education will make a final determination for expulsion.

Campers and Parents: Please return the signed contract prior to your first day of camp.

1. Stay with your assigned camp instructor and always listen to instructions.

- ❖ I will stay with my assigned camp instructor throughout the entire camp experience.
 - I understand that for my safety, wandering throughout the Aquarium is not permitted.
- ❖ I will always follow my camp instructor's directions and ask questions if needed.
- ❖ I understand that my questions are valued and encouraged – if I don't ask, I'll never know!

2. Be on your best behavior.

- ❖ I will be respectful of my fellow campers, all program staff, and the animals with my words and actions.
- ❖ I will listen when others are speaking and speak to others in a respectful manner and tone.
This includes using my "inside" voice inside of the Aquarium.
- ❖ I will not threaten or cause physical harm towards others, including possessing sharp or otherwise dangerous instruments.
- ❖ I will respect the personal space of others and keep my body to myself.

- ❖ I understand that disrespectful behavior includes (but is not limited to) hitting, punching, kicking, biting, spitting, swearing, teasing, lying, and not listening to my camp instructor.
- ❖ I understand that bullying – both physical and emotional - is inexcusable and is grounds for immediate dismissal from camp.
- ❖ I will be respectful of the Aquarium grounds, buildings and animal habitats.
- ❖ I will not litter, vandalize, steal or destroy items that do not belong to me.
- ❖ I agree to follow all Camp H₂O rules including those that are not listed on this behavior agreement, including rules set forth by my camp director and instructors during the camp day.

3. Respect the animals and their homes.

- ❖ I will not tap on the glass or yell at the animals because it can be very disturbing and harmful to their health.
- ❖ I will not feed the animals or put items into an exhibit.
- ❖ I will wait until I am instructed as to when and how I may touch the animals.

4. Cell phones, electronic toys and/or devices are not permitted during the camp day.

- ❖ I understand that I cannot use my phone, electronic toys or other devices during the camp day.
 - Don't worry: we have so many hands-on activities planned for you that you won't need them!

5. Have fun!

- ❖ I agree to HAVE FUN and help my fellow campers have fun ☺

Agreement Statement:

I have read the Camper Behavior Contract with my child and accept responsibility for his/her behavior during enrollment in camp. I understand that my child may be removed from an activity if the contract is violated.

When a parent or guardian initially registers a child with an exempt program, the parent or guardian shall sign a form indicating the parent or guardian has been advised and understands that the program is not licensed and is not required to be licensed by the state.

Camper Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

Medication Authorization

Except for first aid, Georgia Aquarium personnel shall not hand out prescription or non-prescription medication to a child without specific written authorization from the child's physician or parent. All medications shall be stored in accordance with the prescription or label instructions and kept in places that are inaccessible to children. Each dose of medication given to a child is required to be documented showing the child's name, name of medication, date and time given and the name of the person giving the medication. It is required that onsite First Aid be notified for any life threatening situations.

Child's Name _____ **Camp Week**_____

I hereby give the Georgia Aquarium Staff permission to apply one or more or more of the following external preparation, in accordance with directions on the container:

Band-Aids

Neosporin or similar non-prescription ointment

Bactine or similar first aid spray

Prescription ointment

Other (please specify) _____

___ I give my permission for the Georgia Aquarium to dispense external preparations to my child.

___ I **do not** give my permission for the Georgia Aquarium to dispense external preparations to my child.

Parent/Guardian's Name

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

Photo Release

I, _____, hereby authorize to the Georgia Aquarium, Inc., to take photographs of my child during his/her camp experience. I grant permission to the Georgia Aquarium and their respective representatives, worldwide right to use, publish, and display for all types of advertising and promotional materials. These images may be used in television, print campaigns, and the internet, with all photographic negatives and prints, transparencies, and digital representations owned by the Georgia Aquarium.

I agree that the Georgia Aquarium is not required to submit to me any materials for approval prior to use. I hereby waive any right to inspect or approve those materials and waive the right for acknowledgement or compensation.

The undersigned states that I have the power and authority to grant these rights. The publication and use of the undersigned's name, photograph, or other use, will not infringe upon the personal rights of any person.

I have read this release and I understand its contents and intend to be legally bound this release.

___ I do not give my permission for the Georgia Aquarium to take pictures of my child.

By signing this form below, I state that I am the **parent or legal guardian** of the child named below and agree to all the terms of the Release stated above.

Print Child's Name: _____ **Camp Week:** _____

Print Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Date: _____