

Camp Culture

At the Smithsonian Summer Camp, we strive to create an environment that is respectful, engaging, fun, and safe for all of our campers. **We take pride in hosting campers from all different backgrounds from around the world. Everyone at camp is expected to respect one another, regardless of any difference in race, ethnicity, language, gender identity, sexual orientation, or ability.**

To help us make this happen, **we ask that you read over the following guidelines with your camper.**

Things for Parents to Know:

- Send campers with two snacks, a bag lunch, a drink, and a bottle of water so everyone stays fueled and hydrated during our busy days.
- Please put a name on everything that comes to camp. Sometimes items get forgotten or lost and we want to make sure campers go home with everything they brought! Please check lost and found on Friday afternoon for missing items.
- If your camper needs any medication throughout the week, please check it in with Camp Staff at the check-in table on the first day of camp. Keep in mind that camp staff is not allowed to dispense medication; ***all medication must be self-administered.***
- In order to prevent sickness from spreading through camp, sick campers should stay home. This includes symptoms like fever and throwing up. If your camper has symptoms the night before, please keep them at home the next day.
- If your child has lice, please apply the proper treatment(s) before returning to camp. If your child is found with lice, they will be sent home.
- Please make camp staff aware of any medical concerns you may have.
- Please tell camp staff if you will be checking your camper in late, or checking out early to ensure they are not on a field trip.
- Apply sunscreen before campers get to camp.
- If it gets too hot during the day (Code Orange/Red), campers stay inside for lunch and may not take the planned museum trips.
- Please make sure that we have accurate contact information so that we can reach you in case of an emergency.

At Camp:

- Wear comfortable clothing and shoes that can be used for crafts, playing outside, and long walks.
No flip flops!
- Electronic devices are not allowed to be used in the classrooms, although they may be used during lunch and before/after care with the permission of a Youth Teaching Assistant (YTA) or camp staff.
- Listen to your instructors and YTAs at all times.
- Be kind and respectful and do not use foul language.
- Keep your hands to yourself.
- When inside, walk slowly and speak with soft, inside voices.

In the Museums:

- Stay with the group at all times. Always pay attention to instructors and assistants because museums get crowded and noisy.
- Be respectful of those around you including other museum visitors.
- If you lose your group, find museum security right away. They will contact us directly.
- Stand at least 3 feet away from art work and cases.
- Walk slowly in the museum. No running.

If you have any questions please refer to our website <https://smithsonianassociates.org/camp/>, call us on the Summer Camp Hotline at 202-633-CAMP (2267), or send us an email at SummerCamp@si.edu.

We look forward to a great week of camp!

THANK YOU

Smithsonian Summer Camp Staff