

Frequently Asked Questions for Summer Campers

We're looking forward to the 2023 Summer Camp Season!

We want this experience to be memorable for all students.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Location for the Camps? All camp offerings are held at the Nature's Classroom site:
13100 Verges Road, Thonotosassa, FL 33592

Who Can Attend? Students do not have to be a Hillsborough County Public School Student to attend the camps. We welcome homeschooled and private school students as well.

Why is the Water Adventure Camp only \$15.00? This camp is generously sponsored by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD). Students attending this camp must live within the boundaries of SWFWMD to participate.

Do you have scholarships or discounts? No, we do not.

Where are the Camps? All camps are at the Nature's Classroom site. The Water Adventure camp will be off site one day of their week to travel to Crystal Springs Preserve.

Transportation: Parents must drop off and pick up students daily. As at other schools, there will be a car line method used. Please remain in your car with your student(s) until you are within the appropriate area to unload/load. All camps are at the Nature's Classroom site.

What do we do when we arrive?

Drop off: The entrance gate will open at 7:45. There is no early drop off. Please remain in your car. Your student will be guided to their camp.

Pick up: Promptly at 3:00. Please remain in your car. The students will be brought to the loading zone by their instructor. There is no after-care service.

Do students bring their own food? The School Nutrition Department will provide breakfast and lunch each day. Your students are welcome to bring snacks and alternative food items for these times if they choose. Please look for information from your camp instructors: some will request your students to bring items for a cookout (with applicable camps).

We do not have snack machines.

We do plan to sell popsicles at the end of the day (\$2.00)

Who are the instructors? The summer staff are all Hillsborough County Public School employees.

What happens if it is bad weather? We take every precaution to keep your students safe. Students can expect to get wet if it is a rainy day, but we will bring students into a building if there is lightning in the proximity. Please make sure your students are prepared to have a raincoat during camp. Please, no umbrellas.

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How should students dress? Students are expected to follow the school dress code. Please, no tank tops. Students will be outdoors all day or for most of the day. Light clothing for Florida heat is important.

Fully closed shoes are a must. Did we forget the proper footwear? We will gladly provide a temporary pair of water shoes that will be worn for the day.

NO crocs, sandals, or umbrellas

Hats, sunglasses, and raincoats are acceptable.

Check the weather forecast before your visit and dress accordingly for an all-day, outdoor experience.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

We are a Hillsborough County Public School site. Therefore, all students and adults are expected to follow School District policies and procedures.

Keep hands to self – this includes each other, plants, and anything that is not yours.

Keep up with the group while moving from place to place.

Stay in the center of the trails to keep trails from being overly trampled.

Be kind and courteous to each other for a pleasant four days at Nature's Classroom.

Our site is a **No Phone Zone** – during activities as well as during lunch. **Cell phones are to be left out of sight and always silenced.** Appropriate photos can be taken when instructor allows them during activities.

Personal gear will be stored in bins for each camp. Refrain from bringing extra backpacks or electronics. We cannot be responsible for these items.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Medications: Please communicate with us any needs for medications. These will be kept in the administrative office or with the instructor, depending on the circumstance.

Weather and Dress: Check the weather forecast before your visit and dress accordingly for an all-day, outdoor experience.

Bug Spray: **Aerosol Insect repellent / Sunscreen is to be applied prior to leaving homes.** These will not be allowed to be applied on site.

Universal Restroom: A universal restroom is in the main office for students wishing to use such facilities. Notify us upon arrival and we will gladly direct them to those facilities if there is a need.

Drinking Water: **All students should bring drinking water each day.** Water (only) may be carried to our activities. We encourage refilling reusable bottles.

Drinking Water – All students bring drinking water each day. Water (only) may be carried to our activities. Please use a refillable bottle. We have refill stations for their use. Water in vending machines is available for \$2.00.

Sales – All students will receive a Nature's Classroom T-shirt. Additional shirts may be purchased through your Nature's Classroom instructor **(\$15.00 cash only).**