

Education

IT'S IN OUR NATURE



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HOMESCHOOL DAY INFORMATION PACKET

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Home School Day is a self-guided educational program geared towards homeschool students in Pre- K through Grade 5. Although all ages are welcome. Adult chaperones will lead their students in learning about the animals and habitats found at SeaWorld by visiting our animal areas, listening to our education staff's informative talks, watching/participating in hands on activities and joining us at our animal presentation. Groups can bring their lunch and enjoy a picnic in the park.

This program begins at 9:30 AM and will end at 2:30 PM.

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES:

- During this program, students will visit our animal exhibits at their own pace and will have a variety of options for their learning.
- Observe various species of animals as they interact with each other and their habitat. Search for animal adaptations and behaviors.
- Ask our knowledgeable Education staff questions to learn more about the animals and careers found at SeaWorld.
- Participate in Education led activity stations focused on animal adaptations and environmental stewardship.
- Attend scheduled presentations from our Education and Zoological staff and find out how we care for animals at SeaWorld and around the world.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT:

The Home School Day is a self-guided experience where chaperones will lead their students throughout the program itinerary. Education Staff members will be stationed throughout the park to answer student's questions and provide more information about our wide collection of animals. Students will be able to visit:

Dolphin Lagoon: See a playful pod of bottlenose dolphins above and below the water! Students can get face to face with these intelligent mammals.

Explorer's Reef: Sharks and living coral reefs are two of the most mysterious and misunderstood ocean inhabitants, come explore why they are so important to ocean health! **Look for our education staff leading talks or activities.**

Pacific Point Preserve: Make powerful connections with wildlife native to the Pacific coast. School groups can purchase a tray of fish for only \$4 to feed our energetic California Sea Lions!

Alligator Alley: American Alligators are living reflections of prehistoric times, but did you know they are native to Eastern Texas marshes and streams?

Aldabra Island: Listen to one of our aquarists teach you all about the second largest tortoise species in the world.

Flamingo Cove: Visit Flamingos and other waterfowl and discover how these birds get their bright pink color!

Turtle Reef: Dive into the world of Sea Turtles in a way you never thought possible. Get an up-close look at these endangered species and learn their fascinating rescue stories.

Penguin Encounter: Enjoy watching as our penguins dive into icy water and Puffins fly among rocky cliffs at this custom exhibit. See if you can spot the differences between these cold-water species. **Look for our education staff leading talks or activities.**

Orca Stadium: Learn about SeaWorld's commitment for the killer whales in our care, how they are trained, what husbandry behaviors are and how they have helped their counterparts in the wild. **Look for presentation times on the maps.**

Beluga Stadium: Observe why these animals are called the "Canaries of the sea" as they swim, dive, and interact with each other. Stadium will be open to all participants however there will not be a show scheduled. **Look for our education staff leading talks or activities.**

Home School Days are scheduled on days that the park is closed, this means that the general public will NOT be granted admission along with all groups coming. During your program, all restaurants and snack/beverage kiosks may be closed. The park attractions, such as the roller coasters, midway games, Bay of Play, playground, etc. will not be operating during this program. This program will include educational presentations that will take place at our animal stadiums and exhibits. Regular shows **will not** be offered during this program. Season passes **CANNOT** be used on these days.

PAYMENT:

All Home School Day tickets can be purchased online only. **Be sure to save or print out your confirmation. This is your ticket to get in. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT PHOTOS OF THE RECEIPT OR CONFIRMATION.** As we strive for the students to have time to enjoy and learn at each area, there is a maximum number of tickets we sell for this program. Siblings and family members are welcome but must have their own tickets. Children 2 years and younger will not need a ticket. There is no parking fee.

Season passes can NOT be used for this program!

LUNCHES:

All participants are welcome to bring a sack lunch to eat "pic-nic" style. All participants are responsible for cleaning up their lunch area of any trash or debris. Please do not bring any drinks with straws (juice boxes or pouches) as they may be hazardous to our animals. Any items in glass, Styrofoam or plastic grocery bags will not be permitted.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES:

- To assure all participants have an equal opportunity to benefit from the program, we require participants to use appropriate behavior while visiting our park. SeaWorld San Antonio reserves the right to remove participants who exhibit inappropriate behavior.
- Please dress appropriately for the outdoors and forecasted weather. All education programs spend time outdoors and involve a considerable amount of walking. It is highly recommended that you bring reusable water bottles for your group so that they will have water throughout the program. There will be opportunity during the program to visit water fountains to refill bottles. (Please do not bring drinks with straws, as they may be hazardous to the animals).
- For security measures, guests and bags are subject to inspection.
- Students must be chaperoned at all times.
- Conduct problems are referred to SeaWorld Security Department.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

- ***Can we pay for the program on the same day of the program?***

Pending availability, we **may** have additional tickets for sale on the day of the event for those that have last minute add-ons but this cannot be guaranteed and you will need to show **proof of tickets already purchased.**

- ***Can we use annual Passes and Fun Cards for the school field trip program or tour fees?***

Home School Days are an exclusive experience, because of this Passes and Fun Cards (Teacher or Preschool) CANNOT be used on these days.

- ***Are rides and shows included on the field trip?***

The park attractions, such as the roller coasters, midway games, Bay of Play, etc. **will not** be operating during this program.

- ***Will a restaurant be open to purchase lunch?***

It is strongly encouraged that all participants pack a sack lunch for this program. We may have some snack kiosks open, however the restaurants will not be open during this program.

- ***Will there be an opportunity to shop at a gift shop?***

Yes, we will have at least one gift shop open during the program.

- ***Do we have to pay for parking?***

Participants will not need to pay for parking during this program.

- ***Does this program go behind-the-scenes?***

During Home School Days participants will not have access to behind-the-scenes areas, however our Education and Zoological staff will host activities and animal presentations that are not offered to the general public.

- ***Can we arrive late?***

The main gate into the parking lot will be open 8:30am – 11:00am for check-in time. Please arrive during that time as the entrance gates will be locked at 11:00am **AND WILL NOT BE RE-OPENED.**

Refunds will not be given for late arrivals or no-shows.

- ***I paid for a group of participants that did not show up. Can I get a refund?***

Refunds cannot be given for unused tickets after the start of the program.

- ***Can my students attend the program on their own?***

Any participant under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult chaperone at all times.

- ***What if it rains on the day of our program?***

Our program will run whether there is rain or shine. Please monitor the weather and plan appropriately. SeaWorld has weather protocols in place to ensure the safety of our guests, animals, and ambassadors. At any point during the program, your group may be redirected based on these policies. In the event of inclement weather, you will be notified of any plans to cancel the program. Rescheduling is subject to availability.

QUESTIONS?

Please call our office at 210-523-3610 and we will be more than happy to help!