



# SeaWorld<sup>®</sup> CAMP

## SEAWORLD SAN DIEGO

### Resident Camp Handbook (Grades 5-9)

Your child is about to experience the adventure of a lifetime! SeaWorld Resident Camp immerses your child in daily adventures. It promotes physical and intellectual growth through challenging experiences.

SeaWorld Resident Camp is a structured, all-inclusive camp that's safe, educational—and lots of fun for campers. Using an active learning approach, they gain an appreciation for the natural environment, and also form a solid foundation of confidence, self-esteem, and responsibility. Our commitment is to ensure a successful experience at camp that will benefit campers at home, and throughout life.

This packet provides everything you need to know to have peace of mind about your child's safe and fun camp experience.

Thank you for choosing SeaWorld Camp. We look forward to meeting your child!



SeaWorld Camps are accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA). ACA-accredited camps must meet standards for health, safety, and program quality. SeaWorld Camps exceed ACA standards to ensure a safe and enjoyable camp experience.

## CONTENTS

General Information .....	1
Administration of the Program .....	1
Forms to Sign and Return .....	1
Refunds/Cancellations .....	1
Housing .....	1
Meals .....	1
Lockers .....	1
Camp Staff .....	2
Spending Money .....	2
Pre-Camp Health Check .....	2
Camper Transportation .....	3
Travel by Car/Train.....	3
Travel by Air .....	4
Camp Rules .....	5
Cell Phones .....	5
Visitors/Leaves of Absence .....	5
Parent Notification .....	5
Weapons, Firearms, Fireworks .....	5
Damages .....	6
Dress & Appearance .....	6
Your Child at Camp .....	7
Family Emergency Communication .....	7
Non-Emergency Communication .....	7
Medical Services .....	7
Medications .....	7
Letters .....	7
Lost and Found .....	8
Tips for Handling Homesickness .....	8
SeaWorld Camp Itinerary.....	9–10
Vehicle Safety.....	11
Packing Checklist .....	12

---

## General Information

### Administration of the Program

Resident Camps at SeaWorld are part of the SeaWorld Camp program and are under the direction and supervision of the SeaWorld San Diego Education Department.

### Forms to Sign and Return

Please complete and sign all forms in the online packet no later than four weeks before the session begins. CAMPERS CANNOT START PROGRAM ACTIVITIES UNTIL SIGNED RELEASE AND HEALTH HISTORY FORMS ARE ON FILE.

### Refunds/Cancellations

In the event of cancellation, please notify us in writing immediately. If you cancel at least six weeks prior to camp, we will issue a full refund of the camp fee minus a \$100 processing fee. Less than that time there is no refund. You may reschedule to another session in the same calendar year, pending availability.

There are no refunds if a camper leaves a session early or is sent home. No exceptions.

### Housing

Your child will stay at our Adventure Camp Center, located inside SeaWorld San Diego. It includes classrooms, outdoor and indoor play areas, and two floors of dormitory rooms. It is monitored by SeaWorld's 24-hour security officers and is not accessible to park visitors or non-camp staff. Counselors are housed in the facilities with the campers to provide supervision.

Campers use shower and restroom facilities located inside the dorm. There are separate showers and restrooms for girls and boys. Shower time is usually in the afternoon before dinner.

Campers must provide their own towels, pillow, and sleeping bag or bed linens. (Beds are twin extralong.) They may also want to bring a bag to carry their clothes and shower supplies from their dorm room to the shower/restroom area.

### Meals

Three meals with beverages are provided each day. The meals will be served at the food service building at the Adventure Camp Center. Snacks are available throughout the day. Please indicate any food allergies or special dietary needs on the Health History and Physical Examination Form. Campers may be allowed the opportunity to purchase snacks and drinks at various sites in the park at their own expense.

### Lockers

Each camper is issued a small locker suitable for valuable belongings (i.e. cameras, wallets, money, etc.). It is each camper's responsibility to provide a combination lock for securing lockers.

**Camp Staff**

Our professional staff of enthusiastic counselors provides quality care and a stimulating learning atmosphere for campers in a nurturing and safe environment. Experts at managing groups of youth, they coordinate all camp activities and supervise campers 24 hours a day. SeaWorld Camps provide a camper supervision ratio of at least one counselor for every eight campers.

Camp staff includes emergency medical personnel and security officers, food service employees, animal keepers, camp management and support staff. All camp staff must pass a drug test and a background check. Medical personnel, Camp counselors, and management staff are trained and certified to perform First Aid, CPR, and automated electronic defibrillation (AED).

**Spending Money—Now Cashless!**

Campers may be allowed the opportunity to purchase snacks and souvenirs during camp. Please note: *SeaWorld San Diego is now a cashless facility.* Campers may bring cash if necessary, but a counselor will need to escort them to a cash-to-card kiosk before it can be spent. The Visa gift card dispensed at no fee by the kiosk can be spent within or outside SeaWorld. However, we strongly recommend sending your camper with a pre-paid debit card instead of cash.

Campers are responsible for securing their spending money. A locker is provided, but campers must bring their own combination lock. SeaWorld is not responsible for articles lost or stolen during camp.

**Pre-Camp Health Check**

A healthy camper is a happy camper: please check that your child has not been exposed to anything that might affect his or her camping experience. Some of these may include, but are not limited to Covid-19, chickenpox, conjunctivitis, head lice, strep, or other known contagions.

---

## Camper Transportation

### Travel by Car:

- Camper Check-in
  - Begins Sunday at 11 a.m. at the Camp Dorms. (See map.) Families are welcome to tour the dorms and meet the staff from 11 a.m.-noon.
- Camper Pick-up
  - Is Friday at 10 a.m. at the Camp Dorms. Campers will be released only to those listed on their “Travel Information Form,” and those individuals must show proper photo identification.

If your camper is arriving and/or departing by car, please see the “Travel Information Form,” of the Resident Camp Participant Forms and select “Travel by Car.”

### Travel by Train:

- Please make sure campers traveling by train are scheduled to arrive and depart from the Downtown San Diego (Santa Fe) Train Station. We ask that you schedule travel so that your camper arrives between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. on the day your camp session begins and departs between 8 a.m. and noon on the day your camp session ends.
- Train Station pick-up and drop-off procedures must be carefully followed to provide your camper with a positive and safe travel experience.
  - SeaWorld Camp Staff wear a SeaWorld logo shirt and nametag when meeting arriving campers at the train station and when escorting departing campers to the train station.
  - Upon arrival at SeaWorld, parents will be notified that their camper has arrived safely.

If you choose for your camper to arrive and/or depart by train, please read and fill out the “Travel Information Form” of the Resident Camp Participant Forms.

## Travel by Air:

- Please schedule travel so that your camper arrives at the San Diego International Airport (Lindbergh Field) between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. on the day your Camp session begins and departs between 8 a.m. and noon on the day your Camp session ends.
- Due to heightened security at airports across the nation, SeaWorld requires all campers to have a reserved ticket, NO STANDBY flying.
- Airline pick-up and drop-off procedures must be carefully followed to provide your camper with a positive and safe travel experience.
  - SeaWorld Camp Staff wear a SeaWorld logo shirt and nametag when meeting arriving campers at the airport and when escorting departing campers to the airport.
  - Upon arrival at SeaWorld, parents will be notified that their camper has arrived safely.
- Campers Flying as an Unaccompanied Minor:
  - For maximum safety, most airlines offer an “Unaccompanied Minor” provision for an extra fee. Under this status, airlines escort unaccompanied minors from the time they leave their parents until our staff picks them up. This allows SeaWorld staff to meet your child at the arrival gate and accompany him or her to the departure gate. Please check with your airline carrier for their specific policy and age eligibility for unaccompanied minors.
  - Only campers flying as an airline designated “Unaccompanied Minor” will be met at the arrival gate and escorted to their departure gate by SeaWorld Camp Staff.
- Campers Flying as a Regular Passenger
  - Due to heightened security at airports across the nation, campers who are flying as a regular passenger will be responsible for getting from their arrival gate to the baggage claim area where they will be met by SeaWorld Camp Staff. The camper is also responsible for getting from the security check point to their gate on their departure date. Luggage Fees
  - Please be aware of whether your chosen airline carrier charges for (extra) luggage and send money with your camper accordingly. Airlines generally do not accept payment by phone for this.

If you choose for your camper to arrive and/or depart by plane, please read and fill out the “Travel Information Form” of the Resident Camp Participant Forms.

---

## Camp Rules

### Cell Phones

Campers may bring their personal cell phone with them to camp. Counselors will collect all cell phones during check-in. Cell phones will be safely stored. At designated times during the week campers will be allowed to call or text message you. Designated times are usually during lunch or in the later afternoon/early evening.

Cell phone use will be strictly monitored, and no camper is allowed to text or call during non-designated times without prior approval from their counselor or camp leadership. Cell phones are not allowed in any restroom or shower areas or other areas deemed inappropriate by camp staff.

### Visitors/Leave of Absence

It is not possible for campers to have visitors during the camp session. You are welcome to visit the dormitories and meet the staff when dropping off campers. Leaves-of-absence are granted on a case-by-case basis. Time is limited and sequential activities are planned for each day. Campers may not leave camp except in the case of emergency. In such cases, campers must have prior approval from the program manager. Under normal circumstances, campers agree to remain at camp for the entire session.

### Parent Notification

SeaWorld maintains the highest standards in safety as well as overall camp experience. It is our practice to contact parents when there is concern about a camper's health or when a behavioral situation is not easily resolved. Specifically, we will contact you if your child is sent to the health center for an extended period or must be seen by a physician.

Camp staff will also notify parents or guardians in the case of behavioral or social problems while at camp. Some of these behavioral concerns might include:

- Flagrant disregard or breaking of policies stated in the Camp Rules (page 5) and/or the Code of Conduct Agreement form.

- Any behavior that endangers or harms any other camper, staff member, guest or animal.

- Behavioral or disciplinary problems for which the camper has been pulled aside and counseled by SeaWorld camp staff.

- Possession of weapons, firearms, or fireworks.

We will contact the parent or guardian by phone to discuss the situation and conditions for remaining in camp or arrangements for ending the camp experience.

### Weapons, Firearms, and Fireworks

Possession of any type of weapons, firearms, or fireworks is strictly prohibited on SeaWorld property and at camp.

### **Damages**

Campers are responsible for the care and preservation of any issued equipment. All campers should and will respect the property of SeaWorld and other campers. Any damage to property will be repaired at the expense of the camper causing the damage.

### **Dress and Appearance**

Three camp T-shirts will be supplied to each camper. Campers are expected to wear a camp shirt during all camp activities. SeaWorld staff will wash T-shirts during camp. Appropriate and suitable clothing must be worn at all times. Camp staff reserves the right to determine what is and is not appropriate appearance. Here are some guidelines:

#### Footwear

Closed-toe footwear (athletic shoes) and socks must be worn in the park.

Water shoes or strapped sandals are required for field trips.

Sandals or flip-flops may be worn only during free time in the dorms.

#### Eyewear

All eyewear (sunglasses included) must be secured with a strap or lanyard.

If your camper wears contacts, send an extra set or extra glasses in case of loss or damage.

#### Swimwear

Swimwear must be tastefully and conservatively cut. Boardshorts and one-piece suits are recommended.

#### Shorts/Pants

Shorts must not be higher than mid-thigh.

Short-shorts and spandex shorts are NOT permitted.

Jeans, without tears or holes, may be worn during camp.

#### Other Clothing

Shirts/tops with spaghetti straps or which reveal a bare midriff are NOT permitted. Any clothing with tears or holes is NOT permitted.

Clothing with suggestive or objectionable logos or language is NOT permitted

SeaWorld camp does not assume responsibility for any loss or damage to personal property brought to SeaWorld camp.





---

## Your Child at Camp

### Family Emergency Communication

If there is a family emergency while your child is at camp, please call 619-226-3800. This is the emergency number to the SeaWorld Security Office and should only be used in case of emergency. A SeaWorld Security Officer will assist you and they will contact a camp leadership team member. Remember this is for emergency situations only.

### Non-Emergency Communication

If it is a non-emergency and you would like to get in touch with a camp leadership staff member while your camper is at camp, please call 619-226-3900, ext. 4379. Then simply leave a message. A member of the camp leadership team will call you back as soon as they can.

### Medical Services

SeaWorld's professional team of nurses and emergency medical technicians work under the supervision of a licensed doctor and are on duty at all times while camp is in session.

### Medications

Please send your child with all his or her medications. Camp is not the place to take a vacation from medication. We want everyone to have a healthy, safe, and enjoyable camp experience.

All medications (prescription and over the counter) will be collected by camp medical staff upon arrival. Medications must be in the original packaging/bottle that identifies the prescribing physician (if a prescription drug), name of the medication, dosage, and frequency of administration. ANY DOSAGE CHANGES OTHER THAN THOSE PRINTED ON PACKAGE/BOTTLE MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PHYSICIAN'S NOTE. Only these medications will be administered during camp. Medications will be kept in locked cabinets at all times and administered only by camp medical staff.

If your child routinely gets headaches, allergy attacks, cramps, etc. and takes non-prescription medication, please bring it along. Include it on the medication release (part of the "Resident Camp Participant Forms") and list it in the "medication" section of the health history. SeaWorld Health Services staff can provide the over-the-counter medications that are listed on page 2 of the Resident Camp Participant Forms.

### Letters

You're welcome to write cheerful letters expressing interest in what's happening at camp. Short, happy thoughts are best. It's best to send mail before camper's arrival so letters are received at the beginning of the session. Please address mail as follows:

SeaWorld Resident Camp  
Camper's Name, Grade Level/Date of Camp  
500 SeaWorld Drive  
San Diego, CA 92109-7904

We will pick up mail once a day for campers. Campers should bring their own postage stamps for postcards and letters.

## Lost and Found

A lost-and-found box is located in the dorms. Please check this box when picking your child up after camp. Contact camp staff if you discover you are missing items after returning home. We will hold lost-and-found items for one week after your child's camp session ends.

## Tips for Handling Homesickness

Feelings of homesickness are normal. Even adults sometimes feel homesick. Some psychologists believe that the homesickness some parents and children feel when they're apart is evidence of the strength of the bond between them. It is comforting to know that love underlies homesickness.

Homesick feelings are a little different for everyone. How can you prevent homesickness?

- Include your child in camp planning.
- Discuss what camp will be like before your child leaves home and discuss any concerns your child may have.
- Talk about homesickness. Stay positive about the new experiences at camp.
- Keep your doubts about separation to yourself, so you don't make your child anxious. Children worry more about the parents being all right than themselves while they're away at camp. (We have a few homesick campers each year, but we have homesick parents by the dozen!)
- Do not tell your child that you will rescue him or her from camp—it undermines a child's confidence and sets up a situation for failure. Encourage your child instead.
- Assure your child of your love.
- Send your child a letter ahead of time that will arrive the first or second day of camp.
- Inform camp staff members and your group leader about events or situations at home that may result in homesickness.
- If necessary, arrange for a practice time away from home.

Please visit the American Camp Association (ACA) website at [www.acacamps.org](http://www.acacamps.org) for more information. There are resources available at the website regarding camper homesickness that may be beneficial.

## SeaWorld Camp Itinerary

SeaWorld Resident Camp is jam-packed with fun, exciting, and challenging activities. Throughout the week, campers see and learn about such fascinating marine animals as killer whales, beluga whales, penguins, sharks, and stingrays. Exciting out-of-park excursions will enhance the camper's understanding of the importance of protecting our natural environment.

### Day One

Campers explore SeaWorld with their counselors and team-build with their dorm-mates as they experience some of the park's great attractions.

### Days Two—Five: Mornings in the Park

Each morning, campers visit animal habitats where they interact with the animals. At some venues they meet animal keepers. During the Camp session, campers rotate through some or all of the following activities:

#### Penguin Encounter

Visit the re-created Antarctic. Meet a penguin keeper and learn all about how we take care of over 300 birds on a daily basis.

#### SeaWorld Aquariums

Explore fish habitats and learn to identify species. Meet an Aquarist and learn how we feed all those fish.

#### Shark Encounter

Go behind the scenes to learn about shark adaptations and touch a real shark.

#### Wild Arctic

Travel to the Arctic to see and learn about beluga whales, walruses, and seals.

#### Turtle Reef

Observe and learn why they have become endangered.

#### Dolphins

Interact with bottlenose dolphins and meet a dolphin behaviorist.

#### Orca Encounter

Discover how we train the mighty and magnificent killer whales and meet their behaviorists.

## Days Two—Five: Afternoon Field Trips

In the afternoons, campers rotate through some or all of the following field trips:

### Boogie Boarding (Grades 5-6)

Campers will go to the beach and boogie board. The Mission Bay Aquatic Center provides certified staff, equipment, and instruction for this totally tubular activity. Campers learn about ocean safety, tides, waves, and the job of an ocean lifeguard.

### Kayaking on Mission Bay (Grades 5-6)

Campers explore Mission Bay by kayak. They learn the proper techniques for boarding and debarking and how to paddle a two-person kayak. The Mission Bay Aquatics Center provides certified staff, equipment, and instruction. Campers wear life jackets while on the water.

### Snorkeling (Grades 7-9)

Campers explore a California tidepool ecosystem. They begin by learning about the equipment they'll be using and what they might see while snorkeling. After choosing their wetsuits and snorkel gear and checking for a proper fit, campers enter the water realm and discover the many fascinating animals that live off the San Diego coast.

### Surfing (Grades 7-9)

Campers will go to the beach and learn to surf. The Mission Bay Aquatic Center provides certified staff, equipment and instruction for this totally tubular activity. Campers learn about ocean safety, tides, waves, and the job of an ocean lifeguard.

All of the above SeaWorld field trips require a completed Mission Bay Aquatics Center release form for participation (included in the Resident Camp Participant Forms packet). The Mission Bay Aquatic Center staff members are First Aid, CPR, and lifeguard certified.

### Beach Day (Grades 5-6 and 7-9)

Campers visit Mission Bay located near the camp dormitories for a day of swimming, sandcastle building and other fun beach activities.

## Evening Activities

SeaWorld at night is a whole different world. Under the supervision of camp staff, campers may enjoy SeaWorld's night-time shows and participate in scavenger hunts, animal observations, team-building games and activities, movie nights, and skit nights.

## Day Six

After breakfast and goodbyes, campers pack and depart.

While at camp, SeaWorld counselors pick up and drop off campers from the airport or train station and drive campers to and from our field trip locations. Here is some helpful information regarding the vehicles and safety procedures used when transporting campers:

- Vehicles are rented from a national rental agency that performs routine maintenance and safety checks on their vehicles prior to renting.
- Only counselors with a valid driver's license and SeaWorld driver's license may drive the vehicles.
- There will be a minimum ratio of one counselor for every eight campers when transporting campers in vehicles. Ratio also depends on the number of seat belts.
- Campers and counselors may never sit in any vehicle or area of a vehicle that is not designated for passengers.
- Campers may not be transported in private vehicles.

#### Safety Rules While Traveling in Vehicles

- Stay seated.
- Wear a seat belt whenever the vehicle is in motion.
- Obey the counselor or driver.
- Maximum of eight passengers for each vehicle (one passenger per seat belt).
- All body parts and/or appendages must stay in the vehicle at all times.
- Vehicle rules are to be enforced at all times.

Please note: activities and schedule are subject to change based on park schedule, weather and/or environmental conditions.

# Packing Checklist for 5-night Resident Camp at SeaWorld

PLEASE LABEL ALL BELONGINGS WITH CAMPER'S NAME.

## Recommended

### Camp Clothing

Socks (6 pairs)  
Underwear (6 pairs)  
Shorts/pants (5-7 pairs)  
Pajamas  
Hat

Sweatshirt or jacket

**Swimwear** (girls=1 piece)

### Footwear

Walking shoes (at least 2 pairs)  
-they will get wet  
Sandals with heel straps/aqua socks/Crocs  
Shower shoes

### Toiletries/Shower Supplies

Shampoo, brush, comb, hair ties  
Toothbrush and toothpaste  
Soap in a soapbox (or self-sealing bag)  
Sunscreen—SPF 15 or higher  
Non-aerosol deodorant  
Towel  
Required medication (in original packaging)  
Contact lenses/glasses (with backup)  
Orthodontic devices

### Dorm Equipment

Sleeping bag or twin extra-long sheets & blanket  
Pillow and pillowcase  
Combination lock  
Beach towel  
Stamps/stationary/pen

### Personal Items

Crazy hat (for crazy hat and hair night)  
Book to read  
Spending money  
Camera – other than cell phone preferred

## Please Do Not Bring

### Camp Clothing

NO Short shorts/volleyball shorts  
NO Two-piece swimwear  
NO Tank tops

### Footwear

NO Flip flops  
NO Dress shoes

### Toiletries/Shower Supplies

NO Curling irons/blow dryer/flat iron  
NO Nail polishes

### Personal Items

NO Jewelry  
NO Personal sports equipment  
NO Pets  
NO Food/candy  
NO Computers/audio-video equipment