



Summer Camps Rules and Behavior Expectations

Our first priorities are safety and creating a positive atmosphere for learning. The expectations listed below enable participants to have a safe, enjoyable experience.

The staff at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences does not condone and will not permit:

- Corporal punishment
- Ridiculing, threatening, or using an inappropriately loud voice
- Leaving children unsupervised
- Use of profanity

For our participants we expect age-appropriate behavior within these guidelines:

In the classroom:

- Use an "inside voice"
- Walk, *no running or horseplay*
- Cooperate with staff and follow directions
- Listen quietly while the instructor is talking
- Respect other children, staff, equipment, facilities, and yourself
- Stay in program areas and wait for an adult before leaving the classroom
- Wash hands after handling animals
- Please do not bring radios, iPods, video gaming systems, or electronics

In the field:

- The instructor always goes down the trail first
- Remain silent or whisper to observe the wildlife
- Always keep together as a group and within sight of an adult at all times
- Absolutely no horseplay
- Do not turn over objects with your hands; there may be a venomous snake hiding underneath. If a snake is sighted, tell the instructor. **No one is allowed to catch snakes.**
- There will be no swimming unless certified lifeguards are present. When wading in water, do not get in water above your upper thigh.
- Closed-toed shoes and socks must be worn at all times outdoors. *Flip flops, sandals, Crocs, Keen sandals, water shoes, or shoes with perforations will not be allowed.*

Traveling in a vehicle:

- Do not put anything, including parts of your body, outside the window of the vehicle

- Wear your seat belt and remain seated in the Museum's vehicle
- Use an "inside voice"
- Do not handle sharp objects when traveling
- No horseplay — keep hands to yourself

Discipline Policy:

1. If a child is unable to comply with the behavior expectations, the instructor/assistant instructor will speak to the child to find a solution together.
2. A time-out may be given if the child continues to not meet behavior expectations. The number of minutes of time-out will not exceed the child's age in years. Time-outs are always supervised by an adult.
3. A conference will be held by the Summer Camps Coordinator, Deputy Camp Coordinator or Camp Specialist with the child. If the child is still unable to comply with the behavior expectations, the Summer Camps Coordinator will speak directly with the guardian to develop and implement strategies to help with success.
4. After a reasonable amount of time and effort has been made, the individual may be asked to forego the summer camp experience without a refund until alternative behaviors are learned.

Behaviors that may result in immediate dismissal include but are not limited to:

- Any action that could threaten or pose a direct threat to the physical/emotional safety of the child, other children, staff, or program animals
- Fighting
- Possession of a weapon of any kind
- Vandalism or destruction of Museum property or property of others
- Sexual misconduct
- Possession of or use of alcohol or controlled substances unless under the prescription of a doctor
- Biting