

# Virtual Aquarium Science Camp FAQs

- **Is the camp a live video stream or is it pre-recorded?**
  - Our camp sessions will be privately livestreamed; however, we may be utilizing powerpoints or prerecorded videos during the sessions to enhance the virtual camp experience.
- **How long is a camp session? How many camp sessions are in a camp week?**
  - There are 5 camp sessions per week, each lasting about two hours. Each day has a similar structure of engaging activities, with breaks built in. Each of these weeks of camp will have a different overarching theme (3 different themes that are repeated once each), and each day of our camp is filled with fresh, unique, and engaging activities and games to participate in.
- **What is an example schedule for each session (subject to change)?**
  - 9:00AM
    - Check-In
    - Ice breaker
    - Essential Question
  - 9:20 AM
    - Virtual tour around the Aquarium
      - Guided questions, making observations
    - Themed lesson for the day
  - 9:45 AM
    - Break and Ice Breaker
  - 10:00AM
    - Science Activity
      - e.g. Microscope exploration
  - 10:30AM
    - Reflections
      - Nature journaling exercise
      - KWL chart (what do we Know, Want to know, what have we Learned)
      - Wrap-up and answer questions
- **How will families access the username and log in information to access the remote video platform?**
  - Before each week of camp, an email will be sent out with the Zoom links for each day's session, along with Zoom instructions.
- **How many counselors will be present during each session? What is the role of each counselor?**
  - There will be 2 counselors present each day to help facilitate and guide our camp programming. While one counselor may be leading the activities, crafts or

experiments, the other will be moderating the technology, camper behavior and safety.

- **Do all camp activities occur during the camp session or are campers encouraged (or “required”) to continue to work on a project in between sessions or before the start of the next camp day?**
  - Our Summer Camp curriculum is structured such that all our main activities and programs are completed within the camp session. However, campers are encouraged to expand on their notes and drawings at their own discretion, extend their learning and observations with nature at home, and we will provide optional supplementary activities or challenges for campers to do if they so choose.
- **Do campers need to use a keyboard and/or mouse OR can campers watch the screen and follow along without ever having to use additional components?**
  - There are some interactive parts to our programming that may require the use of a keyboard and/or mouse. However, participation in this regard is not absolutely necessary and students may be able to experience our wonderful camp in a more passive capacity.
  - In order to better manage the camp experience, there may be times where campers are all placed on mute and questions and engagement may be typed into the chat box. We will modify and adjust for sessions with campers that may not be able to use the chat feature for any reason.
- **Will campers participate in any activities that could potentially damage a computer or its components (painting, water etc.)?**
  - Some crafts or activities may involve glue or water. We encourage parents/guardians to make sure campers are set up to avoid any accidental spills, and camp staff will pause and remind campers before the start of each activity.
- **What type of technology will families need to access the virtual camp platform? Will a smartphone, tablet, PC, Mac, Chromebook work?**
  - In order to participate, campers will need access to the internet. Although smartphones can access the Zoom application, using a tablet, laptop or desktop computer of any brand will allow for more versatile and interactive participation.
- **Will campers need headphones, webcam or microphone?**
  - Campers will need a webcam and microphone if it is not already provided with the media device. Headphones are optional but suggested if they’re home/learning area has a lot going on or many distractions.
- **Will campers need any household items or supplies to participate in the camp? Will campers receive a kit of materials to use during the camp session(s)?**

- *Some typical at home materials will be needed, but a list will be provided for each camp week.* Please see each camp's description for a list of suggested supplies and additional needs.
- Campers will receive an activity box, complete with all the additional materials necessary to participate in camp activities.
- **Pick-Up Option:** By choosing this option, you will be responsible for picking up your materials prior to the first day of your camp session. Curbside pickup at the Aquarium will be available from **11am-2pm on the Thursday and Friday** before the start of your camp session. No exceptions will be made.
- **Shipping Option:** By choosing this option, you agree to pay a \$20 shipping fee to have your kit delivered to your home (if ordering for multiple siblings, we will combine kits into one box). International Shipping is not available. Registrations must be processed 2 weeks prior to the start of your camp session to ensure on-time delivery. If you do not receive your kit(s) prior to the start date of your session, please contact us at [twilson@healthebay.org](mailto:twilson@healthebay.org) or [education@healthebay.org](mailto:education@healthebay.org).
- **Will parents have to be involved, helping campers log on or prepare materials, before the camp sessions begin?**
  - All login information will be provided to the parent during the week before their registered camp program. Parents are encouraged to “check-in” their campers at the start of each session and/or encouraged to join in the learning if they are available and interested.
  - All kits are child-friendly, but if the camper is too young for certain activities, or depending on the development level of the camper, some involvement from a parent/guardian/caregiver may be required.
- **How will our team communicate with parents if a camper is disconnected from the virtual camp or simply decides to walk away from the screen for a long duration of time?**
  - We will reach out by email or the primary phone number, unless prior notification is given.
- **How will our team communicate with parents if a camper is upset or falls and becomes injured in any way during the session?**
  - We will call the primary phone number if adult in the house is not immediately aware, monitor the situation, and send a follow-up email to check in on the camper and family.