

# Camp FAQs

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## **Adler and Summer Worlds Tour General Information**

### **What are camp hours?**

Camp is in session from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., except Preschool Young Scientists Camp, which is a half-day program (9:00-11:30am OR 12:30-3:00pm). See your camp section of the FAQ's for detailed pick up and drop off information.

### **Can I register in person or over the phone?**

Registration is only available online.

### **How do I add more than one child to my registration? How do I register my child for more than one camp?**

If you are registering more than one child for camp or one child for multiple camps, click the Add a Person Button on the Release Forms Page or on the Checkout Page.

### **Can we sign up for more than one week of the same camp?**

-Please be aware that all Adler and Summer Worlds Tour camp programming repeats each session. We recommend that you do not register your camper more than once for the same camp. Additionally, Adler's portion of Summer Worlds Tour will have content similar to Adler's ASTRO mini-camps.

-Because many preschoolers benefit from reinforcement of concepts, you are welcome to register for multiple sessions of Young Scientists camp. It is **not** recommended to take both a morning and an afternoon session in the same week.

Morning and afternoon sessions have identical content and care between morning and afternoon sessions is not provided.

### **What is your cancellation policy?**

To receive a 90% refund, you must cancel your registration on or before May 1 prior to camp. After May 1 no refund will be given for cancellations. Cancellations can be accomplished by logging into your account online.

### **How do I log in to my registration account?**

Your confirmation email contains a link to your account or you can follow the registration link from our camps page <http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/summer-camps/>. You will need to know the email address and password that you used at registration. If you forget your password, you can reset it from the registration site as well.

### **How does your waitlist work?**

If your child is placed on the wait list, we will contact you to offer you a spot if one becomes available. Your credit card will only be charged if you choose to accept the spot. Spots become available as cancellations occur, so we cannot guarantee that your child will be offered a spot in our camps. *\*\*\*If you register for a wait list, please wait until you have been offered an open spot to purchase an extra t-shirt. You will be given the opportunity to order extra t-shirts for your camper when you accept an opening. There is no charge for registering for a wait list but extra t-shirts purchased are charged to your credit card immediately.\*\*\**

### **Are scholarships available?**

-A limited number of need-based scholarships are available for Adler Camps. Applications will accepted through our camps page after registration opens: <http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/summer-camps/>. Committee members review applications and decisions are based on financial need, individual circumstances, and program availability. All scholarship applications must be submitted by the posted due date.

-There are no scholarships available for Summer Worlds Tour.

### **What is your staffing like? How many adults will be with my camper?**

Each camp has a Camp Instructor, Camp Counselor (2 Counselors for Summer Worlds Tour) and Teen Camp Assistant. Mission Near Space Camp additionally works with 3 Adler Astronomers, and Tech Camp: Sky Show will have multiple Adler team members joining in during the week. A Camp Director and other senior staff are on site throughout camp.

### **Do you have trained medical personnel on staff?**

Please see our Terms and Conditions for information concerning medical emergencies on our website at <http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/summer-camps/>.

**What kind of training does your staff have?**

The instructors are museum education staff members or classroom teachers. Most counselors are college students majoring in education or a related science discipline. All undergo camp-specific training before camp season begins.

**Will my child be spending any time outside?**

Yes! Campers will spend time outside during sign in each morning and sign out in the afternoon. We have lunch outside (weather permitting). Some activities will also take place outside. Summer Worlds Tour campers will walk to each institution.

**What do I need to send with my child each day?**

Peanut AND tree nut free lunch. We encourage you to add extra snacks for your child as well.

Camp t-shirt (*must be worn daily*- extras can be purchased for \$10 onsite or during registration)

Backpack

Water bottle

Sunscreen or sun block

Comfortable clothing that can get messy

Close-toed shoes (Open toed shoes and Crocs are NOT permitted in camp)

Optional- lightweight jacket, sweatshirt (the museums may be cold inside), sun hat, rain gear

**Do the Camps provide lunch?**

We do not provide lunch. You will need to send your camper with lunch and snacks that do not need to be refrigerated.

Both **Adler Camps** and **Summer Worlds Tour** are **peanut and tree nut free programs**. For the safety of all participants, **do not pack lunches or snacks that contain any peanut or tree nut products**.

**Do you offer before-care or after-care?**

We do not offer after-care or morning pre-camp care.

**How can I contact you?**

*Before camp*, please email [summercamp@adlerplanetarium.org](mailto:summercamp@adlerplanetarium.org) with any questions or additional information you need to communicate.

*During camp*, please use the above email for all non-urgent communications. For urgent communications, please refer to the contact information you will receive via e-mail prior to camp.

## Adler Camps

### Overview Guide to Adler Camps

Grade /age in the Fall	3-4 year olds	Kinder.	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>
<b>2 day camps</b>		Astro Juniors	Astro Explorers		Astro Investigators							
<b>5 day camps</b>	Young Scientists											
								Mission Near Space	Mission Near Space 2			
						Tech Camp: Robotics						
								Tech Camp: Sky Show				

#### **Can I register my child for a camp that does not match my child's grade level? Can I register my 4-year-old for ASTRO Juniors camp?**

We take great care to design age-appropriate camp curriculum each summer. Campers must fall within the designated age and grade ranges specified in the descriptions. The Adler Planetarium reserves the right to request a notarized birth certificate to confirm a camper's age at any time before or during camp. If this does not match with the birth date information entered at the time of registration, placement in camp will be forfeited and no refunds will be made. This policy is to ensure that all campers have the best possible camp experience.

Adler camps follow the CPS birthday guidelines, so any camper who will turn 5 by September 1, 2017 *AND* will be entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2017 may register for ASTRO Juniors camp. If your 4 year old does not meet those criteria, our Young Scientists Camp is the appropriate camp for him/her.

#### **How do I know if my child is ready for an Adler Camp?**

Adler campers need to be able to:

- Take care of all restroom needs without assistance.
- Enjoy a busy, active day without a nap (for those in a full-day program).
- Separate from parents/ caregivers.

#### **How Do Sign In and Sign Out run?**

Sign in / sign out is 30 minutes before and after camp hours. *Adults picking up must be on the authorized pick up list and have a valid photo ID every day.* An adult must sign in and out daily: campers may not be dropped off from the car or sent out to you. More detailed information including a map of the location will be emailed to you closer to camp.

\*If your Mission Near Space 2 camper is permitted to transport themselves, please email [summercamp@adlerplanetarium.org](mailto:summercamp@adlerplanetarium.org) to let us know.

\*To accommodate the needs of our youngest campers, *Young Scientists* pick up and drop off is limited to 15 minutes before and after camp.

We do not have staff to accommodate late pick up. Please be on time. There is a \$5 charge for every five minutes when pick up occurs after 3:30pm.

#### **What do I do if there is inclement weather during camp?**

Sign in and sign out will take place near the Sundial on the North side of the building daily. If there is inclement weather, the campers will stay inside. Please come meet them at the street level entrance on the North side of the building (left of the staircase).

## Summer Worlds Tour

### Summer Worlds Tour Daily Schedule:

Groups		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A, C, E	AM	Orientation	Field	Shedd	Shedd	Adler
	PM	Field	Field	Shedd	Adler	Adler
B, D, F	AM	Orientation	Shedd	Adler	Adler	Field
	PM	Shedd	Shedd	Adler	Field	Field

### What is Summer Worlds Tour?

Summer Worlds Tour is a week-long camp (5 days) that takes place on the Museum Campus. Campers spend approximately a day and a half at each of the museums on the Museum Campus: Adler Planetarium, Field Museum and Shedd Aquarium. For more details, please see the Summer Worlds Tour "Tour Guide" link on our camps page:

<http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/summer-camps/>

### What are the age requirements?

We take great care to design age-appropriate camp curriculum each summer. Campers must fall within the designated age and grade ranges specified in the descriptions. Summer Worlds Tour reserves the right to request a notarized birth certificate to confirm a camper's age at any time before or during camp. If this does not match with the birth date information entered at the time of registration, placement in camp will be forfeited and no refunds will be made. This policy is to ensure that all campers have the best possible camp experience.

Our youngest campers will enter Kindergarten in fall 2017. Summer Worlds Tour follows the CPS birthday guidelines, so any camper who will turn 5 by September 1, 2017 *AND* will be entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2017 may register for Summer Worlds Tour. If your 4-year-old does not meet those criteria, we will look forward to meeting them next summer, but Summer Worlds Tour is not appropriate for them this year. The oldest campers will enter 5<sup>th</sup> grade in fall 2017.

### How do I know if my child is ready for Summer Worlds Tour?

Summer Worlds Tour campers need to be able to:

- Take care of all restroom needs without assistance.
- Enjoy a very busy, active day without a nap.
- Separate from parents/ caregivers without distress.

### How do the group letters (A, B, C, D, E, F) work?

Summer Worlds Tour Camps are divided into groups based on the total number of campers registered each week. Groups are often mixed-age (ex- Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> graders together, or 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders together). *The group letter does not indicate progression.* For example, a camper who was in group B the previous year does not necessarily move up to group C. Instruction is adapted based on the grade levels of the campers in each group.

If you would like your camper placed in the same group as another camper *who is in the same grade*, please indicate this during registration and ask that camper to do the same. We make every effort to accommodate these requests, but please understand that it is not always possible. Camp is a wonderful opportunity to make new friends, and our counselors will work hard to help all campers feel comfortable. Your camper's group assignment will be e-mailed to you one week before your camp session.

### How Do Sign In and Sign Out run?

Sign in / sign out is 30 minutes before and after camp hours at the east entrance of the Field Museum. *Adults picking up must be on the authorized pick up list and have a valid photo ID every day.* An adult must sign in and out daily: campers may not be dropped off from the car or sent out to you. We encourage camp families to use public transportation to avoid having to wait in the pick up line! More detailed information including a map of the location will be emailed to you closer to camp.

We do not have staff to accommodate late pick up. Please be on time. There is a \$5 charge for every five minutes when pick up occurs after 3:30pm.

### What do I do if there is inclement weather?

Sign in and sign out will take place at The Field Museum. In case of rain, campers can be picked up inside the East entrance. We very seldom change our sign in and sign out location, but in the event of extreme weather that prevents campers from safely traveling to or from the Field, we may ask you to sign in campers at the museum where they will begin the day or sign out at the museum where they will end the day.