



A Parent's Guide to Summer Camp at HMNS 2020 – What You Need to Know!

Dear Summer Camps at HMNS Camper Parent or Guardian,

To better help prepare you and your camper for your first day of camp, we have compiled this list of information.

The health and safety of our campers is always our first priority. The Summer Camp at HMNS program has extensive health and safety procedures and staff training in place every year. This summer, in light of COVID-19, The Summer Camp at HMNS Team is updating these procedures extensively, informed by current recommendations from local, state, federal health officials, agencies, and authorities, including CDC guidelines. At this time, we are planning to proceed with our summer camps as scheduled, beginning June 1, with extensive health & safety modifications. We have incorporated the modifications into this document. These modifications can also be reviewed online at hmns.org/summercamp.

Social Distancing and Crowd Limitations

- Reducing the number of campers per classroom to half.
- Reducing the total enrollment in Before Camp to half capacity and social distancing campers in the Moran Lecture Hall or The Wortham Giant Screen Theatre with designated space for each camper.
- Reducing the total enrollment in After Camp to half capacity. Each After Camp classroom will be at half capacity with one teacher and one assistant.
- Reducing the number of campers per classroom during lunch. We will not combine camp classrooms during the lunch period.
- Reducing the number of staff per classroom to one teacher and one or two assistants.
- No more than two campers per classroom table.
- Teachers and assistants will remind campers to remain separate.

- No partners or group projects.
- Only campers and staff will be allowed in the classrooms and the Education Office. Floor decals will indicate 6-foot spacing for parents to queue outside each camp classroom for drop off and pick up. Sign In and Sign Out with ID checks will be conducted in the hallway.
- Camp presentations on Fridays that would normally be with parents will be with camp teacher and assistant(s) only.
- Camp field trips to off-site locations are cancelled.
- We strongly urge advance online purchase of summer camp, before and after camp, and carpool at store.hmns.org , lunch at hmns.org/visit/dining and the emailing of completed Camper Health Record forms to summercamp@hmns.org to enable “low-touch” entry to the Museum and communication with the Education Office staff.
- Lower Level of the Museum will be reserved exclusively for participants in children’s programs from the museum’s reopening date, May 15, through the end of summer programming.
- Campers will participate in no-touch tours throughout the museum exhibit halls, as they relate to camp curriculum.
- While on exhibit hall tours, campers will socially distance from all general museum patrons. Museum staff will monitor all public spaces to facilitate social distancing, control capacity; and have installed signage and floor decals throughout the facility to encourage and remind visitors to practice social distancing and hand washing and sanitizing.
- Campers will go on exhibit hall tours earlier in the day to avoid potential crowds.
- Exclusive Wortham Giant Screen Theatre and Burke Baker Planetarium shows for campers. No general museum patrons will be admitted to the theatres during these shows.
- Staggered pick-up times to reduce the foot traffic in the Lower Level museum halls.
 - 3:00 PM pick-up for 6-7 age group and siblings.
 - 3:15 PM pick-up for 8-9 age group and siblings.
 - 3:30 PM pick-up for 10-12 age group.

Health Monitoring

- The temperature of all campers will be measured in the Grand Hall before entering the Museum and being signed-in; any camper exhibiting a fever of 100.4 or above will be sent home with their parent or guardian.
- We will send all children belonging to a family home if any child in that family exhibits a fever of 100.4 or above.
- The temperature of all employees will also be measured before entering the museum; any employees exhibiting a fever of 100.4 or above will be sent home.

Upon entering the building, employees must wash or sanitize their hands. The museum is also putting extensive health maintenance requirements in place for employees to follow throughout the day.

- Do not send your child to camp if they have any symptoms associated with the COVID-19 infection, a confirmed case of the COVID-19 infection, a suspected case of the COVID-19 infection, traveled internationally or to the states of WA, CA, LA, or NY within the last 14 days
- Do not send your child to camp if they have had any contact or potential contact with anyone with symptoms associated with COVID-19, a confirmed case of the Covid-19 infection, an individual under investigation for the Covid-19 infection, an individual who has travelled internationally or to the states of WA, CA, LA, or NY in the last 14 days.
- If a camper becomes ill with symptoms associated with the COVID-19 infection during the camp day, the Camp Director will contact their parent or guardian and the child and any other camper belonging to that family will be sent home with their parent or guardian.
- If a camper is sent home with symptoms associated with the COVID-19 infection and that camper does not get evaluated by a medical professional and tested for COVID-19, the child is assumed to have COVID-19 and the child cannot return to camp until they have met the following criteria: at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever above 100.4 without the use of fever-reducing medications); and the child has improvement in symptoms; and at least 14 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- If a camper is sent home with symptoms associated with the COVID-19 infection and that camper does get evaluated by a medical professional and tests positive for COVID-19, the child cannot return to camp until they have met the following criteria: at least 3 days (72 hours) have passes since recovery (resolution of fever above 100.4 without the use of fever-reducing medications); and the child has improvement in symptoms; and at least 14 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- If we are notified of a camper or staff member with confirmed case of the COVID-19 infection, the Camp Director will notify camp families that day via email. According to the State Texas Health Protocols the following are possible symptoms of COVID-19:
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Chills
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Muscle pain
 - Headache
 - Sore Throat
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Diarrhea
 - Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.

Cleaning and Sanitization

- Upon entering the museum, campers must wash or sanitize their hands.
- Campers will wash or sanitize their hands often throughout the camp day especially before returning to the classroom from exhibit hall tours, bathroom trips, or demonstrations.
- All staff who engage with campers will wear face masks.
- All campers will be encouraged to wear face masks. Campers ages 10 and above will be required to wear a face mask. Cloth face masks will be available to purchase at the museum.
- The museum is installing more hand sanitizing stations and instituting heightened cleaning protocols, including frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection of “high-touch” door handles, elevators, and restrooms.
- Camp classrooms will be cleaned and sanitized at the end of each camp day.
- Campers will have an assigned seat and space in the classroom. Campers will be asked to wipe down their personal area with sanitizing wipes at the beginning of the camp day and then again after lunch.
- Campers will have their own set of basic materials for camp. Campers will be encouraged not to share personal camp supplies.
- Teachers and TAs will sanitize surfaces and handles in the classroom at the beginning of the day and again after lunch.
- The museum is implementing cleanliness “patrols” in all exhibition galleries and other public areas. These patrols will clean and sanitize all public surfaces in the museum frequently throughout each day.
- Hands-on exhibition components and other “high touch” experiences will remain closed, including theatre experiences and interactives in the Wiess Energy Hall, docent touch carts and more.
- All materials and supplies used in camp will be packaged or sterilized.
- Campers are encouraged not to share personal electronic devices. Electronic devices cannot be used during the camp curriculum portion of the day.
- In order to create a possible “low touch” Before and After camp environment we will eliminate touch items like board games and building sets from the room. This summer we will provide coloring pages and activity sheets to younger campers and screen short movies for all ages. All campers will be permitted to use personal electronic devices during the extended day periods. Campers will be encouraged not to share personal electronic devices.

Staff Training

- All museum staff have been trained on all operational changes the museum is implementing.
- All Summer Camp staff have been specifically trained on all operational changes to the summer camp program.

What we need from you before the first day of camp

- Parents and guardians will be required to wear a face mask in the museum when dropping and picking up campers.
- All campers will be encouraged to wear face masks. Campers ages 10 and above will be required to wear a face mask. Cloth face masks will be available to purchase at the museum. Please plan to bring a face mask from home.
- We strongly urge advance online purchase of summer camp, before and after camp, and carpool at store.hmns.org , lunch at hmns.org/visit/dining and the emailing of completed Camper Health Record forms to summercamp@hmns.org to enable “low-touch” entry to the Museum and communication with the Education Office staff.
- Children who have NOT had a Camper Health Record Form turned in by check-in on Tuesday afternoon **will not be permitted to return to camp** until a health form is turned into the Education Office.
- If you would like to keep epinephrine or medication on campus for your child, please fill out an Allergy Action Plan (also available in the Education Office), and attach your child’s picture.

Before Camp/After Camp

- We are reducing the total enrollment in Before Camp to half capacity and social distancing campers in the Moran Lecture Hall with designated space for each camper.
- We are reducing the total enrollment in After Camp to half capacity. Each After Camp classroom will be at half capacity with one teacher and one assistant.
- In order to create a possible “low touch” Before and After camp environment we will eliminate touch items like board games and building sets from the room. This summer we will provide coloring pages and activity sheets to younger campers and screen short movies for all ages. All campers will be permitted to use personal electronic devices during the extended day periods. Campers will be encouraged not to share personal electronic devices.
- Before Camp is available from 8:00 to 10:00, Monday – Friday for \$50 per week.
- Check-In for Before Camp is located just inside the main museum Grand Hall. If coming in from the Museum Parking Garage, all patrons will be directed back outside and then enter through the main entrance to the museum.

- After Camp is available from 3:25 until 5:30, Monday – Friday for \$60 per week.
- The After Camp classrooms will be located on the lower level in the classrooms beneath the Gift Shop. If coming in from the Museum Parking Garage, all patrons will be directed back outside and then enter through the main entrance to the museum. Once you enter, please use the glass door just inside the front entrance and come downstairs. Signage will be on the lower level indicating the last name alphabet ranges for each After Camp classroom.
- To sign up visit <http://store.hmns.org/> prior to the first day of camp.

Lunch

- We are reducing the number of campers per classroom during lunch. We will not combine camp classrooms during the lunch period.
- Campers will wash or sanitize their hands often throughout the camp day especially before lunch and returning to the classroom from exhibit hall tours, bathroom trips, or demonstrations.
- Campers may bring a lunch from home or you may pre-order meals to be delivered to their classroom.
 - Catering by Periodic Table Cafe is available only at the main museum location. Information can be found online at hmns.org/visit/dining. Online orders must be placed by 5 PM the day before the lunch is to be delivered. For questions, please call Catering by Periodic Table Café at 713-639-4699.

What does your camper need?

- All campers will be encouraged to wear face masks. Please bring a mask from home. Cloth face masks will be available to purchase at the museum.
- Clothes you don't mind getting dirty and closed-toed shoes – no flip flops or sandals, please.
- A backpack or bag to keep personal items and lunches contained.
- A recycled bag or green shopping bag to bring home projects.

Getting to Camp

- You can find [directions online](#) or by calling 713-639-4601 or 713-639-4629.

What to expect Monday morning

- Park in the museum garage in any available parking space or we recommend parking in LOT C next to the Centennial Gardens.
- Enter the museum at the main entrance to the museum. If you are coming from the Museum Garage please exit back outside and proceed to the main entrance to the museum.

- Staff will be checking to make sure everyone is wearing a face mask before entering the building.
- Upon entering the building, review the signage for your camp classroom number. Proceed to the glass doors just inside the main museum and take the stairs down for classrooms 29-33, proceed to the main entrance to the museum's exhibit halls and go downstairs for classrooms 1-21, and proceed to the Hall of Americas entrance to the museum's exhibit halls just past the Elements Grill for classrooms 21-28 and go downstairs.
- The temperature of all campers will be measured in the Grand Hall before entering the museum exhibit halls or going to the lower level and being signed-in; any camper exhibiting a fever of 100.4 or above will be sent home with their parent or guardian.
- Only campers and staff will be allowed in the classrooms and the Education Office. Floor decals will indicate 6-foot spacing for parents to queue outside each camp classroom for drop off and pick up. Sign In and Sign Out with ID checks will be conducted in the hallway.
- Sign-in begins at **9:45 A.M.**
- You will need to fill out a Sign-In Card for your camper with a list of approved adults for pick-up, including yourself.
- If you need to drop off your camper earlier than 9:45, Before Camp is available for purchase for the week online at store.hmns.org.
- Children must be signed in and out by an approved adult every day. Updated contact information is required daily.
- You are required to show a **photo ID** to sign your child out. Please be patient as it takes time to assure the safety of campers during sign-out.
- Campers are escorted by Summer Camp staff anytime they are out of the classroom, whether that be going to the restroom as a group or visiting a museum exhibit hall.

Special Needs

- Please notify the Camp Director of your child's special needs **PRIOR** to your child's first day of camp by emailing summercamp@hmns.org.
- Help us help your child by completing the Camper Health Record Form and notifying us of any allergies, accessibility concerns, behavioral, psychological or emotional concerns, or any other special needs. Please submit Camper Health Forms by email to summercamps@hmns.org.
- In the case of severe food allergies, it is not possible for us to monitor the food other children bring to camp. **We are NOT a nut-free zone.**
- If your child requires an Epi Pen you will need to fill out the Allergy Action Plan and turn it in to the Education Office on Monday morning of your child's camp week.

Valuables

- Bringing valuables like cell phones, electronic games, etc. to camp for use during lunchtime, Before Camp, or After Camp is at the discretion of the parent and HMNS is not responsible for loss or damage to camper's valuables.
- Campers are encouraged not to share personal electronic devices. Electronic devices cannot be used during the camp curriculum portion of the day.
- All campers will be permitted to use personal electronic devices during the extended day periods. Campers will be encouraged not to share personal electronic devices.

Gift Shop Discount

- Mention that you are attending summer camp at the Museum Store and receive 10% off your entire purchase.

In Case of Emergency

- Please call the Summer Camp office at 713-639-4651 or 713-639-4625, and a staff member will deliver your message to the appropriate person.

Parking for HMNS Summer Camp

Summer is usually a busy time at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. However, for this upcoming summer to allow for proper social distancing, we will be operating the museum at 25% capacity or less and summer camp enrollment will be half. For this summer of 2020, we will not have reserved and coned parking in the Museum Garage for the exclusive use of summer camp patrons during drop-off and pick-up. We will continue to offer free parking in the Museum Garage for our summer camp patrons. Please proceed to any available parking space in the Museum Garage for drop-off and pick-up. We will email all registered patrons the Thursday prior to your registered week a Parking pass to be displayed on your dash to be used for exit of the Museum Garage. Parking Passes will also be available on site.

We are continuing to address parking issues at the museum for our summer camp patrons. We will continue to offer, for \$30 a week curbside drop-off and pick-up service for summer campers. Please note this service is limited to 25 spots per week.

CAMPER DROP-OFF/PICK-UP CARPOOL SERVICE

Summer Camp at HMNS will operate a camper drop-off and pick-up line during the weeks summer camp is in session. This service will be limited to members of the museum. We will offer 25 “Summer Camp at HMNS Carpool Passes” per week when summer camp is in session. The service will be available to purchase online at store.hmns.org

Summer Camp at HMNS patrons utilizing the drop-off and pick-up service will need to display the SUMMER CAMP AT HMNS CARPOOL PASS on their dash. The drop-off pick-up carpool line will begin on Hermann Drive at the corner of Caroline and Hermann Drive and continue on Hermann Drive to the end of the “Loading Zone”.

- *Available to members of the museum exclusively*
- *\$30 per week for a Summer Camp at HMNS Staff member to escort your camper to and from the camp classrooms and to ensure authorized pick-up and signature.*
- *Limited to 25 member patrons per week*
- *Camper drop-off service not available on Monday mornings. Please utilize the museum garage or alternate parking, and escort your camper inside the museum to complete summer camp pick-up authorizations, order lunch, and orient yourself and your child to the camp layout.*
- *Camp patrons can purchase the service in advance online at store.hmns.org*
- *Limited quantities might be available on site the week of camp if not sold out online*
- *Camp patrons must be authorized to pick up designated camper, and all the names of campers to be picked up must be provided to the program coordinator at the time of purchase. Any changes to camper pickup must be communicated to the program coordinator no later than 1pm the day of service.*
- *Patrons using the service must display “Summer Camp at HMNS Carpool Pass” on their dash.*
- *Carpool drop off time frame is Tuesday-Friday from 9:00 AM- 9:45 AM.*
- *Carpool pick up time frame is Monday-Friday from 3:30 PM – 4:15 PM.*

Alternate Parking (Please see map)

- Additional Free parking options include:
 - Free 3-hour parking lot in the new Garden Center (Lot C)
 - Metered parking on the streets around the Museum District
 - Free 3-hour parking lot directly off the Circle, by the statue of Sam Houston (Lot A)
 - Free-daily parking near the Zoo (Lots D, E, F, G, and H)

- Additional Paid Parking Options (At your own cost):
 - Metered parking around the Museum District Museum Medical Tower
 - MFAH
 - Children’s Museum
 - Holocaust Museum parking lot
 - The MetroRail – The “Museum District” stop is only 3 blocks from HMNS.

HERMANN PARK

