

## Activity Information Acknowledgement

### Buccaneer Adventure Camp

The Ocean Institute camps are American Camping Association accredited and a requirement for this year is a signed Activity Information Acknowledgement form. This information is to make sure parents/guardians are aware of what their child will be doing in camp. By enrolling your child in this camp you are giving them permission to participate in these activities. With your registration information you should find a parent letter and a schedule for the camp your child is attending. These details will help answer some of the questions we are often asked. The Ocean Institute is very safety conscious and works hard to make your child's camp experience the safest possible, but there is always a potential for injury. We hope the information below will help you understand some of the activities at camp so your child will have a fun and unforgettable experience.

Campers participate in a variety of hands-on activities with our instructors that range from arts and crafts to learning the ropes and handling lines on the *Pilgrim*. While the Ocean Institute makes every effort to create a safe and fun learning environment, there are some activities that might need explanation:

**Activities on the Brig *Pilgrim*:** The Brig *Pilgrim* is a tall ship built in 1945. It is the Buccaneer Adventure Camp's home base through the week. The Brig is a fully functioning sailing ship, and therefore has equipment, lines and rooms dedicated to this function. These areas are marked and off-limits to the students. Like any wooden ship, the deck can be slippery, and parts may have exposed or rough wood. There is a safety rail around the entire vessel and campers are monitored at all times while on the vessel.

**Outside Activities:** Many of the activities will occur outside. In the summer this usually means in the sun. We do provide shade for some but not all activity areas. The Ocean Institute recommends that sunscreen be applied in the morning before camp and the campers will be asked to reapply sunscreen during the day. Your child will be responsible for applying the sunscreen to themselves and may ask for another camper's help. The Ocean Institute staff or volunteers are not allowed to apply sunscreen by hand.

**Activities on the Dock and Pier:** We use the Maddie James Maritime Boathouse; a part of the floating Maddie James Seaside Learning Center, for several activities during the course of the camp. The boathouse will be used to facilitate a few activities during the course of the camp. Students are supervised at all times and the facilities have rescue equipment readily available.

**Going up the Mast in the Bosun's Chair:** Campers will be lifted individually 8 – 10 feet off the deck in a traditional ship's bosun's chair. The chair will have a safety line attached to it manned by an instructor or trained summer camp volunteer. The campers will be supervised by instructors.

**Learning Gunnery:** The campers will practice the arts an 1800's gunner aboard the Brig *Pilgrim's* quarterdeck. Under the supervision of instructors, campers will use an unloaded replica cannon and gunnery tools to explore how ships defended themselves.

**Rowing the Long Boats in the Harbor:** The Buccaneer Adventure Camp uses traditional long boats for rowing. All campers and instructors will be required to wear lifejackets while in the long boat. A lifeguard in a motorized boat with a first aid kit, radio and life-saving equipment will be monitoring the activity from the water. Campers will practice rowing one day and then apply their skills in the harbor near the *Pilgrim*.

**Laying Aloft on the Practice Yard:** In the Maritime Center, the campers will climb onto the foot ropes of a replica yard. The foot ropes are 1-4 feet off the ground and there is a minimum risk of falling. There are gymnastics mats under the yard and the campers are supervised at all times.

**Moving Cargo with the Cargo Net or Barrel:** Campers will use lines to move cargo from one place to another using traditional block and tackle systems consisting of wooden blocks and synthetic lines. The campers will be given line handling instructions before the activity and will be supervised during the activity by an instructor.

**Sea Life Cruise on the R/V Sea Explorer:** The *R/V Sea Explorer* is a federally documented vessel which means it does not require the use of passenger life jackets. Approved Coast Guard Certified life jackets are accessible for passengers including infant, child and adult size to fit anyone regardless of their age or weight, but are distributed *only* in the case of an emergency. There is a safety rail around the entire vessel and campers are monitored at all times while on the vessel. The vessel is also equipped with heavy scientific gear used to collect samples for camper use during the cruises. These areas are marked and off-limits to the students. Like any vessel during times at sea, the environment of the boat can be slippery and unsteady.

I have read the description of the program for this camp and agree that my child is physically able and prepared to participate in all camp activities/program.

I, the undersigned parent/guardian, give my permission for \_\_\_\_\_  
to participate in the camp activities.

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Parent or Guardian's signature

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Date