

## Santa Barbara Botanic Garden Summer Camp Frequently Asked Questions

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## 1. What should my child bring to camp?

Please make sure your child comes to camp with the following materials. If you require assistance with any of these items, please let us know as we have limited extras that we can provide.

- Water bottle- 16oz minimum, filled
- Backpack
- Bagged Lunch
- Two Healthy Snacks
- Spare clothes- 1 set for the week
- Closed-toed shoes
- Well-fitted, CDC approved face mask
- Hat
- Sunblock
- On the first day, you will be provided with 2 camp T-shirts that must be worn daily.

## 2. How does COVID-19 affect camp?

The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden has created COVID-19 protocols aligned with [Santa Barbara County Health](#) officials and [CDC guidelines](#). For more information on our COVID and illness prevention protocols, see our [Communicable Disease Control Plan](#).

## 3. Do I get a refund if my child is sick?

Prorated refunds for up to 2 full days of camp fees are available for campers who are asked to stay home due to illness or COVID-19.

## 4. What is your cancellation policy?

Participants must cancel no later than 15 days prior to camp start date in order to receive a refund, minus a 10% admin fee.

## 5. Do you have a waitlist in case I don't get a spot?

If spots are no longer available for your desired camp program, we encourage you to join our waitlist. You will be notified if a spot opens up.

## 6. What is the counselor to camper ratio?

Our counselor to camper ratio is roughly 1:8, with 2 staff counselors working with no more than 16 participants per group. Additional volunteers may be present depending on the activity or age group.

## 7. Do you have scholarships available?

The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden has partnered with the Police Activities League Campership Alliance program to distribute and award camp scholarships. Please see their [site](#) for more information on obtaining a camp scholarship for the Garden.

## 8. How do I leave an emergency message concerning my child?

The best way to leave an emergency message is by contacting the Youth and Family Program Manager via email or phone (contact information provided in Orientation Packet). If you cannot get a hold of them, contact our Front Kiosk at (805) 682-4726.

## 9. What is your policy around disciplinary issues at camp?

The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden may, in its sole discretion, dismiss any camp participant for inappropriate, disrespectful, or dangerous behavior at any time. If a camper has difficulty following the Garden's behavior expectations, the Garden maintains a three-strike policy for violations of camper agreement and misconduct:

- **First Offense:** The camper will receive a verbal warning. This occurs after a discussion about the inappropriateness of the behavior.
- **Second Offense:** The camper will receive a Time Out from camp activities. Camper will review the Behavior Agreement with staff and discuss ways staff members can support the camper to make behavior improvements.
- **Third Offense:** The Camper will be sent home for the remainder of the camp day.

Parents/Guardians will be informed of any strikes incurred throughout camp. Prorated refunds will not be issued for campers who are sent home due to misconduct. If a child returns to camp after being sent home and misconduct continues, guardians will receive a call to set specific, appropriate behavior goals and outline consequences for continued inappropriate behavior. If a plan cannot be developed, the child cannot return to camp. Certain offenses, such as extreme violence, may cause us to bypass our three-strike policy and send a camper home immediately.

## 10. Where is camp drop-off and pick-up located?

Drop-off and pick-up are located adjacent to the Garden's entrance kiosk.

## 11. Who is able to pick up my child from camp?

Parent/Guardians or individuals 18 or older that have been listed on the camper's Pick-Up Authorization form. Campers will not be released to anyone not on the Authorization form. They must present a photo ID.

## 12. What happens if I need to pick-up my child early?

If you have to pick-up your child from camp before 3pm, please communicate that to our staff at check-in. They will arrange for someone to bring your child up to the entrance at the designated time to be signed out. Regular sign-out procedures still apply with early pick-up.

## 13. What happens if I am late to picking up my child?

If your child is not picked up by 3:30pm, they will be sent to Extended Day and you will be charged \$20. Children enrolled in Extended Day must be picked up no later than 5:30pm. If your child is not picked up before 5:30pm, you will automatically incur a \$15 fee plus an additional \$15 for every 15 minutes of extra supervision.