



COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

Things may change with state and federal requirements and guidelines as we go along, but here are some of the main details of how we have adapted our outdoor groups:

- Enrollment will be limited. We will continue to exercise an abundance of caution and keep our group sizes small, with no more than 2 instructors. Each group will consist of the same kids for the entire season with the same instructor(s), to the extent that it is possible. No daily drop-ins will be permitted. Those who wish to participate must enroll for the entire season.
- All activities will take place within Central Park or the South Mountain Reservation. There will be no shared equipment and no activities with any contact, unless we can safely do so or if guidelines change. There will also not be any subway travel with our New York groups for the foreseeable future. Participants should leave all personal items at home that would be tempting for others to want to touch or play with. Included in this are any cards, games, balls, toys, books, electronics, etc. Participants may only bring the necessities – water bottle, bug spray, rain jackets, hats, gloves and other gear along those lines, when necessary.
- If we have more than one group in Central Park or the South Mountain Reservation during the same time frame, groups will not be mixed or combined, unless an emergency situation warrants it or if there are multiple absences and we need to combine groups to make an activity work. Each group will have separate pick-up and dismissal locations as well.
- Staff members will be instructed to stay home if they are sick and we also expect parents/guardians to keep sick children at home. Please do not take unnecessary risks and send your child with “just a cold.” There is no need to get anyone else sick at this time. Being honest and up-front with each other is the safest way to keep this program running, uninterrupted.
- There will be temperature checks and a health screening assessment each day at check-in. The screening questions may change throughout the year and all parents will be e-mailed the current screening questions at the beginning of each season, but the questions will include:
 - 1) Has your child or anyone in your household experienced any COVID-19 symptoms in the past 48 hours (fever of 100.4°F or higher, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea)?
 - 2) Has your child or anyone in your household had a positive COVID-19 test in the past 14 days or are currently waiting on the results of a COVID-19 test?
 - 3) Has your child or anyone in your household been in close physical contact (6 feet or closer for at least 15 minutes) with anyone who is known to have laboratory-confirmed COVID-19, who is suspected to have COVID-19 or who has any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the past 14 days?
 - 4) Has your child or anyone in your household traveled nationally or internationally within the past 10 days? If so, have you met the quarantining recommendations for unvaccinated people, including testing before the trip and again after the trip?

Please check the updated COVID-19 travel advisory rules for New York

(<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>) or New Jersey

(<https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/travel-and-transportation/are-there-travel-restrictions-to-or-from-new-jersey>).

- For the record, as of August 2021, there are no longer any travel advisories in effect for New York or New Jersey. However, both states request that all travelers, domestic and international, should continue to follow all CDC travel requirements. The CDC says that all unvaccinated domestic travelers (which are most of the kids in our program) should get tested with a viral test 1-3 days before your trip and then another viral test 3-5 days after travel **AND** stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel (10 days without testing).
 - **Please note:** Because we are outside, if you have a negative PCR test (taken within the 3-5 day window as described above) after your return, then we are fine with that. It would also depend on if you are driving or flying; if flying, then all of the above would apply. If you are traveling, it is your responsibility to follow current guidelines, which you can find here:
 - **CDC Guidelines For Domestic Travel During COVID-19** (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>)
 - **CDC Guidelines For International Travel During COVID-19** (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html>)
- We will practice social distancing throughout the day, when walking from place to place and during all activities. We have plenty of fun activities that we can do with them in this manner and kids can easily still have the social experiences they have been lacking from a safe distance. There will be no contact such as shaking or holding hands, high-fives, hugs, etc. Instructors will only contact a child in case of emergency.
- There will of course be no sharing of face coverings, so all participants will need to bring their own each day. Everyone's face covering must fit properly and cover the nose and mouth. The State of New York has said acceptable face coverings include, but are not limited to, cloth (e.g. homemade sewn, quick cut, bandana) or surgical masks. The State of New Jersey has simply said that cloth face coverings can be made at home from common materials like scarves or bandanas, but that the cloth face coverings recommended are not surgical masks and they are not medical grade N-95 respirators.
- Wearing a mask the entire time may not be required. Participants and instructors must wear them at pick-up and dismissal and we will wear them while walking to various areas of the park, in the bathrooms and whenever we cannot maintain at least 6 feet from others. Once we get to an area of the woods or other spots in the park where we will be doing activities, there is rarely anyone else in our usual areas and they may be permitted to remove their masks at those times, as long as it is an activity where we can maintain 6 feet from each other. However, if anyone wants to wear it the whole time, that is perfectly fine and usually the way it works out anyway, as most kids have gotten so used to them that they don't seem to mind. Prior to removing face coverings or putting them back on, we will attempt to wash or sanitize hands before touching the face covering.
- As far as the bathrooms go, please have your child try to go at home just before dropping him or her off to us. This will help limit having to use the bathrooms in Central Park or the porta-potties in the South Mountain Reservation, but if anyone has to go, we will of course make sure they do so in the safest manner possible.
- There will be no food permitted during the program and we will not be providing any food. Depending on the time of your group, please have your child eat lunch or a snack prior to arrival.
- We will wash hands whenever possible, but all instructors will have plenty of hand sanitizer as well, for areas where hand washing is not available/practical. We will also have plenty of pairs of disposable gloves for emergencies and/or for when a child is in need of our help.
- If a child or staff member becomes sick while in the program, they will be separated from everyone else (children will not be left without adult supervision) and face coverings will be required for the duration of that day's program. For children, their emergency contacts will be notified and will need to be picked up as soon as possible. For staff members, they will separate from the kids, without ever being out of their sight, and continue monitoring their activities, until he or she can be relieved or until the end of the program. A safe distance will be maintained from that point on through dismissal.

- In the event that your child or anyone in your household must be isolated because they have tested positive for, or exhibited symptoms of COVID-19, your child will not be permitted to attend. The child must quarantine and may not return or attend the program until after quarantine is complete.
- If a parent/guardian has tested positive for, or exhibited symptoms of, COVID-19, while the child is in attendance at the program, they will not be permitted to enter our designated area to pick up their child. We will work out a plan to safely get your child home, if any of your additional emergency contacts are not available to pick up your child. If this is a member of the child's household, then the child must not return to the program for the duration of the quarantine.
- If the parent/guardian who is a member of the same household as the child is being quarantined as a precautionary measure, without symptoms or a positive test, our staff will walk out or deliver the child to the parent/guardian at the boundary of, or outside, of our designated area. In this situation, the child may return to the program during the duration of the precautionary quarantine.
- With any of these potential situations, communication is key and we expect parents to provide us with whatever information they have available so that we can act and respond accordingly. We appreciate everyone being open and honest and doing their best to keep everyone in our program safe.