

PARENT CONFIRMATION SHEET 2020

LOCATION:

Gamble Rogers Middle School
6250 US 1 South
St. Augustine, FL 32086
(904) 547-8700

FIRST CONTACT – Kristina Bransford, Program Coordinator

marinescienceprogram@stjohns.k12.fl.us (904) 687-3839 or 547-8700 ext. 27847

SECOND CONTACT – Dan Hawkinson, Field Coordinator

marinescienceprogram@stjohns.k12.fl.us (636) 675-0601 or 547-8700 ext. 27847

THIRD CONTACT – Rob Raimann, Summer Field Coordinator

marinescienceprogram@stjohns.k12.fl.us (904)547-0540 or 547-8700 ext. 27847

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

First Session-CANCELLED

~~June 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11~~

Second Session

June 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25

Third Session

June 29, 30, July 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9

COVID ALERT/NEW GUIDELINES- Please read this section carefully to make the best decision for your family.

AT HOME: 1. Please take your child's temperature every morning. Ask your child how they are feeling before sending them to our program. Should your child have a fever or not feel well we ask that you keep your child home for the remainder of the session. Send an email and we will refund cost on a prorated basis. 2. Please send your child wearing a personal protection mask. Masks will be worn where social distancing cannot take place. Please make sure your child is familiar with wearing their mask with the understanding that it cannot be removed at certain times. It is a parent's discretion to inform students to wear their mask during our in-field activities (canoeing, kayaking, stand up paddling, boarding, boating, etc.) 3. Provide a labeled waterproof zip lock bag for the personal protection mask to be stored when not in use.

AT OUR PROGRAM: 1. Your child's temperature will be checked upon arrive at GRMS. Should your child have a fever you will be called to pick up your child and remain home for the duration of the program. 2. We will be sanitizing busses, classroom and equipment daily. Frequent handwashing/sanitizer will occur throughout the day. 3. Personal protection masks will be worn during all transportation on buses. Masks will be worn in classrooms during activities where social distancing cannot occur, for example at a shared lab station. 4. When students are at their field location personal protection masks will be optional based on parent to child instruction to wear during our outdoor activities (canoeing, kayaking, fishing, stand up paddle boarding, etc.). 5. Class size will be no more than 14 students with one instructor.

If at any time you feel these guidelines do not meet your family's needs please do not send your child. Email us so we can begin the refund process. Please spend time speaking with your child so they fully understand the importance of these new safety guidelines.

WEBSITE – <http://www-grms.stjohns.k12.fl.us/marinescience/>

CURRICULUM – All students will rotate to another instructor and class every two days. Please refer to the curriculum on the website or that was attached to your acceptance letter for specific subjects covered and daily activities for each grade level. An average day would start with a 30 minute academic lesson in class, and the remainder of the day spent in the field reinforcing the lesson learned that morning.

NOTEBOOKS – All students need to bring a folder with paper every day (use an old folder from the school year). This folder will include all handouts, tests, notes, and at least one journal entry for each class. The notebook needs to be kept up to date daily throughout the program and will be part of the student's grade. The final grade for the Marine Science Program will be determined by averaging test scores, journal entries, notebook, and participation. Report cards are issued on the last day of the program so parents can be aware of their child's mastery of the material taught.

LUNCH – Students need to bring their own lunch from home. Though all instructors take water out into the field with their classes and take frequent hydration breaks, it is strongly suggested that you send individual waters or Gatorade with your child. Soda is not recommended. There are no drink or snack machines available in the school. (Note – Students are outside engaging in physical activities every day beginning around 9:00 A.M. We recommend that your child eat a good breakfast every morning.)

T-SHIRTS/MASKS – Each student will be issued two Marie Science Program t-shirts, one the first day of the program, which must be worn every day. This allows instructors to immediately identify students when in the field and in public. Bathing suits need to be "suitable" for school activities. **Each student must provide their own personal protection mask.**

SHOES – Since students are often in soft mud or around oysters, lace up or Velcro fasten tennis-style shoes with enclosed toe and enclosed heel shoes are required. Flip-flops, water shoes, open toed Tevas, Crocs, five fingers, etc. are not safe for our activities. Students who do not have appropriate footwear will not be taken out in the field with their class and will have to call parents to pick them up at the school.

PFD's – All students are required to wear our PFD's (personal flotation devices) in all water activities. The surfing class for the 8th graders is an exception since they will have a leash attached to their boards.

MATERIALS NEEDED EVERY DAY:

marine science t-shirt	any necessary medications	lunch and individual drinks
safe and sturdy shoes	bathing suit and towel	hat and sunscreen
dry change of clothes	ring binder notebook, pen or pencil	personal protection mask

DAILY SCHEDULE - Classes are from 8:15 to 2:15 Monday through Thursday, possible Friday

BUS SCHEDULE: (Check carefully as there are changes from previous schedule)

<u>Bus Stop</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>A.M. Pickup</u>	<u>P.M. Drop off</u>
1	Julington Creek Elementary	7:00	3:15
1	Julington Creek Elementary	7:00	3:15
2	PV/PV Rawlings Elementary	6:55	3:45
2	Landrum Middle School	7:05	3:30
3	Timberlin Creek Elementary	7:10	3:00
4	Nease High School	7:00	3:00
4	Valley Ridge Academy	7:20	3:15
5	Ketterlinus Elementary	7:30	3:00
5	R.B. Hunt Elementary	7:40	2:45
5	Crescent Beach Fire Station	8:00	2:30
6	Mill Creek Academy	7:15	3:00
6	Hartley Elementary	7:55	2:35
7	Southwoods Elementary	7:45	2:35

IMPORTANT TRANSPORTATION NOTE - Parents must be on time to pick up their children in the afternoon at the various drop off points around the county. Bus drivers cannot drop off a student and leave him or her unattended. If the driver has to wait for a parent, it greatly inconveniences the parents who are waiting for their children at stops further down the line. Riding the bus is a privilege any misuse of electronic devices, language or behavior will result in bus privileges being revoked.

WALKERS/BIKERS/NON PARENT PICK UPS:

If your child will be picked up by someone other than a parent/guardian OR your child will walk/bike from a bus stop a note must be in your child's backpack. Include child's name, parent name, all accessible phone numbers, list of people that may take your child from the stop with phone numbers or a statement "I give my child permission to walk/bike from the bus stop".

PARENT PICKUP AND DROPOFF – Parents not using bus transportation need to drop off and pick up students promptly at 8:15 A.M. and 2:15 P.M. at the front of the school. There is no provision made or adult supervision for early drop off or late pick up of students. Gamble Rogers Middle School is located 1 mile north of the US 1 and SR 206 intersection or 3 miles south of the Publix at US 1 and Wildwood Drive. Watch for school signs on US 1.

PHOTOS – Occasionally photos are taken of students participating in marine science activities. These are used in educational journals or literature and DVD's promoting the program's objectives. Student names are not used. If you do not want your child in a group photo participating in an educational activity, call Kristina Bransford at 687-3839.

EIGHTH GRADE PROGRAMMING NOTE – In order to accommodate the large number of rising eighth grade students who applied to the program, yet still keep class sizes small, we may need to expand the curriculum to offer five class rotations in eight days. Consequently, the program may make some scheduling adjustments. Each rotation includes at least one major field trip day (surfing, snorkeling, paddle boarding, canoeing, etc.). No student will miss a major field trip because of scheduling adjustments. Please remember the Blue Spring trip arrives late to GRMS at 4:45 with limited bus stops to the north end of the district. Your child will be told the first day of the program indicating which day they will attend the late trip. A permission slip will come home the day before the trip to be signed.

SIXTH GRADE FORM NOTE- If you did not return a YMCA form with your application please visit our website under forms to print and complete. This form must be brought or on file the first day.

CELL PHONES – We understand that many parents feel more comfortable when their children carry personal cell phones. However, the program cannot be responsible for any phones which are damaged, lost, or stolen. Any student using AirDrop, SnapChat or any photo sharing app during their time with us may be subject to removal from program. Sharing photos with a willing or unwilling participant during program time is prohibited.

ADVERSE WEATHER NOTICE- On rare occasions, some activities may have to be curtailed or even cancelled because of adverse weather creating unsafe conditions. Unfortunately, because of the tight structure of the program and the school district calendar, these activities are unable to be made up.

HOMEROOM/GROUP REQUESTS:

Because of the large number of students (over 900) we cannot change student homeroom groups. Organizing of the equipment and preparation for each child is completed in advance and cannot be adjusted. Please encourage your child to make new friends.

ACCIDENTS AND SAFETY – Students should report all accidents, however minor, to the instructor. When in the field, instructors carry National Safety Council first aid kits and their students' notarized medical permission forms with all parent contact information. Instructors review specific medical notations made by parents on the application forms before taking students out into the field. All instructors are St. Johns County School District teachers and are CPR/AED/first aid certified and have had medical administration training.

MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS – Any student taking prescribed medications (inhalers, epipens, ADHD medication, etc.) during the times of attendance in the program must have an "Authorization to Assist in the Administration of Medication/Treatment" form on file with the program coordinator. This form can be downloaded from the website. This form is not necessary for prescribed medications that are taken at home before the child arrives at school. It is also not necessary for over-the-counter medications such as Tylenol, Advil, etc. However, if over-the-counter medications will be used by the child during the program, a note from the parent or indication on the back of the final application form is necessary.

IMPORTANT- Any medication that your child regularly takes during the school year, either before or after school, should be continued during this program. (i.e. ADHD medications, etc.)

IMPORTANT – If you indicated on the final application form that your child uses an inhaler or epipen, then it **MUST** be sent with your child to the program every day and the Medical Authorization form **MUST** be on file with the program. Also, it is strongly recommended that parents send 2 epipens or inhalers, one that the instructors can carry with them in the field and another that the student can keep in their backpack. If the parent indicated on the final application form that epipens, inhalers, or other necessary medications are used, and these medications are not sent to school daily, students will not be sent out into the field and parents will have to pick up their children from Gamble Rogers.

BEHAVIOR – Students in this enrichment program are expected to behave appropriately. This is especially important in a program of this nature for safety reasons. Fees will be refunded on a pro-rated basis to any parent whose child's behavior or attitude prevents this program from being a positive and safe experience for themselves or their classmates. Please share our cell phone, bus and behavior policy with your student.

SPECIAL PAYMENT PROVISIONS – If you paid only the \$150 deposit with your application, please remember the balance of your payment (\$275) must be **in cash, online or money order only**. District policy is that all field trips must be paid in full before the student goes on the trip. Marine Science field trips go out every day. We do not recommend sending cash with your student. If your balance is not paid on the first day of the program you may be asked to pick up your child.

REFUND POLICY- Our full 8 day refund will be \$425. Our prorated daily refund will be \$50 per day. Please allow 4-6 weeks for refund processing.

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM – In the event that we need to give you urgent information regarding the program, for instance, a weather cancellation day, you will need to sign up in a text message system called Remind.com. On the back of this are instructions for you; with a number to text with a message code for your child’s grade level. You will then reply back with your child’s first and last name. This must be your child’s name, not your name. More than one parent/guardian may sign up to receive emergency messages. Once your child’s session is over, your account will be deleted. If you have any problems, contact Kristina Bransford at marinescienceprogram@stjohns.k12.fl.us

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM: SIGN UP NOW!

Simply take your phone out and follow the 2 step directions

In the event that we need to give you urgent information regarding the program, for instance, a weather cancellation day, you will need to sign up in a text message system called Remind.com. See the information below with the number to text with a message code for your child’s grade level. You will then reply back with your child’s first and last name. This must be your child’s name, not your name. More than one parent/guardian may sign up to receive emergency messages. Once your child’s session is over, your account will be deleted. This system is **one way** communication for emergency updates only, do not attempt to contact us via text. If you have any problems or need to reach us please contact Kristina Bransford at marinescienceprogram@stjohns.k12.fl.us .

On your phone send a text to the number **81010** then look below for your child’s correct GRADE and SESSION. The message of your text will be listed below (you must include the @ symbol).

SESSION TWO

MESSAGE OF YOUR TEXT

6 th Grade	@2msp6
7 th Grade	@2msp7
8 th Grade	@2msp8

SESSION THREE

MESSAGE OF YOUR TEXT

6 th Grade	@3msp6
7 th Grade	@3msp7
8 th Grade	@3msp8

You will receive a reply text remember to enter your CHILD’S first and last name.

WHAT IS REMIND AND WHY IS IT SAFE?

Remind is a free, safe, and simple messaging tool that helps teachers share important updates and reminders with students & parents. Subscribe by text, email or using the Remind app. All personal information is kept private. Teachers will never see your phone number, nor will you see theirs.

Visit remind.com to learn more.