



Dairy Barn Winter Bonus Days

A New Winter Camp Program

Dear Camp families,

At the Dairy Barn, we are forever striving to meet the changing needs of our community. For several years, we have offered a “Snow Camp” for when the Athens City School District closes due to inclement weather.

However, in most recent years, attendance has significantly reduced and we will no longer provide this service. However, parents have asked on many occasions if we offer anything for when school is scheduled off in advance for things like in-service days, conferences, and the days of holiday breaks where parents are typically due back at work. We have decided to offer programming on these days through the months we would normally offer snow camp (November till Spring Break Starts). For this school year (2019-2020) for the Athens City School District, these dates are:

- November 5th – Teacher Inservice Day
- December 2nd – Schools are still off for Thanksgiving
- January 3rd - Schools are still off for Winter Break
- January 20th – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- February 17th – Teacher Inservice Day



We are hoping that by offering a planned camp day on these days, parents can save up their vacation and personal days for actual snow days. In the event that this winter brings an especially high amount of cancelled days due to weather, we may start regular snow camp up based on demand from families.

Similarly, to Snow Camp of years past, Bonus Days will involve fun in the snow, art making, and games at the Barn!

Please don't hesitate to talk with the Education Director about any concerns or questions!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lyn Stanton".

Lyn Stanton
Education Director/ Camp Director

Basic Information:

Cost: \$40 for Members/\$50 for non-Members per day

The daily cost for Winter Bonus Days is \$40 for Members (at the family level or higher) and \$50 for non-members. Unlike other camps, there is no registration fee for this camp. If a camper is registered for all 5 days, there will be no charge for the 5th.



Comparing the cost:

Summer Art Camp at the member rate for a full day, 7.5 hours, 8:30-4:00pm is \$160 per week, so the daily break down \$32.00 and the hourly break down makes it \$4.26 per hour. So at that rate with an additional hour included as the Bonus Days camp day will be 8:30-5:00, that's \$36.26 per day. After care for summer camp costs \$5 per camper per day and there is typically a \$25 one-time registration fee to register. To simplify things for our families and strive for affordability, we are offering just a full day amount at a member or non-member rate and rounding our daily cost up by just a few dollars. Additionally, we are offering a "buy 4 get the 5th day free deal! This means that Winter Bonus Days are now our most affordable camp program. The non-member rate breaks down with the same logic. Summer Art Camp at the non-member rate is \$190 per week, making the daily amount \$38 and the hourly \$5.06. Applied to an 8.5 hour day, that's \$43.06 which we are rounding up to \$50.00 per day.

Why just winter?

For several years, we have offered Snow Camp as-needed from November 1st- the last day of scheduled classes for Athens City Schools before Spring Break. This year, that is March 9th 2020. Winter Bonus Days are an alternative to snow camp, the hope being that parents can bank vacation and personal days for actual snow days. As this will be the first time we are offering Winter Bonus Days, making it a pilot program, we are going to follow the model of Snow camp and limit offering camp to the winter months. If this program is successful, and there is demand for it, we may offer all the off school "Bonus Days" next school year 2020-2021.

Who can participate in Snow Camp?

In order to participate in Snow Camp, Campers must be currently enrolled in kindergarten through the 6th grade. This program is open to both members and non-members.

Is the Dairy Barn prepared to serve children with specific needs?

The Dairy Barn is an ADA compliant facility and we welcome campers of varying physical and cognitive abilities. Our teaching staff are trained artists who have experience in childcare and we keep up to date background checks on all employees. Our staff however are not *specifically* trained in child development or accommodating children with specific needs. Therefore, if a parent has a child with specific needs, they are encouraged to have a conversation with the Education Director to jointly create a plan and ensure the Barn and staff are equipped to accommodate that child in such a way that the camper will have a positive and beneficial experience. We will do everything we can to accommodate ALL of our campers in an inclusive learning environment.

If I choose not to use a day that is paid, why is that day not credited to me?

If a parent has a camper signed up for a specific day of pre-paid camp and chooses not to use the day, they may not credit the day to the next bonus day simply because our space is limited and a day not used is a day that could have admitted another camper. We are often on a waiting list to get into snow camp so it is the obligation of the Barn to maintain fairness. If experiencing a family emergency, a credit may be issued at the discretion of the Education Director but be advised, it is not our official policy.

What if I do not want my child to participate in outdoor activities?

All campers must be able to participate in all camp activities including outside time. They must be properly attired to spend time outside. Part of the camp day is outside time. We will not go outside if it is raining, or if the temperature drops too low (depending on wind-chill, the too low mark is typically about 24 degrees Fahrenheit F). So, all campers must be sent with all the accessories they need to play outside safely. In addition to outside time being a part of the camp day experience, camp staff is limited in number and our teachers come outside with us to monitor outside time and maintain safety so there is no “stay inside and help a teacher” option. We do not have staff to divide the campers into indoor/outdoor groups. If a camper is unprepared for outside time, their parent will be called to either bring them the proper attire or take them home. If a camper is unprepared more than once to the point where other campers miss going outside due to limited staffing resources, that camper will be disinvited from camp and no refund will be issued.



Can this camp be cancelled Due to Inclement Weather?

This camp will only be cancelled if the Athens County Sherriff has issued a level 3 Snow Emergency by 7:30am the day of camp. Even if the level drops to 2 or even 1:00 later in the day, camp will still be cancelled. If this happens, camp credits will be issued.

Daily Schedule

The basic daily schedule is as follows:

8:30am-9:00am- Drop off/Individual Activities

9:00am-9:30 am-Group Activity (Artists facilitate cooperative game/art activity while others arrive.)

9:15am-10:05 - 1st Session

10:05 – 10:15 Snack

10:15am-11:05am- 2nd Session

11:05am-11:55pm- 3rd Session

11:55-12:15 – Lunch/Recess

12:30pm-1:00pm-LUNCH inside

1:15pm-2:05pm- 4th Session

2:05pm-2:55pm- 5th Session

2:55-3:05 Snack

3:05-3:55 6th Session

4:55pm-5:00pm- Movie or more outside time – possible hot chocolate

Pick Up Time/Late Pickup charges

Please note: Our camp programs typically end at 5:00 sharp, and while we have previously extended Snow Camp to 5:30, we are returning to our 5:00 model as this camp is not supposed to be on days specifically with bad weather. Therefore, we ask all parents to leave their home or work place in a timely manner to allow for road conditions in order to ensure that they arrive before 5:00pm. We also ask for consideration of our staff, whom generally arrive at 8:00am at the Barn and also have families, and after work commitments, and need to leave the building at 5:00pm sharp. It is understandable that a parent may be running late for pick up from time to time, but if it happens more than twice, a \$5 fee for each daily occurrence will be issued to account for tardiness. After 3 instances of being charged \$5.00, the fee will increase to \$10 per late pick up.

Arrival/Check-In

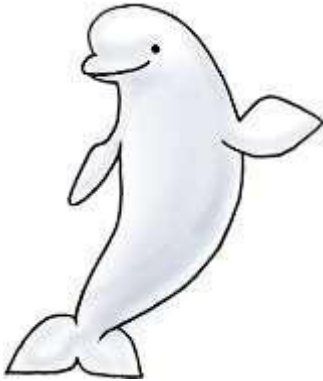
The Winter Bonus Days Camp staff will be in charge of checking in the campers with their parents.

All campers must be signed in by their grown up!

Campers will make a name tag for the day.

Morning Welcome

After all campers have arrived we will start the morning with icebreaker games designed to build unity and make the children feel comfortable in their surroundings.

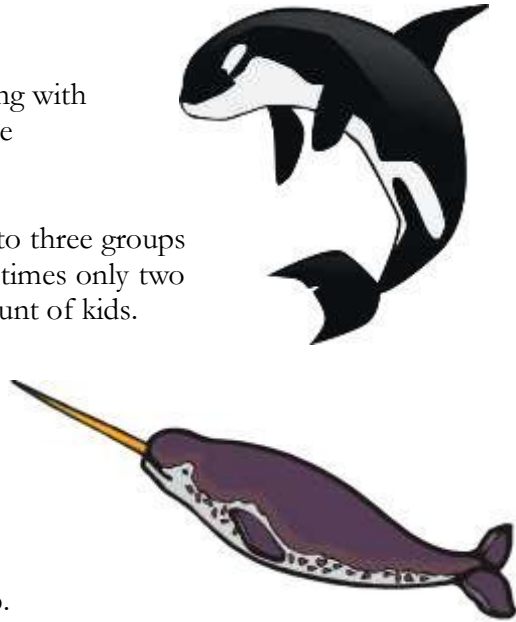


Campers will be divided into three groups according to age and sometimes only two groups, depending on amount of kids.

Belugas: K-1st-2nd

Narwhals: 3rd-4th

Orcas: 5th-6th



Instructors will have a roster of names for each group.

Pick-Up

All parents must sign out their camper at the end of each day; no child may leave the building or wait downstairs unattended. A parent may send a note giving permission for a child to be picked up by another parent or adult. No phone calls please unless an emergency, please plan ahead.

Absence

Please call The Dairy Barn a camp day begins if your child will not be coming to camp.

Lunch

Please send a daily lunch with your child that does not require refrigeration.



Snack

Daily snack will be provided twice a day, please send extra food for your child if they have particular dietary needs. We may also provide a small cup of hot chocolate (from a powder mixed with hot water) between 4:00-5:00.

Water Bottle

Each camper should have a water bottle filled every day to bring with them to camp with their name clearly marked on this. Even in winter time this is important for hydration purposes and good health.



What to Wear/Outside Time

All Camp participants are required to go outside if the weather is above 24 degrees Fahrenheit (-4 C) We may not always stay out a full half hour but your child should have appropriate clothing and cold weather gear. **If your child is not well enough to go outside than they are not well enough to attend Camp.** In addition, we do not have the staff to have some children inside. We go as a group! Please do not tell your child they do not have to go outside for recess, or ask the staff to keep them in. It is a part of the camp experience and good healthy exercise! **Warm coats, snow pants, boots, hats, scarves and gloves are required.** A dry pair of socks and shoes for indoor activities are also required. Please make sure that you follow these guidelines, it is a hardship for the kids and the building safety to have a kid go around in wet boots all day!



Paint Shirt- We have aprons for kids to use during projects, and paint shirts are recommended, but do not send your camper to the Barn wearing anything that can't get dirty or PERMENENTLY stained.

Illness

If a child reports she/he does not feel well and/or has a fever of 99.5 degrees or higher, the child will be removed from the classroom and the camp director will contact parent or designated emergency contact. A child should be kept at home if she/he shows any signs of illness (fever, sore throat, vomiting, green nasal discharge, or severe cough) and not return to camp until he/she has been free of fever without fever reducing drugs for at least 24 hours. Please be respectful of the rest of the participants and your child if they aren't feeling their best.

Medicine

- Prescription medication must be clearly labeled in its original container and accompanied by a statement signed and dated by the doctor explaining the dosages.
- Over the counter medication may be dispensed with signed permission from the parent/guardian.
- Children are not allowed to be in possession of any prescription or non-prescription medication.
- Any camper needing the use of an inhaler or Epi-pen must provide a note from the doctor stating the reason and directions for use.

Homework

If your child has a large amount of homework or an upcoming exam, let us know in the morning and we will arrange some homework/study time for your child. Lyn can also take some time to provide homework assistance at the request of a parent. We understand that students are on a tight schedule for learning and preparing for their exams and we don't want students to fall behind.

Personal Items: NO DIGITAL DEVICES

- **NO Digital Devices.** Campers may not bring cell phones or other personal media to Snow Camp. The Dairy Barn is no longer allowing digital devices to be brought to camp. Campers **may not** bring cell phones, tablets, video games, or other personal media devices to Snow Camp. Campers *may* bring real books, and non-electric toys if approved by the Education Director.
- **NO Card games** such as Pokémon or Magic. **NO Make Up.** If a camper chooses to wear makeup in the morning and their parent approves, that is fine, but no camper may bring and/or apply makeup during camp.
- **NO Toy weapons** of any kind.

Campers may bring real books, and non-electric toys if approved by Lyn, but please talk with your child about the rules for home brought toys which are; campers can only play with them during free times, never in class time, and during class, they have to put them away for safe keeping. Books and homework will be allowed for beginning of day and end of day and during other times deemed appropriate but must be stored in backpacks during art and group activities. Items can get damaged or lost if left out. The Dairy Barn and Employees are not responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged items. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact Lyn Stanton lyn@dairybarn.org.