

# SUMMER CAMPS



Does your child have an interest in marine science? Do they love going to the beach and finding animals? If so, this is their chance to learn more about it! Send them to Tampa Bay Watch this summer for some fun in the sun with our marine ecology summer camps where they will learn about amazing Tampa Bay, the ocean, and its inhabitants!

We offer two options for fun-filled week-long day camps!

- **Sea Monkeys Camp** is for kids ages 6-8 and offers an introduction to the marine environment, with half and full day options.
- **Tampa Bay Discovery Camp** is for kids ages 9-14 and offers an in-depth look at what makes Tampa Bay one of the most incredible estuaries in the world!

Camp	Session Dates & Times	Pricing
<b>DISCOVERY CAMP (AGES 9-14)</b>	<b>FULL DAY (9AM-4PM)</b> June 26-30 July 10-14 July 17-21	<b>FULL DAY</b> Non-members: \$325 Members: \$275
<b>SEA MONKEYS CAMP (AGES 6-8)</b>	<b>FULL DAY (9AM-4PM)</b> June 12-16 June 19-23 July 24-28 July 31-August 4	<b>FULL DAY</b> Non-members: \$325 Members: \$275
	<b>HALF DAY (9AM-11:30AM)</b> July 10-14 July 17-21	<b>HALF DAY</b> Non-members: \$175 Members: \$125

## ACTIVITIES

Throughout the week, campers will spend many days snorkeling in local waters off of our USCG inspected 32' Classroom Boat in search of local species, participating in hands on labs to study the small alien-like plants and animals we call plankton, observing Bay life while kayaking\* over shallow seagrass beds, and collecting and studying the numerous Tampa Bay inhabitants with our seine nets and otter trawl. \*Kayaking is for Discovery Campers only, weather permitting.

## REGISTRATION

Registration will open for Tampa Bay Watch Members on **MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017.**

All other camp participants will be able to register on **MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017.**

If trying to register multiple children (siblings, cousins,

friends, etc.) in a camp week, be sure to do so at the same time for the best chance at having them together. We cannot guarantee multiple children can be registered in the same camp session.

Memberships must be current and at the seahorse level or above to receive the \$50.00 discount.

## AGE RESTRICTIONS

All campers must be the appropriate age by the start day of their camp session, no exceptions.

Sea Monkeys – 6 to 8 years old

Discovery Camp – 9-14 years old

If your camper has aged out of camp, but is interested in continuing the camp fun please inquire about our Junior Counselor program starting at age 15. For more information reference our camp website.

Discover!  
**LEARN**  
Explore!

### CAMP DOCUMENTS

All camp forms can be found on one downloadable document on the summer camp website (Medical Waiver, Code of Conduct, Photo Release, General Release). All camp forms need to be filled in and returned to Tampa Bay Watch by June 6, 2017. This ensures that staff has time to process camp paperwork before your campers session.

### IMPORTANT HEALTH RESTRICTIONS

If your camper has special dietary, mental, physical, or other restrictions, please contact us directly PRIOR to registering to be sure we can accommodate your child.

### MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT

The discount code MUST be entered AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION, before payment, to receive the membership discount. \*\*Refunds will not be given if the code is not used at this time.

Current Tampa Bay Watch members at the Seahorse level and above (membership must be current through the first day of camp session) get priority registration and can receive a \$50 discount off of their child or grandchild's camp registration! Call our Membership Coordinator at 727-867-8166 ext. 233 to verify membership and receive the discount code.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

Generous donations have allowed us to be able to offer multiple scholarships and we hope to continue to be able to offer them this year. The website will be updated with more information on availability and how to submit an application in the coming weeks.

If you are interested in donating to our scholarship fund, please contact us!

### LOCATION

All camps take place at the Tampa Bay Watch Marine and Education Center on Tierra Verde. This ideal location in the Shell Key Preserve boasts rich mangrove forests, grass flats and shallow waters teeming with marine life, and provides a perfect setting for our summer campers to engage in hands-on opportunities to learn about marine ecology and participate in service-learning projects.

### FACILITY

Our facility features an outdoor classroom complete with a fully equipped wet-lab and large aquarium tanks, while our indoor laboratory classroom is the perfect place to cool off and houses our lab equipment, interactive touch tanks, and interpretive murals. Our Classroom Boat is a 32' Coast Guard Certified Catamaran that we use to transport students to exciting Bay locations.

### STAFF & COUNSELORS

With degrees in biology, marine biology, and environmental sciences, our Staff has numerous years of experience teaching students of all ages in both formal and informal field settings! They are onsite facilitating each day of camp throughout the summer and hold certifications in First Aid/CPR/AED. We are also fortunate to have college interns and junior counselors helping us with various sessions. All staff and counselors have gone through Level 2 background screening through the Division of Children and Families.

### MEALS

Campers in full day sessions must pack a lunch each day. Campers in half-day sessions may want to pack light snacks. It is recommended that all campers pack light snacks that are easy to eat "on the go" for mid-morning and afternoon. We will provide some small snack foods, as well.

If your camper has dietary restrictions, be sure to list these on the CAMPER MEDICAL FORM that will be provided so we can discuss any accommodations that may need to be made.

All Friday full day camp sessions end with a lunch time Pizza Party provided by Tampa Bay Watch. If your child has any dietary restrictions, please ensure that they still pack a lunch for Friday.

Nut-free – Due to a significant increase in severe nut allergies Tampa Bay Watch will no longer allow items containing peanuts or tree nuts in camp. Please pack your camper's lunches and snacks accordingly. We greatly appreciate your help in keeping our campers safe and healthy.

Discover!  
**LEARN**  
Explore!

## WHAT TO BRING

Please label all gear to ensure it stays with your camper!

### REQUIRED:

- Swimsuit and clothes that can get wet/dirty
- T-shirt to wear during water activities (all campers receive a Tampa Bay Watch Camp Shirt)
- Lunch (Full day campers only)
- Sunscreen (lotion, not spray on, and ocean-friendly is suggested)
- Water Bottle (all campers receive a reusable Tampa Bay Watch water bottle!)
- Closed-toe water shoes or old tennis shoes (cinch-down or tie-down are best)
- Flip flops or crocs to change into
- Towel
- Change of clothes
- Snorkel Gear (Mask and snorkel, fins are not suitable for most of the snorkeling sites)

### SUGGESTED:

- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Sunshirts/Rashguards
- Bug repellent
- Snacks
- Waterproof camera

## FOUL WEATHER

We always do our best to ensure that all planned activities are accomplished throughout the week, but safety is our first priority and the Camp Staff and Captains reserve the right to change the schedule daily based on weather conditions (i.e. rain, high winds). Cancelled boating or kayaking trips will not warrant a refund. In the event of more extreme foul weather (i.e. tropical storm, hurricane, power outage, etc.) where a camp session cannot be completed, the schedule will be adjusted and refunds will be considered on a case by case basis.

## CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY

No refunds will be issued for: cancellations within 14 days of session start date, if camper does not show up for camp session, or if camper is dismissed from camp by Camp Staff for behavioral issues. Prior to 14 days before session start date, cancelled registrations will be assessed for a refund and a \$25 administrative fee will be applied if a refund is awarded. If you have questions about a refund please contact us at 727-867-8166 ext. 246.

## CAMP PHOTOS

Throughout the week of camp, counselors will be taking photos to capture all of the fun times we are having! Photos will be made available after your child's camp week at no charge through Shutterfly. The Shutterfly link will be accessible through the Tampa Bay Watch website. Please give staff ample time to upload camp photos after our camper's session. If you have any questions please email Jordan Findley at [jfindley@tampabaywatch.org](mailto:jfindley@tampabaywatch.org).

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

All parents and campers are invited to join Tampa Bay Watch staff members for a Camp Orientation and ICE CREAM Social on June 6, 2017 from 5-7pm. This will be another opportunity to turn in paperwork in person, meet the staff, see the Tampa Bay Watch facility, and have staff answer any remaining questions before your camper's session.

## CONTACT US

For questions regarding our Estuary EDventures Summer Camps, contact Jordan Findley at [jfindley@tampabaywatch.org](mailto:jfindley@tampabaywatch.org) or 727-867-8166 ext. 224 or Katie Mastenbrook Director of Education at [kmastenbrook@tampabaywatch.org](mailto:kmastenbrook@tampabaywatch.org) 727-867-8166 ext. 246