

**Catalina Marine Science Camp**  
**Catalina, CA**  
**March 22-24, 2010**

Camp FAQ's:

*How will my student get to the camp?*

Parents are responsible for transporting students to and from the dock in Long Beach. Please consider carpooling with another family. From there, the students will take a boat (Harbor Breeze Company) directly to the camp at Emerald Bay on Catalina Island and then will return to the dock in Long Beach on their last day of camp.

*What time do we arrive at the Long Beach dock and what time will our children need to be picked up?*

A complete itinerary will be provided to each family prior to the trip, but generally speaking, families are asked to be in Long Beach by 8:00 and children will return around noon.

*What are the accommodations like?*

Campers will be staying in cabins equipped with 8 beds each, electricity and lighting. The boys are housed on one side of the camp and the girls are housed on the other side. No campers may be in the area designated for the opposite gender. Quiet hours are 10 PM – 7 AM, where the campers are required to be in their cabins with lights out. Each cabin will have at least one adult assigned to it. Communal bathrooms with showers are located near the cabins and these too are gender specific. There are a few unisex single bathrooms located throughout the camp.

*What will campers do at this camp?*

The Marine Science Camp experience includes snorkeling, kayaking, bird watching, hiking, touching marine animals in the aquarium, dissecting squids, acting, talking, sharing and making new friends. Educational lessons are included with each activity. Students must keep a field journal throughout their visit to keep notes and document lessons learned.

*Are there safety measures associated with these activities?*

Yes, there are many measures in place to assure the safety of all the campers. For example, while the campers are snorkeling in a small group, there is an adult underwater with the students and an adult following the group in a kayak.

*What will campers eat?*

Campers will be well fed at the camp dining hall for dinner the first day; breakfast, lunch and dinner the second day; and breakfast and lunch the third day. Campers need to bring their own sack lunch the first day with plenty of snacks for the boat ride and orientation upon arrival. Throughout the day, students have access to drinking water, trail mix, fruit and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Additionally, there is a snack and souvenir cart open at various times where campers can purchase drinks, snacks and souvenirs of their trip.

*What if my child has a dietary restriction?*

The Marine Science Camp is experienced with properly handling different dietary restrictions. Please indicate this restriction on the form given to you at the mandatory trip preparation meeting in February.

*What if my child has a medical condition?*

Medications can be refrigerated and accessed 24 hours a day. Camp counselors and GSDA staff are CPA and First Aid certified. Again, please indicate the medical condition or medication needed on the required forms.

*What if there is a medical emergency?*

Camp counselors and GSDA staff are CPA and First Aid certified. The camp is on a remote section of Catalina Island. However, medical Baywatch personnel can arrive within 10-12 minutes to administer medical attention. In extreme emergencies, a helicopter can transport a patient to a mainland hospital.

*What kinds of things will my student learn?*

There are three main focuses of the camp curriculum: character building, marine science and environmental conservatism.

*What should my student bring to the camp?*

The minimum items a student should bring to camp include: a refillable water bottle, a notebook and pencil, a modest bathing suit, clothing for a variety of weather conditions (including a warm coat), a sack lunch for the first day, sunscreen, water shoes, a sleeping bag and personal toiletries. A thorough list will be provided at the mandatory meeting.

*What should my student NOT bring to camp?*

Students should not bring IPODs, cell phones, electronic games, candy, soda or chewing gum. No food is allowed in the cabins.

*Can parents come with the students?*

Parents may attend camp with their students. Parents are each required to pay the \$242 camp fee. The parents will be considered chaperones and are expected to help with supervision and will be housed in the student cabins of the same gender. Parents attending camp will also need to be fingerprinted by the school district before January 15<sup>th</sup>. Details will be provided to those attending.

*Can siblings attend camp?*

GSDA 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students may attend this trip. No younger, older or non-GSDA siblings may attend.

*Can we stay on the island after camp is over?*

No, since the camp is on a remote area of Catalina Island and there is no transportation available to other parts of the island. Students may not stay at the camp past their group's assigned days.

*How can we plan for the weather on the island?*

Before camp, visit [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com) and type in Avalon, California. We will actually be staying at Emerald Bay which may have a slightly different temperature, however if you use that destination the website will give you a Lake Tahoe location.

If you have more questions that are not listed above, please call or email  
Michelle D'Augusta at 619-669-3059 or [mdaugusta@jdusd.net](mailto:mdaugusta@jdusd.net).