

Roaring Brook Nature Center's Message to Parents and Caregivers

Please read the following and let us know if you have any questions or concerns by emailing our Program Coordinator at Sfoster@thechildrensmuseumct.org. After reading, please sign the last page and email it to the above email or mail it to 70 Gracey Road, Canton, CT 06019.

We are looking forward to seeing you!

What should your child bring with them in their backpack?

- **Plenty of water** in a bottle/ thermos that students can open and close without adult assistance.
- **Hand sanitizer** with at least 60% alcohol with the student's name easily featured on the bottle.
- **A mask** in a baggie or container labeled with the child's name.
- **Please DO NOT send bug spray or sunscreen** with your child. If you would like your child to have sunscreen and bug spray, please apply this to your child **BEFORE** coming to the program.
- **Nut-free snack** that students can open and eat without adult assistance. All snack trash will be sent back with the child in their lunchbox or in a bag provided by the parent
- If your child requires an **Epi-Pen**, please send in a labeled, clear baggie with your child's name on it, and please make sure the necessary paperwork is accompanying the Epi-pen.

COVID-19 Related Measures:

In light of COVID-19, Roaring Brook Nature Center is taking enhanced health and safety precautions set forth by the State of Connecticut and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"). We are using our best efforts to act responsibly and reasonably to do what is within our power to prevent the spread of disease.

Drop-off and Pick-up:

We recommend arriving 5 minutes early for drop-off to ensure your child is ready to go and check-in. Educators will do drop-off and pick-up outdoors. The designated pick-up and drop-off spot will be on the front porch.

Illness or Exposure to Illness:

Anyone having a fever, or those with respiratory distress or coughing, will not be able to attend. If a child becomes ill during the program, a parent will be called for immediate pick-up. Parents must keep children home if they are sick. Please contact us immediately if your child has symptoms of COVID-19 or has been exposed to someone with COVID-19. If a child has COVID-19 or has been exposed to COVID-19, the child should not return to the program until they have quarantined for 5 days.

Group Size:

We are limiting the number of individuals per class to no more than 16 children.

General Health and Safety Measures:

The Nature Center has taken enhanced health and safety measures to protect your children, your family, staff, and others who come on-site. We have described some of them above.

We expect all families to comply with these new measures. Despite our efforts, an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. The Nature Center has put in place measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19; however, the Nature Center cannot guarantee that you and your child(ren) will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, attending the Nature Center's programs could increase your child(ren)'s or your risk of contracting COVID-19. By having your child(ren) attend the Nature Center, you acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19. You agree - on behalf of yourself and your child(ren) - to release and waive the Roaring Brook Nature and The Children's Museum Inc., including its officers, directors, agents, employees, volunteers, from any claims or causes of action arising out of or in any way related to your child's attendance to the Nature Center and the contraction by your child(ren), family member, or any other person of COVID-19.

Mask Optional Policy:

Masks are now optional inside the Nature Center and will not be required outdoors except when students are in close proximity to one another such as when looking at an animal during program time. Should you have questions about this policy, please do not hesitate to contact us. If you choose to have your student keep their masks on, please have a conversation with them about this at home. We value the safety of your child, our visitors and our staff.

The following details to this policy are noted:

- The Children's Museum Group reserves the right to re-instate masking requirements at any time if the level of positive COVID test results within our employee or student populations or the risk of COVID transmission poses a high risk to our employees, visitors and our continued business operations.
- To maximize the health and safety of our employees, animal demonstrations and other hands-on demonstrations that require close contact with our staff may be limited or reduced.
- Parents will be required to complete an updated waiver form for children attending pre-school, camp or other educational programs where parents are not in attendance that will indicate the parents decision whether their child is required to wear a mask or not.
- Staff will continue to encourage and maintain ample distancing during programs and activities.
- Employees, students and visitors choosing to wear a mask should not feel pressure by other employees, visitors, teachers or parents to remove a mask if they are not completely comfortable doing so.

Please fill out and sign the last page. The signed page can either be

emailed to: sfoster@thechildrensmuseumct.org or

Mailed to: 70 Gracey Road, Canton CT 06019

Thank you!

I understand the mask policy and safety protocols that are being implemented during the programs my child(ren) will be attending at the Nature Center and agree to abide by these new rules and regulations.

I have read *Roaring Brook Nature Center's Message to Parents and Caregivers* in addition to the above Acknowledgment and Release and/or they have been explained to me by staff via email or in phone conversations.

I **DO** / **DO NOT** give permission for _____ to have their masked removed for the duration of the Nature Center's programming as long as social distancing is possible. I understand that mask removal is at the discretion of Nature Center staff.

Print Name of Parent or Legal Guardian

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Name of Participating Child(ren) or Program Participant(s)

Date