



**SERC SCHOOL AND GROUP TIMED ENTRY ACTIVITIES**

**Starting Spring 2022-2023**

**In spring 2022 we implemented a new style of field trip, “Timed Entry Activities Field Trips.**” This model is more like what you might see in museums or aquariums, with activities at set times. Our staff and volunteers still teach the stations, but you move your students around. We will give you a suggested rotation order.

**Grades Served**

All of our stations are now designed to be adapted to serve grades 1st-12th. Our experienced educators can adapt materials, and information, but the hands-on components are similar. For 1st-2nd grade students we will adapt programs to be entirely on land, and not the docks.

**How many people can SERC accommodate on field trips during COVID restrictions?**

We are only allowed 60 program participants at a time.

**FEES**

To book a field trip, groups will fill out a form online or contact Karen McDonald to purchase a pass with a fixed price based on vehicle type/capacity for up to 60 students a day. *Entire payment required at time of booking for passes, and includes free chaperone passes. You must book at least two weeks before your trip.*

* **Bus type A+B=** 10-29 passengers ($250/per bus)
* **Bus type C=** 30- 50 students ($450/per bus)
* **Bus type D=** 51-60 passengers ($500/per bus)
* **Bus type CTL** (multifunctional smaller bus)= 11-25 ($250/per bus)
* **Combination of Buses=** up 66-80 ($750 total per combination of vehicles)
* **Vans 10-15 passengers**= $150 per van

Cars and minivans are rated on the number of individuals, see scale above, depending on the total number of students.

\*\*Visitors must have a bus or vehicle pass to participate in activities. Groups may drop in if there is room, but must call Karen to check first and space is not guaranteed.

**\*\*Maximum sub-group size is 12 students. We recommend pre-dividing students so that you can make the most of your time at SERC, 5 during COVID restrictions.**

**CHAPERONES**

**If the group has more than each number of students, they should round up. For example, if you have 12 students, round up to 2 chaperones instead of one.**

| **Ages** | **# Chaperones Needed** |
| --- | --- |
| K-2nd | 1 to 5 Ratio Adults to children |
| 3rd-12th | 1:10 ratio adults to children |
| Special Needs Students | 1:5 Ratio |

***There will always be at least four activities per day. Seining and Oysters will always run weather permitting as will the Microscopes/Magnification Station. Although you can’t pick your stations, as in previous years, we’ll still be running teacher favorites.***

It is up to you how you schedule your arrival/departure, which activities student groups participate in, and when to have lunch (though there is a break daily from 11:30 am-12 pm). Activity times are fixed and will not be adjusted to accommodate the schedules of individual groups.

\*\*Please do not arrive before 8 am. We suggest arriving between 9:30 am-10 am.

**Timed activities and free-flow stations are at the following times.**

| **Start Time** | **End Time** | **Activity** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 9:40 am | 9:50 am | Introduction |
| 10:00 am | 10:45 am | Rotation 1 |
| 10:55 am | 11:40 am | Rotation 2 |
| 11:30 am | 12:10 pm | Lunch |
| 12:15 pm | 1:00 pm | Rotation 3 |
| 1:10 pm | 1:55 pm | Rotation 4 |
| 1:55 pm |  | Restrooms |
| **Groups may stay until 4 pm when SERC Closes** | |  |

***\*With small groups of 10-19 students we reserve the right to consolidate stations and offer them only once or twice during the day. We will let the group know when they arrive.***

**In case of weather:**

* Thunder & lightening= cancelation
* Light Rain= still run
* If wind is over “small craft advisory” or unsafe on the docks, then we will move activities accordingly.
* All cancellation at discretion of SERC, we will rebook if needed
* If weather is inclement, we reserve the right to change station locations or to change station topics.
* **For dock stations (3rd grade and up) there will be a “waiting location” at the gate.** Groups wait to be picked up by a volunteer to put on lifejackets and go down to the dock.

**DAILY ACTIVITY STATION DESCRIPTIONS:**

***\*\*NOTE: Not all of these activities will run every day. There will always be at least four of these activities per day. Seining and Oysters will be scheduled everyday weather permitting.***

* **Seining-** open only at specific time intervals, ticketed by group, 5 students per group max. Rotations run about 45 minutes.
* **Oysters**-on floating docks. Visitors meet in groups at the gate. Lifejackets will be behind the gate, and visitors must wait to put them on. Volunteers pick up groups and take to tables during open time blocks. Rotations run every 45 minutes or until a group finishes.
* **Microscope & Magnification Lab**-set up with a wide variety of bay organisms, macro algae, and plankton, short introduction on use and then allow students to explore. Free flow, after one group finishes another may start. Groups may spend no more than 40 minutes at the station.
* **Tank Talks**- 5 students per talk at tanks or Dinky. We will announce tank talks on our website or the day of your arrival if we add them to the roster.
* **E-DNA & River Herring**-, students learn about DNA and River Herring project and extract DNA from apple sauce. Rotations run every 45 minutes.
* **Marsh Hike-**participants sign up on a white board at the pavilion. A volunteer will meet the group and take them to the Marsh Overlook that sits along the Rhode River. Accommodates up to 5 students at a time. Rotations run every 45 minutes.

**SEASONALLY AVAILABLE PROGRAMS**

*Some programs may be seasonally available, and we will make your group aware of them when you arrive, these include*:

* Terrapin Tank Talks
* River Otters
* Blue Crabs

We will be adding new programs regularly, so check back.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

* **LUNCH:** You may eat lunch any time you like. We have a picnic pavilion and tables behind the Reed Center. SERC has the right to reserve either of these areas depending on need or weather.
* **FOOD:** Please note that there is no food or beverages available onsite.
* **SUGGESTED LIST OF THINGS TO BRING:** Once you register, we will send you a confirmation and a list of suggested things to bring to make your stay more enjoyable.
* **STUDENT MEDICATIONS AND FIRST AID-** You are responsible for carrying and managing student medications, and for handling first aid needs.