

Barrier Island Parent Information

We are excited for your child to visit Barrier Island!

Barrier Island Environmental Education Program is a marine science field trip offered by St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center on Seabrook Island, South Carolina. We are located just south of Charleston on a barrier island with a mile of beach front, and more than 300 acres of undeveloped maritime forest and salt marsh. Dolphins, birds, sea turtles, crabs, shrimp, raccoons, and alligators are just a few of the creatures found here. It is the perfect place for learning about nature and have fun!

The emphasis of the program is on education, not recreation, although we strongly believe in making learning fun. For example, "Let's Sea" is our two-hour discovery walk on the beach studying barrier island formation, sand dune ecology, seashell identification, and salt marsh life (where students get in the mud). Another favorite class is "Need A Friend," a two-hour class focusing on communication and teamwork. We also offer fun evening programs!

Children sleep in comfortable, climate-controlled cabins in units of up to nine children and one or more adults-either teachers or parent chaperones. During your child's stay, supervision will be provided 24 hours a day by teachers and chaperones. As in any school, misconduct will not be tolerated. Children who severely neglect Barrier Island rules may be sent home, without refund. Any damages incurred by reckless behavior will be the responsibility of the student's caregiver.

A completed Participation Form must be on file at Barrier Island for any student in attendance. Please be sure to inform your child's teacher of any dietary restrictions and environmental allergies (i.e., insect bite reactions).

An experienced food service staff will provide a carefully planned, well-balanced, menu. If your child has special dietary restrictions (due to diabetes, allergies, religion, etc.) please make sure to let your child's teacher know ahead of time, so they can notify us. If there are significant dietary restrictions, you may need to send pre-prepared food for your child that can be reheated in a microwave or eaten cold or room temperature. No food is allowed in the cabins. We will store food sent in the dining hall pantry and/or refrigerator.

Please carefully review the packing list and help your child pack accordingly. For the safety of the children and other guests, we only permit parent chaperones access to the campus during the trip. This is an opportunity for your child to learn to function away from home. Students are not permitted to use a phone under normal circumstances. In case of emergency only, our phone number is (843) 768-1337. Remember that no news is good news!

If you would like to send your child a letter, please mail them early, at least 7 days prior to your child's arrival. Barrier Island will not assume responsibility for lost mail. We do not deliver faxes, mails, or care packages to students. Please address your letters as follows:

Child's Name
School's Name (Must be Included)
Barrier Island Environmental Education Program
2810 Seabrook Island Road
Johns Island, SC 29455-6219

