



LEARN • EXPLORE • PROTECT
Long Island Sound



Sea Urchins (grades preK - K)

**2009 Summer Camp
Parent Packet**

Includes:

- ◆ Parent Information (includes Drop-off/Pick-up Info)
- ◆ What to Wear/Bring
- ◆ Directions
- ◆ Frequently Asked Questions

Please contact Schooner Inc with ANY questions at 203-865-1737!



Sea Urchins Parent Information

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First Day Orientation

Please plan to bring your campers to Monday morning check-in between 8:45 and 9:00 am. Schooner Inc staff will hold a **brief** orientation from 9:00 – 9:05 am at **City Point (see map on p. 6 for exact location)** after check-in for parents to get agendas and important phone numbers, go over basic camp rules, and field any questions about the week. Please make every effort to plan to attend this orientation.

Daily Schedule

Sea Urchins should arrive by 9:00 AM and be picked up at 12:00 PM each day at **City Point**. Campers **MUST** be signed in with the Sea Urchins Coordinator each morning and signed out each afternoon at the drop-off / pick-up locations noted on p. 6.

Sea Urchins Activities

The Sea Urchins will be learning about the amazing things that are found on the shoreline of Long Island Sound, from shells and sand to crabs and fish. Each day, Sea Urchins will focus on different 'treasure' that they can find on the shores of Long Island Sound. Their days will include exploration, crafts, and games. Since campers spend a great deal of time outdoors, the days are organized to include active times and as well as more relaxed activities.

On the first day of camp, you will receive an agenda detailing the activities that your child will participate in during the week. Please feel free to speak with the Sea Urchins Coordinator during your week if there are any questions or comments about your child's experience. **Please note**, however, that since activities will vary depending upon the weather, tides, and group interests, our daily and weekly activities may not always be the same.

Sea Urchins Parent Information

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Rain Plan

Thanks to our new location, the Sea Urchin program will always have a classroom available in case of inclement weather. Campers should still be dressed for rain any day that precipitation might be a possibility, as we will spend some time outdoors unless it is thundering/ lightning.

Behavior Plan

Schooner Inc staff members are all trained to maintain situations that are engaging and safe for all of our participants. This also requires the help of our campers – please review the attached Code of Conduct with your child and return it with the other required information. If you have ANY questions, please feel free to contact the Sea Urchins Coordinator or Camp Director at any time.

Accident/Incident Procedures

Schooner Inc staff members are required to make note of any incidents or accidents during each day of camp. This information is communicated to parents as well as the Camp Director on a daily basis either at the end of the day or, if warranted, at the time of the incident.

Drop-off / Pick-up Policy

Your Sea Urchins Coordinator will be waiting at the designated area (see p. 6) for campers to be **signed in** at 9:00 am and **signed out** at 12:00 pm. Due to both Schooner Inc and CT State Camp License policies, each child must be signed-in and signed-out each day so that staff can ensure that all children are safely picked up each day. To expedite this process, you will be handed a colored sheet of paper with your child's name, camp, and important location/phone numbers on the first day of camp. Please bring this sheet each day to pick-up or make sure that the person picking up your child has this sheet – this will indicate to camp staff that you/they are on the list of approved people to pick-up your child. If you do not have this sheet, staff are required to ask for ID to confirm that you are an approved pick-up person. Also, make sure that all persons picking up your child are listed on your camper form – if someone is not listed, staff are required to contact you by phone to confirm that your child can be released.

Sea Urchins Parent Information

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Schooner's Medication Policy

Schooner's staff will **not administer medications of any kind**. If your child will need medication, it is required by the State of Connecticut that the Authorization for Administration of Medication be filled out and signed as required (see below). The only medications that can be brought to camp will need to be self-administered by the camper, which means that the camper must be able to determine which medications are theirs by size, color, amount, or other label identification; know the frequency and time of day for which the medication is ordered; and consumes the medication appropriately.

Non-prescription Topical Medication Requirements:

- Only applies to ointments free of antibiotics, antifungal, or steroidal components; medicated powders; and gum or lip medications available without prescription (i.e. Abreva, Gold Bond Medicated, etc – NOT sunscreen, though)
- Authorization for Administration of Medication must be completed and signed by parent (physician signature not required).
- Medication Administration Record will be completed by Schooner Inc staff and kept on file
- Medication must come in its original container with a label containing camper's name, name of medication, and directions for the medication's administration.
- Medication will be held by camp staff
- Any unused medication will be returned to the parents or destroyed by the program staff member within one week of the camper's departure from camp.

Non-Prescription (other than topical) and Prescription Medication (Non Emergency):

- Includes oral medications, topical medications not described above, inhalant medications, and injectable medications (by premeasured syringe for emergencies only)
- Authorization for Administration of Medication must be completed and signed by parent and physician.
- Medication Administration Record will be completed by Schooner Inc staff and kept on file
- Medications must come in original child-resistant safety container with a label that includes the child's name, the name of the medication, the directions for the medication's administration, and the date of prescription.
- Medication will be held in locked container/area and refrigerated as necessary.
- Any unused medication will be returned to the parents or destroyed by the program staff member within one week of the camper's departure from camp.

Questions? Contact Schooner Inc by phone (203) 865-1737 or email manager@schoonerinc.org

What To Wear And Bring

Summer weather in New Haven can be hot (85-95 degrees) and humid, but the breeze off the Sound can sometimes be chilly. Our over 35 years of experience with outdoor education during the summer months has helped us to create flexible schedules and back-up activities for rain or extreme heat as well as these lists of what to wear (LAYERS! LAYERS! LAYERS!) and what to bring to make sure the campers are comfortable and safe during their entire stay.

WHAT TO WEAR

(Make sure EVERYTHING has the camper's name on it!)

Make Sure You Wear Each Day:

- Weather appropriate clothing that can get wet and muddy
- Bathing Suit (under clothes)
- A hat with a visor
- Waterproof Sunscreen (SPF 15 +)**
- Closed-toed field shoes (see suggestions below)
 - water shoes with socks (to prevent blisters)
 - old tennis shoes with laces



(Make sure EVERYTHING has the campers name on it!)

Make Sure You Bring Each Day:

- Nutritious bagged **snack** with a drink*
- Backpack containing:
 - Waterproof sunscreen - **lotion, not spray** (SPF 15 +)
 - Bug Repellent (**lotion, not spray**)
 - Water bottle - reusable** (water provided as needed)
 - Towel in Ziploc bag
 - Sweatshirt or light jacket in Ziploc Bag
 - Full set of extra clothes in Ziploc bag
 - 2-3 extra Ziploc bags
 - Alternate pair of shoes
 - (Sandals , TEVAs, sneakers, etc)
 - Please, **no flip flops or Crocs**

*(please no glass bottles, candy, or caffeinated beverages)





Directions

Sea Urchins Drop-off / Pick-up Sites

Parents: Sea Urchins now meet at City Point (on the Sound School campus) each day!

We realize that if you need to cross the Quinnipiac Bridge or use the 91-95 interchange, there is sometimes unavoidable traffic. Please contact Schooner Inc (203)865-1737 if you are stuck in traffic or running behind and we will contact your child's camp. We will do our best to accommodate your situation.

On the next pages, you will find directions to our location for each day of camp.

Schooner Inc Camp Office

60 S Water Street
New Haven, CT 06519
Camp License # 899

Questions? Contact Schooner Inc by phone (203) 865-1737 or email manager@schoonerinc.org

Directions

Sea Urchins Drop-off / Pick-up Site

Monday-Friday: Schooner Inc / Sound School (City Point)
60 S Water Street New Haven, CT 06519

From the West (West Haven, Stratford, Bridgeport, Norwalk): Take 1-95 North to Exit 44 (Kimberly Ave.) At the first traffic light, turn right onto the Boulevard (Rte. 10). At the blinking red light, turn right onto Howard Ave *.

From the East (Branford, Guilford, Madison): Take I-95 South to Exit 45 (Boulevard - Route 10). Bear left as the exit ramp forks. At the stop sign, turn left onto the Boulevard (Rte. 10). At the blinking red light, turn right onto Howard Ave *.

From the North (Hamden, North Haven, Wallingford, Meriden, Middletown): Take I-91 South to I-95 South. Follow directions for 'From the East' above.

* **Once on Howard Ave:** Follow Howard until it ends at the intersection with South Water Street (there will be a stop sign). Turn left onto South Water St. Schooner Inc staff members will meet you beyond the buildings on the right side of the street (see cross below).



*** Note that if you use Google or GPS to get directions to this location, you will be told to turn off the Boulevard at 'Harbor Close' instead of Howard Ave. Harbor Close is a gated community and there is NO through traffic to S Water Street. Use the directions above instead.

Questions? Contact Schooner Inc by phone (203) 865-1737 or email manager@schoonerinc.org



Frequently Asked Questions

Why are kids asked to wear bathing suits under their clothes each day?

On days with good weather and environmental conditions (no jellyfish), campers may explore and wade in the Sound. Also, Schooner Inc has many campers and limited changing facilities. We don't want to spend all of our time changing rather than exploring!

Why must my child bring their own water bottles and sunscreen – can't Schooner Inc provide these?

We spend many hot hours in the sun and our main concern is keeping our campers safe and healthy. It is imperative that children have water to keep hydrated. Schooner will carry a supply of water to refill personal water bottles and will require campers to take water breaks. Schooner Inc will be able to provide sunscreen only when parents sign-off on the brand that will be available (see Camper Information Form).

Can my child bring their digital camera/MP3 player/cell phone/etc?

NO – they are a distraction from normal socializing that is an important part of camp AND the saltwater is notorious for destroying electronics. We cannot be responsible for caring for such items. Waterproof cameras are a great option for budding photographers.

Why must my child bring a sweatshirt for summer camp – isn't it too hot?

The weather at the shore is usually different than inshore. It is generally ten degrees cooler due to breezes off of the Sound and the sun is stronger due to reflection off of the water and sand. Since we are often getting wet, it is important for campers to have something warm to put on each day in case it gets cool. Layers of clothing help campers deal with these variations in temperature.

What happens when there is a water quality issue?

The site used for Schooner Inc Summer Programs is under the jurisdiction of local health and park authorities who monitor these areas and decide when/if to close them - these authorities are very conservative in their judgments. Schooner Inc is in close contact with local authorities regarding their decisions. We have back-up activities planned if we are not allowed in the water.

Why do I need to send bug repellent and sunscreen lotions rather than sprays?

Due to the allergic reactions that can be caused by spray sunscreens and bug repellents, Schooner Inc asks that only lotions be used to prevent any adverse reactions in other campers.