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BEESMART Summer Program

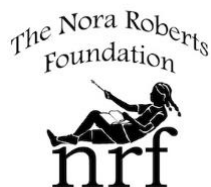


2022 Parent Handbook

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BEESMART Program Overview.....1

Goals and Objectives1

Program Funders.....1

Attendance Policy.....2

Field Trips.....2

Meals.....2

What to wear.....2

Daily Schedule.....2

Dismissal.....2-3

Important Dates.....3

Parent/Guardian Requirements & Involvement..... 3

Student Requirements.....4

Emergency Procedures.....4

Early Dismissal/Closure.....4

Cell Phone Policy.....5

Important Phone Numbers.....5

Student Attendance Information.....5

BEESMART Student Promises6-7

Baltimore’s Promise Permission Form separate form

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Overview of the BEESMART Program

What is the BEESMART Program?

The BEESMART Program was created for rising 3rd through 5th grade students attending Westport Academy, Maree G. Farring and Lakeland Elementary Middle Schools who are able to attend every day for the entire summer session. BEESMART is offered by Living Classrooms Foundation and is made possible by MSDE's 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program. Living Classrooms Foundation is an educational non-profit that specializes in experiential education, where kids get a chance to "Learn By Doing." BEESMART – Baltimore Environmental Education Summer Math And Reading Trailblazers - enables students to have fun while they learn. Youth experience science and nature, and practice social and emotional skills in a safe and supportive environment all while making tremendous academic gains. **Learn more here: bit.ly/beesmartwebsite**

This is a free summer program that prevents summer learning loss using a hands-on E-STEM (Environmental Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) projects. Students must have parent permission and teacher recommendation to be admitted. Activities include field trips, nature walks, building underwater robots, a boat trip on the Patapsco River, and more.

Students will always meet at and dismiss from their school. At least one day per week, transportation will be provided by bus from school to the Masonville Cove Environmental Education Campus (MCEEC) at 1000 Frankfurst Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21226. Students will return from MCEEC to their home school in the afternoon for dismissal.

The BEESMART Main Goal

Students will set their own goals, make academic gains, and try new things!
Students who come to the program for multiple years will show cumulative gains.

This Summer's Objectives

- 100% of participants will have fun.
- **Average Daily Attendance will be 90% or higher.**
- **50% or more of parents will attend at least one family event in support of their child.**
- At least 80% of students will increase their reading level.
- At least 80% of students will increase their math fact fluency.
- And so much more!

Program Funders

The BEESMART Summer Program is made possible by funds from the Maryland State Department of Education's 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program, the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Alvin & Fanny B. Thalheimer Foundation, South Baltimore Gateway Partnership, The Hinkey-Benson Family Fund, and the Nora Roberts Foundation.

Attendance Policy

Once committed, attendance at the BEESMART Summer Program is mandatory, which means that your child is expected to attend every program day. Students will be required to check-in, attendance will be taken daily and kept on record. Any absence will result in a phone call home. Parents are expected to send a note the following program day to explain the absence. Three missed days without acceptable explanation will result in removal from the program*, and your child's spot will be immediately filled with the next student on the waiting list. *Reasonable exceptions will be made if exposure/cases of COVID-19 become a factor.

Field Trips

We hope that field trips will encourage good behavior and attendance. Respect and kindness are an absolute must on these days. We look forward to updating you about our plans! The BEESMART program will cover transportation, lunches, and admission fees. Students that make unsafe choices may not be allowed on field trips.

Meals

Breakfast, Lunch, and snack are provided each day.
You may send food with your child but we cannot guarantee a refrigerator.

What to wear

Comfortable clothes and shoes that can get a little dirty. Shoes must cover the toes - NO flip flops or sandals please! Hats and sunscreen are encouraged.

Daily Schedule

Time	Activity
8:30	ARRIVE AT SCHOOL
8:30 – 9:30	Breakfast, Brain Games & Morning Meetings
9:30 – 12:00	Science, Reading, and Math Stations
12:00 – 12:30	LUNCH
12:30 – 1:30	Literacy Power Hour
1:30 – 2:30	Recreation Time
2:30 – 3:30	Daily Debrief and Brain Games
3:30	DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL

DISMISSAL IS PROMPTLY AT 3:30PM.

On the registration form, there were two choices:

- A. Your child should be released and does not need to be signed out.
- B. Your child should remain at school until one of the people you listed arrives to sign them out.

If you have questions or wish to update the list of people that are allowed to sign your child out at dismissal, please text (or call) the BEESMART cell phone.

BEESMART staff will not leave your child unattended if you requested that they be signed out. If you are picking them up, please be conscious of staff time – dismissal is promptly at 3:30pm so that teachers can clean-up and get ready for the next day. If your child will walk, please encourage them to go directly home.

Important Dates

Monday, June 27th	1 st Day of BEESMART
Thursday, June 30th	Welcome Party! 5:00pm – 6:30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maree G Farring – meet at the Brooklyn library • Lakeland & Westport – meet at your school
Thursday, July 28th	End of Summer Celebration! & last day of program for Maree G Farring
Friday, July 29 th	Last day of Program for Lakeland and Westport
Fall/Winter	Please stay in touch – we look forward to your feedback as we plan for next summer!!

Parent/Guardian Requirements & Involvement

We strongly encourage at least one parent, guardian, or other adult family member to attend the family events in bold print above.

During the regular program day, we will not allow you to simply show up and participate in activities with your child. However, if you are interested in HELPING US you could become a volunteer! For the safety of the children, all volunteers are subject to a background check and must go through our volunteer training. In addition, we ask that you commit to volunteering at least twice per week.

As a parent/guardian of a BEESMART Program student, you must fill out and complete all registration, permission and survey forms. The Maryland State Department of Education and/or Living Classrooms Foundation may administer these forms. They should be completed and returned in a timely fashion. Failure to collect all forms could result in losing funding for our program. Also, it is of paramount importance that you make the Living Classrooms BEESMART staff aware of any change in address, phone number, or health issues. Lastly, we would love to have you join our Steering Committee. If you would like to be part of our Steering Committee meetings, please give the Director a call at 443-467-4324.

Student Requirements

We are expecting every child to attend the program everyday that we are open and to participate and have fun. It is important that if your child misses the program, you send them with a note to explain the absence the following day. Three missed days without acceptable explanation could result in removal from the program. Any absence requires a note, including but not limited to a doctor's appointment, family emergency, wedding, or funeral. Remember, if the students do not come, they miss out on the fun and learning, and we could lose funding and not be able to operate the program next summer! Of course, exceptions will be made related to COVID-19.

Students are also responsible for their behavior at their school, Masonville Cove, and any offsite program destination. Please see Student Expectations Contract Below.

Emergency Procedures

Please be sure that you notify the BEESMART Program Director of any changes to the contact information you originally provided during registration so that you may be contacted in case of emergency. **If your child becomes injured or ill during program hours** the Program Director or your Site Manager will contact you as soon as possible. Program staff reserve the right to dial 911 in an emergency situation with or without your permission. Based on the safety and well-being of your child and others, the severity of the situation, and the comfort level of you and your child, the Program Director will decide whether or not your child is permitted to continue to participate in regular program activities until dismissal that day, and whether or not he/she is permitted to return on subsequent days.

In case of fire all students will be accounted for, and you will be notified of the situation as soon as the Director can safely do so.

In case of severe weather (such as tornado or earthquake) all students will be accounted for, and you will be notified as soon as the Director can safely do so.

In case of lock-down all students will be accounted for, and you will be notified of the situation as soon as a police officer identifies that the scene is safe.

In case of extreme heat students will be supervised and engaged in a cool space.

You may be asked to sign an incident report related to any of the aforementioned events.

What happens if the program closes early or is going to close the next day?

It is extremely rare that BEESMART would close at all. BEESMART has only had one unexpected closure day since its inception in 2015. We have every intention of operating as planned. If the BEESMART program needs to dismiss early, walkers will be released, and parents will be contacted by phone as soon as possible. If for any reason the program is not going to open the following day, you will be contacted directly by phone the night before.

Cell Phone Policy

We choose to follow the Baltimore City Public School System policy on electronics and cell phone usage at all BEESMART locations, including off-site trips. The policy states: **Students can bring a cell phone, but the phone must be silenced and in a pocket or backpack the whole day.** Phones are not permitted to be turned on during bus rides, recreation time, or field trips. If a teacher hears or sees a phone, the student(s) involved will receive one warning, and then the phone will be taken and held until the end of the program day. There is a time and a place for phone use, but BEESMART is not one of them!

BEESMART staff members do carry and use cell phones during the program in order to stay in touch with each other and their supervisors, and to take pictures. This is done with the most possible discretion and BEESMART staff do not use their cell phones for recreation during the program day.

Important Phone Numbers

Program Cell Phone: 443-648-1782

Westport Academy school phone: 410-396-3396

Maree G. Farring school phone: 410-396-1404

Lakeland: 410-396-1406

For urgent matters only, you may call the Program Director's personal cell phone: 443-467-4324.

Student Attendance Information

We are trying to prove that summer programs like BEESMART are important. To do this, we are partnering with Baltimore's Promise who has asked us to share our attendance information with them, but we won't do this without your permission.

Please complete the form below to tell Ms. Christine (the Program Director) whether or not she may report your child's attendance information to Baltimore's Promise.

English: https://baltimorespromise.formstack.com/forms/sfc_data_sharing_consent_form

Spanish: https://baltimorespromise.formstack.com/forms/sfc_data_sharing_consent_form_spanish_version

BEESMART Student Promises

I agree to do my best to do these things at all times:

Be Respectful

- I will use words such as “Please” and “Thank You”
- I will use a calm tone to speak with instructors or peers – even when I am upset
- I will give everyone a chance to speak and will not talk over them
- I will consider other people’s ideas

Be Responsible

- I will do what I know is right, even when no one is watching
- I will stay in control of myself – not participating in any horseplay or fighting
- I will keep my hands to myself
- I will make sure my instructor knows where I am at all times

Be Ready

- I will keep a good attitude
- I will attend the BEESMART Program every day
- I will be open to new things
- I will believe in myself

Be Safe

- I will listen to and follow directions
- I will stay with my group at all times
- I will follow all Safety Guidelines for the Bus, MCEEC, Library, and School
- I will create a safe outdoor environment for others by not throwing gravel or rocks

Scientist’s Oath

I vow to explore the environment safely, to ask meaningful questions, to respect others and our earth, to use my hands for research and to be a steward of Masonville Cove.

If I do not follow these promises, then I understand that the following consequences will occur:

My instructor will let me know that what I have said or done is inappropriate and/or unacceptable.

If I say or do the same or similar again, the Site Manger will become aware of the situation and one of the teachers/Site Manager will help me come up with a plan so it does not happen again.

If I say or do the same or similar inappropriate/unacceptable thing *again*, the Site Manager will become aware of the situation, the Program Director will become aware of the situation, and my parents will receive a phone call to discuss what must happen so that everyone in the program can stay safe, have fun, and learn.

If I put myself or others around me in danger or repeatedly break the Student Promises above, I will not be allowed to come back to the program any more this summer, but I can re-apply in future years.

By agreeing to the above promises, I expect the BEESMART staff team to work very hard to help me have the best summer ever! I want to participate in the most fun, entertaining, brain-enhancing, and delightful science lessons, games, literacy and math coaching that I HAVE EVER EXPERIENCED!

I promise!

Student Name

And so does my parent/guardian!

Parent Name/Signature