

## Mad Science of Houston Camp Terms and Conditions

Mad Science of Houston programs are designed to spark curiosity and inspire children through hands-on STEM exploration. Our camps include exciting experiments, demonstrations, and collaborative activities that allow students to explore science in a fun and engaging way. The following terms help families understand what to expect and help ensure a safe and positive experience for all participants.

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### Eligibility & Functional Requirements

To help ensure safety and support a collaborative learning environment, we have developed these eligibility criteria to help prospective and registering families understand the minimum requirements for participation. Parents or guardians are encouraged to review these terms and expectations with their child prior to registration. All participants must be able to meet the following criteria, with or without reasonable accommodation:

**Communication:** Participants should be able to communicate their needs to instructors and respond appropriately to directions or assistance, including informing staff if they are injured or require help.

**Instruction:** Understand and follow safety rules and multi-step instructions as part of a group without requiring constant one-on-one supervision.

**Environment:** Function in active, high-stimulation environments that may include loud sounds, bright lights, and interactive activities with instructors and peers.

**Self-Regulation:** Refrain from physically or verbally aggressive behavior toward others, property, or themselves.

**Self-Care:** Perform necessary self-care tasks independently, including personal hygiene, toileting, and eating.

**Safety:** Remain with the designated group at all times and refrain from wandering away or leaving the program area without permission.

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### Code of Conduct & Incident Protocols

Mad Science programs are designed to be collaborative, engaging, and respectful learning environments. All participants and visitors are expected to help maintain a positive atmosphere for everyone.

**Prohibited Behavior:** Bullying, teasing, foul language, fighting, or intentionally damaging science equipment is strictly prohibited.

**Incident Management:** In the event of a behavioral issue, staff will document the incident and take appropriate action. Physical holding of a child may be used only in rare crisis situations when necessary to prevent immediate harm to the child or others.

**No Parental Confrontation:** If an incident involves multiple children, parents or guardians must not approach or confront other families or children directly. All concerns must be addressed through Mad Science of Houston management.

**Dismissal:** Mad Science of Houston reserves the sole discretion to dismiss any participant who cannot comply with the Code of Conduct or Eligibility Criteria. No refunds will be issued for dismissals related to behavioral violations.

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## **Personnel & Medical Limitations**

Mad Science of Houston programs are enrichment activities and do not have the same personnel or resources available as a typical school day.

**No Specialized Staff:** We do not have nurses, special education aides, or medical professionals on-site.

**Medication Policy:** Our staff (Instructors and Directors) are not permitted to dispense medication, with the sole exception of emergency Epinephrine (EpiPen) administration when a parent or guardian has provided prior written authorization and training documentation. Children may self-administer medication under staff supervision if authorized in writing. Staff may remind and supervise but will not physically handle or dispense medication. If a child cannot self-administer medication, a parent or pre-authorized individual may visit the program site to administer it.

**Accommodation Requests:** Parents or guardians of children requiring specific accommodations must contact our Houston office at least four (4) weeks prior to the program start date to initiate an interactive discussion. While we strive to provide inclusive experiences whenever possible, accommodations that fundamentally alter the nature of the program or create a safety concern may not be possible.

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## **Safety & Ingestion Warning**

Mad Science kits and experiments may contain small parts, high-powered magnets, and batteries (including button or coin batteries).

**Warning:** These materials pose a serious risk if mishandled or ingested. Keep all science materials away from children under the age of three and from pets. Parents or guardians assume responsibility for materials sent home once they leave the program site.

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## **Media Release & Medical Authorization**

**Photo/Video:** I grant Mad Science of Houston permission to use photographs or video recordings of my child for promotional purposes, including social media and marketing materials. If you select "No" for the Photography & Media Release, Mad Science of Houston will make reasonable efforts not to use images or recordings in which your child is the primary subject. However, photographs or videos taken during program activities in which your child appears incidentally as part of a group or in the background may still be used.

**Emergency Care:** I authorize Mad Science staff to seek emergency medical treatment for my child if I cannot be reached and accept full financial responsibility for any such care.

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## **Refund Policy**

Cancellation requests made more than 30 days before the program start date are eligible for a full credit toward another program week or a refund minus a 15% administrative fee.

Requests made between 1 and 30 days before the program start date are eligible for a program credit or a 50% refund.

Once a program has begun, refunds are not available.

Participants who are dismissed from a program due to behavior or inability to meet participation expectations are not eligible for a refund.

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## **Waiver & Release of Liability**

Participation in Mad Science of Houston programs involves hands-on activities, experiments, demonstrations, and movement that may present inherent risks. While our staff strive to provide a safe and supervised environment, accidents or injuries may occur.

By registering your child, you acknowledge and accept these risks.

On behalf of yourself and your child, you voluntarily release and discharge The Fantabulous Scientist Inc., dba Mad Science of Houston, its owners, employees, instructors, directors, volunteers, affiliates, and facility partners from any and all claims, demands, damages, or causes of action arising from participation in the program.

This release specifically includes claims based on negligence, including but not limited to negligent supervision, negligent instruction, or negligent hiring.

You further agree to indemnify and hold harmless Mad Science of Houston and its affiliates from any claims, damages, losses, liabilities, or legal expenses arising from your child's participation in the program or from damage to property caused by your child.

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## **Agreement**

By registering for a Mad Science of Houston program, you confirm that:

- You have read and agree to these program guidelines and policies
- You understand that this agreement includes a waiver and release of liability
- You believe your child can participate safely in the program environment described above