



STEM Center Summer Day Camp

Frequently Asked Questions

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We are so excited to have your daughter join us this summer at the STEM Center. Here are some answers to frequently asked questions that you will find helpful as you prepare for her time at the STEM Center.

What time does the program start at the STEM Center Day Camp?

The STEM Center Day Camp will be from 9:00am-4:30 pm daily. Check-in will start at 8:30am and check out will be 4:30pm-5:00pm. Before and After Care is available; see below for details.

Do you provide before/after care?

Before & After Care is available at the STEM Center from 7:30am-9:00am and 5:00pm-6:00pm for \$25 per girl for all Day Camp sessions at The STEM Center.

Is there bus transportation to The STEM Center?

Daily bus transportation will be available from JoAnn Fogg Service Center (JAFSC) to The STEM Center for Day Camp ONLY. Bus transportation will be an additional \$75 per girl. Girls will need to check in at JAFSC between 7:30am and 8:00am each day of their session. **The bus will depart promptly at 8:15am.** The bus will return to JAFSC around 5:00pm, and **all campers must be picked up no later than 6pm each day.**

What do I need to send for lunch? Will you heat my child's meal?

Please send a nut/peanut free lunch and snack, including a refillable water bottle, that does not need to be refrigerated with your camper each day. Due to the number of campers and limited resources, we are not able to heat meals.

Is financial assistance available for STEM Center Day Camp?

Yes, partial financial assistance may be requested for any registered Girl Scout living in the 32 counties served by Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas. GSNETX makes every effort to assist as many girls as possible from our allocated funds. Families with financial situations that may prevent them from participating in camp can request assistance for a portion of session fees, minus the required \$50 deposit. To apply for financial assistance, please complete the online Financial Assistance Request Form at www.gsnetx.org/financialassistance and select the STEM Center Day Camp Category. You



will instantly be notified of the amount approved and be required to pay the \$50 deposit in order to complete the application.

What are the rules about medication?

We strongly encourage all medications be administered at home, outside of Day Camp hours. However, we do understand that cannot always be the case. Medications need to be in original containers, prescribed specifically for the camper, and must not be expired or expire while at camp. We will assist campers who need regular medication on a set schedule. Campers that occasionally need treatment such as medication for a headache, allergies, or lactose intolerance will need to be able to communicate to staff that they need this medication or it will not be given to them. The camp carries select over-the-counter medication that parents may authorize the camp to administer in Camp Doc. Medications will not be dispensed in any manner other than what is specified on the label without written instruction from a physician.

What if it's hot outside?

We still have a great time at the STEM Center when it's hot outside! We encourage the girls to drink plenty of water, refill their water bottles regularly with cold water, and have designated locations with air conditioning that we can do certain activities in when it gets really hot. Please note that even though girls may spend some time in air-conditioning, a portion of their day is spent outside at camp. Please encourage your Girl Scout to spend increasing amounts of time outside prior to arriving at camp so that being in the heat is not a total surprise for her.

Will my girls earn badges or Journeys at camp?

Yes! Each session description lists a Girl Scout recognition, such as a badge or journey, that will be a focus for the session and activities will be planned around it. Friendly staff members at any GSNETX shop will be able to assist you if you need to purchase recognitions for items completed at camp. To help her remember her time at camp, she will receive a camp-specific patch on Friday.

Can I stay with my daughter?

STEM Center Day Camps are designed as drop off programs. However, volunteer opportunities may be available during a particular session. Please visit www.gsnetx.org/eventvolunteers or email STEM@gsnetx.org for more information.

What if I need to cancel my registration?

To cancel your camper's registration, you must email customercare@gsnetx.org as soon as possible. The camp fee (minus a \$50 cancellation fee for STEM Center Day Camp) will be refunded if cancellation is received by GSNETX at least 30 days before camp session start date.



STEM Center Resident Camp Frequently Asked Questions

Is my girl ready for Resident Camp?

Although age is one factor in readiness for Resident Camp, a child's maturity level and personality can be more important indicators. Talk to your child before registering her. If she is enthusiastic about attending, then she will probably enjoy camp. The following questions may help in determining readiness for Resident Camp:

- Has your girl ever been away from home for more than one night without family members?

Will she feel comfortable sleeping in living quarters separate from the counselors?

- Can she take care of her own basic hygiene needs such as showering, toileting, and brushing her teeth without assistance?
- Can she keep up with her personal belongings?
- Can she cope with unfamiliar people, new places, and group schedules?
- Does she enjoy making new friends?
- Does she like group situations?

Am I ready for my girl to attend resident camp?

Parents and guardians sometimes have a difficult time sending their girls to resident camp. Asking yourself the following questions may help in your decision making:

- Can you relax and enjoy yourself while your girl is at resident camp?
- Are you prepared to be away from your girl for several days and not be able to talk to her on the phone?
- Are you confident in your girl's ability to care for herself, make her bed and keep track of her belongings?
- Do you believe that camp provides girls with a fun and rewarding experience that builds self-worth and independence?
- Are you willing to trust camp staff with the care of your girl?

Can my camper come to camp if she is not currently a Girl Scout?

Yes! All of our camps invite girls, even if they are not active in a Girl Scout troop during the school year. However, you will need to register your camper as a Girl Scout member for insurance purposes prior to registering for a camp session. This is a \$35 fee and will cover her GSUSA membership until September 30, 2020. You can contact our Customer Care team at (972) 349-2403 or customercare@gsnetx.org for more information.



Is technology allowed at camp?

Although this is the STEM Center, we do not permit personal electronic devices at camp. With the programs we have planned there will be many times where we will use various types of technology such as computers, iPads, tablets, etc. for program elements. We do not want personal devices at camp as they can easily be lost or damaged in the camp environment. Cell phones, cell watches, computers, iPods, tablets, e-readers, etc. are not permitted at camp for any reason. If an electronic device is brought to camp, it will be immediately taken by staff and will not be returned until the camper is picked up. The camp, staff members, and GSNETX are not liable for the loss of, or damage to, any electronic or technology device brought to camp in non-compliance with the camp policy of no electronic or technology devices permitted.

Are girls allowed to have visitors?

Visitors are not allowed at camp.

What are the rules about medication?

Medications need to be in original containers, prescribed specifically for the camper, and must not be expired or expire while at camp. We will assist campers who need regular medication on a set schedule. Campers that occasionally need treatment such as medication for a headache, allergies, or lactose intolerance will need to be able to communicate to staff that they need this medication or it will not be given to them. The camp carries select over-the-counter medication that parents may authorize the camp to administer on the release form. Medications will not be dispensed in any manner other than what is specified on the label without written instruction from a physician.

***Please note a Medical Screening is required upon check-in to include head, foot, and temperature checks.**

How should campers conduct themselves?

All girls are expected to live by the Girl Scout Promise and Law while at camp. The Camp Director and staff will do everything possible to help girls adjust to camp life. However, GSNETX reserves the right to send home from camp any girl who consistently exhibits unsuitable behavior or endangers the camp community, or whose actions towards others are unacceptable. The girl's parents/guardians are responsible for picking her up in this case, and there will be no refund for camp fees or travel costs.

What if my camper is homesick? Can she come home?

Please include your camper in the decision-making process so that she is aware of the length of stay. Do not promise her she can call or come home early if she does not like camp in the first couple of days. We will work with your camper to help her adjust.



However, if she refuses to eat, stay adequately hydrated, or cannot adjust to camp life after 48 hours, she will need to be picked up. Refunds are not provided if a camper is picked up due to homesickness.

What if it's hot outside?

We still have a great time at resident camp even when it's hot outside! We encourage the girls to drink plenty of water, refill their water bottles regularly with cold water, and have designated locations at camp with air conditioning that we can do certain activities in when it gets really hot. Please note that even though girls spend some time in air-conditioning, a portion of their day is spent outside at camp. Please encourage your Girl Scout to spend increasing amounts of time outside prior to arriving at camp so that being in the heat is not a total surprise for her.

How can I contact my camper while she's at camp?

Letters may be left in a designated location at check-in for the camp staff to deliver during the week. (Mail is distributed to girls once a day.) Please focus messages on the positives of camp: friendship, new experiences/stories, new foods, etc. Families may also register for free at Bunk1 to view pictures of what's happening at camp. For an optional, low-cost fee, you can purchase prints of those pictures and/or send "Bunk Notes" to your camper!

Can my camper call home?

No. Campers are not provided phone access while at camp, as this distracts from the camp experience. If there is an emergency with your child, a member of the camp administrative staff will contact you. Camp contact information is provided in the parent guide in case you need to contact the camp.

Are food and snacks provided?

Most meals are prepared by food service personnel and served in the dining hall. Snacks are provided at designated times. During some sessions, girls will have the opportunity to participate in cookouts. Parents/guardians of girls with special dietary needs (vegetarian, kosher, halal, etc.) should list that information on the Camper Information section in CampDoc and contact STEM@gsnetx.org two weeks before her session to confirm that we can adequately meet her dietary needs.

What are kapers?

At Girl Scout camp, girls are active members of our camp community and are assigned daily tidiness actions, known as kapers. Kapers may include activities such as picking up trash, collecting firewood, sweeping common areas, and setting the table. In addition, girls are expected to keep their personal items picked up in their living area.



Will my girls earn badges or Journeys at camp?

Yes! Each session description lists a Girl Scout recognition, such as a badge or journey, that will be a focus for the session and activities will be planned around it. Friendly staff members at any GSNETX shop will be able to assist you if you need to purchase recognitions for items completed at camp. To help her remember her time at camp, she will receive a camp-specific patch on Friday.

Can my daughter go to camp with a buddy?

Yes, your daughter may request a buddy.

1. Buddy requests should be made in the CampDoc online form.
2. Only one buddy may be requested. In order for a buddy request to be granted, both girls must request each other on their online CampDoc form. If one girl requests a different person as her buddy, the girls will not be placed together.
3. Spell your buddy's full name correctly on the form.
4. Make sure both buddies are already registered for same camp session.

The Camp Director has the final authority to house campers at her discretion. Registering for the same session does not mean that all girls from the same troop will be placed in the same cabin. No more than four girls from a Girl Scout troop will be placed in the same cabin within a camp session. Camp sessions (including deposits) **WILL NOT** be refundable due to a buddy's cancellation or disqualification at check-in.

What if I need to cancel my registration?

To cancel your camper's registration, you must email customer care@gsnetx.org as soon as possible. The camp fee (minus a \$100 cancellation fee for resident camp) will be refunded if cancellation is received by GSNETX at least 30 days before camp session start date.