



GCV&M Camp

Frequently Asked Questions



Do you provide transportation options?

Yes. Our GCV&M Camp Bus is available from convenient stops in Rochester. Exact pick-up/ drop-off locations and times are listed in the Camp Extended care, Transportation, Lunch document on our website. Cost: \$50 per week/per camper.

Do you offer before and after Camp extended care?

Yes. Camp starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. daily. We offer Camp Extended Care starting at 8 a.m. and ending at 6 p.m. Families can register for both before and after care for the week for \$45 or opt for morning or afternoon extended care only for \$30 per week. Camp staff will not sign campers in prior to 8 a.m. Campers not signed out by 6 p.m. will be charged a fee of \$10 for every five minutes late.

What is the latest I can pick up my child from Camp?

Campers not participating in Camp Extended Care may check in between 9:50 and 10 a.m. and must be signed out by 4:10 p.m. Families of campers signing-out after 4:10 p.m. will be charged \$10.

What's for lunch?

Campers may bring lunch from home in a well-labeled bag (reusable or disposable) or families may purchase the Camp lunch plan. Campers' lunches will be stored in insulated coolers. If your child forgets lunch, we will supply them with a lunch for a small fee. We do not supply snacks to children unless it is part of a specific class.

How many children are in each Camp class?

Most Camp classes have a maximum of 12 campers per class. Our small teacher-to-camper ratio supports advanced projects and unique activities. Our teachers are passionate, knowledgeable, and dedicated to making each class informational and fun for all campers. Volunteer Camp Assistants, youth ages 15-18 who have participated in GCV&M Camp in the past, also support each Camp class. All Teachers and Volunteer Camp Assistants receive training prior to working with campers.

Does my child need to be vaccinated to attend camp?

Yes, all campers must be vaccinated. Parents are required to upload their child's official immunization record, showing dates of immunization and physician office information, in the Camp registration portal. New York State Law does not allow for religious exemptions. Medical exemptions must be up to date and clearly indicated on the child's immunization record.

What if my child takes medications?

If your child needs to take medications during camp, a doctor's order must be submitted to Camp staff prior to the first day of Camp. Documentation must include specific guidance on dosage and time of day that medications should be given, as well as a doctor's signature. Only a parent or caregiver may deliver medication to the Camp nurse or Camp manager on the first day of camp and it must be in its original



labeled container(s). All medications will be safely stored and administered by the Camp nurse or Camp manager.

What if my child has allergies?

Parents must list all known camper allergies on the required Medical Form in the Camp registration portal. If your child has an Epi-pen, please communicate with the Camp nurse and manager, as noted above. If your child has a severe allergic reaction during camp, 911 will be called immediately and parents and guardians will be notified.

How will you handle behavior issues and discipline?

At GCV&M Camp we foster a culture of respect and care for each other and our surroundings:

We keep each other healthy and safe.

We help each other participate.

We use kind words.

We are gentle with plants, and animals, and each other's belongings.

We are respectful and take care of Museum property.

The following conduct by campers will lead to immediate intervention and discipline by camp staff:

- Failure to follow GCV&M health and safety precautions including: washing/sanitizing hands, swapping food items, and maintaining physical distance as directed by camp staff.
- Communicating (verbal and non-verbal) with staff in a rude, insubordinate, and defiant manner.
- Using profanity or abusive, discriminatory, or vulgar language or engaging in conversations that causes distress for peers.
- Leaving the group without approval from staff and going into unauthorized areas without permission.
- Damaging or stealing property from anywhere within the Museum, participants, and staff.
- Intimidating, harassing, threatening, or fighting staff or fellow campers by any means of physical or verbal aggression, including persistent provoking.
- Deliberately injuring another child or staff member, including causing anger or emotional distress.
- Failure to follow GCV&M drug- and smoke-free policy prohibiting the possession, supply, and use of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal substances and misuse of prescription medication.

Intervention and Discipline

Our response to campers' failure to follow the Rules of Conduct and support Camp Culture will first be focused on safety, followed by setting goals and establishing supports that foster behavior improvement. Camper discipline procedures will only be carried out by camp staff; at no time may a parent/ caregiver confront or discipline a camper other than their own child. GCV&M Camp will support children and family privacy and will not share details of intervention and discipline with other campers and families.

Threat to Safety

- First incident: If staff determine a camper's behavior causes or may cause immediate or imminent harm (physical or emotional) to themselves or others, staff will remove the



camper from the group temporarily and call a parent/ caregiver to discuss the incident. Staff, parent, and camper will agree to a plan for the camper to return to the group that addresses misconduct and supports camp behavior expectations. Camp staff may, at their sole discretion, decide to dismiss the camper from the camp program.

- Second incident in which staff determine a camper's behavior causes or may cause immediate or imminent harm (physical or emotional), or persistent failure to follow other rules of conduct and support camp culture, will prompt dismissal from the Camp program. Staff will remove the camper from the group and call the parent/ guardian to come pick up the camper.

Failure to follow Rules of Conduct and Support Camp Culture

For camper misconduct that does not pose an immediate or imminent safety threat, staff will apply intervention and discipline steps based on the severity and frequency of misconduct by:

- Verbally reinforcing rules and supporting camp culture with camper within the course of group activities; Staff will report camper misconduct at the end of the day to the parent/ caregiver.
- Redirecting behavior, and when possible, providing alternative activities to support camper success while camper remains with the group; Staff will report camper misconduct at the end of the day to the parent/ caregiver.
- Removing the camper from the group and calling parent/ caregiver. Staff, parent, and camper will agree to a plan for the camper to return to the group that addresses misconduct and supports camp behavior expectations. Camp staff may, at their sole discretion, decide to dismiss the camper from the camp program.

There will be NO REFUND for missed days due to disciplinary infractions.

Can my child self-select the costume and accessories they are most comfortable wearing or wear his/her/their own costume instead of one provided by GCV&M?

Yes! Costumes provided by GCV&M for History Camps, and other select classes, give campers a way to fully immerse themselves in their experience. We support our campers in selecting for themselves the costume and accessories that best support their expression and participation. We allow children to wear their own period-appropriate costumes to History Camps, provided they are safe and comfortable.

What is your weather policy?

Camp will not be cancelled due to inclement weather (rain, wind); instead, activities will be adjusted for the safety of campers and staff. Campers in all classes should be prepared to be outside for most of the day. Refunds cannot be provided for children who choose not to attend camp due to inclement weather. In the event of severe weather (thunder/lightning, dangerous winds, or other weather emergency), Camp staff will follow GCV&M safety protocol and guide campers to designated buildings and supervise them throughout the severe weather incident.

What if I need to cancel or switch my week of camp?

We will make every effort to transfer your registered camper to another Camp class that meets your needs within the current camp season. In the event you need to cancel your child's registration for Camp:

- Up to four weeks prior to the first day of camp: full refund minus \$25 administrative fee.



- One to four weeks prior to the first day of camp: 50% refund of camp registration and services.
- One day to one week prior to the first day of camp: no refund or credit.

GCV&M reserves the right to cancel any Camp session. In the event of a cancellation by GCV&M, we will make every effort to transfer your registered camper to a Camp class that meets your needs within the current camp season, or you may receive a full refund. This updated cancellation policy is subject to change.

In the event that families need to withdraw their camper due to symptoms of or exposure to an illness deemed a threat to others and subject to an isolation protocol, GCV&M will transfer the camper to another class later in the Camp season if possible, or will provide a full registration refund (pro-rated daily if withdrawal happens during Camp session).

Do you have a wait list for classes that are full?

Yes! In the camper registration portal, you can opt in to be added to a wait list for a class that is full. You will be contacted by Camp staff if a spot opens up before the start of camp.

What should my child bring to camp and what should they leave home?

Please bring:

- Lunch (or purchase a Camp Lunch): We keep campers' lunches in insulated coolers.
- A refillable water bottle for staying hydrated during the day.
- Comfortable closed toed shoes that are okay to get dirty and wet. (Simple black or brown shoes encouraged for kids in History Camps.)
- Sunscreen and bug spray, preferably DEET Free.
- For campers in Camp Extended Care, a healthy snack.
- Extra change of clothes and shoes.

Please leave home:

- Candy and other goodies that are not a part of your lunch or Extended Care snack.
- Cans of soda or other non-water beverage. (except your lunch beverage)
- Flip flops or other slide-on shoes.

Other personal belongings:

Personal games and electronic devices are not permitted in Camp classes. Campers may bring these items for use on the Camp Bus or at Camp Extended Care. However, Campers and families are responsible for the safe storage of electronic devices and other personal belongings that are not a part of the Camp program. **GCV&M cannot be held responsible for lost or stolen personal items.**

What if I have more questions about GCV&M Camps?

If you have any further questions about camp at GCV&M, please contact the Camp office at camp@gcv.org or 585-294-8261.