

# In-Person Homeschool at Frost Science Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

#### COVID-19 Safety Measures

To ensure the health and safety of our students, guests, volunteers and staff, special measures are being taken including additional handwashing, non-contact thermal scans at drop-off, requirement of all students and staff to wear self-provided cloth face coverings, physical distancing including limited pod sizes and use of stairs instead of elevators, new health and safety signage and etiquette tutorials, additional environmental surface cleaning (desks, materials, doorhandles, etc.) as well as additional training for museum staff. If you have any specific concerns please contact Director of Educational Programs, Daniella Orihuela at 305-434-9569 or dorihuela@frostscience.org.

Frost Science follows the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC's) guidance:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/community-mitigation.html The guidance describes specific prevention activities for schools & child care programs. Frost Science Museum Pods will have a limited pod size of nine students with one staff member and will employ creative ways to increase the physical space between staff and students. Frost Science Educators will be encouraging and reinforcing physical distancing when possible and health etiquette including handwashing routines.

Please see our sick policy for more information. We request that if the student or anyone that they are routinely in close contact with (immediate family, nanny, friends, etc.) are diagnosed with COVID-19 to please inform Director of Educational Programs, Daniella Orihuela (305-434-9569 or dorihuela@frostscience.org) immediately.

#### How do I register my child(ren) for in-person homeschool?

Registration is completed online. Please note that separate registrations are required per student. The cutoff time for registrations for each homeschool session is listed on the event calendar page. Please select "In-Person Homeschool" on the registration form. Depending on capacity, late registrations may be accepted over the phone. Please call in advance to see if there is space at (305) 434-9564.

## Do members get a discount for in-person homeschool?

Yes, with a Frost Science membership you get a \$35 discount off of your child(ren)'s homeschool registration(s) per session. Not a member, not to worry!

We encourage you to visit <a href="https://www.frostscience.org/membership/">https://www.frostscience.org/membership/</a> for more membership information. You must be a member and be logged in to your online membership to receive the member discount on homeschool registrations.

## How much is in-person homeschool at Frost Science?

In-person homeschool is available for grades K to 5 and is \$225 per four-week session for non-members and \$190 per four-week session for Frost Science members, including all materials needed for planned activities. Please visit our homeschool webpage for more information regarding session topics.

If you are not a member and would like to become one, please visit <a href="https://www.frostscience.org/membership/">https://www.frostscience.org/membership/</a> to become a member. All membership fees must be paid prior to completing your homeschool registration to receive a discount. Membership discount cannot be combined with other discounts.

# What does my child wear to in-person homeschool sessions?

Students should wear school appropriate clothing. We recommend that students wear shorts or jeans and comfortable closed toe shoes. All students should also bring a sweater or a jacket as the classrooms tends to be chilly. Please place the student's name on the tag of any jackets or sweaters.



Per current mandates in public spaces, students will be required to wear a self-provided cloth face covering during the day. Please note that face shields in lieu of a cloth face covering is not permitted. However, one may be worn in addition to a cloth face covering if desired, but this is not required. For more information and recommendations for children wearing cloth face coverings we suggest reviewing this helpful article from the American Academy of Pediatrics:

https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/chest-lungs/Pages/Cloth-Face-Coverings-for-Children-During-COVID-19.aspx

## Do you allow students to bring their own toys or tablets?

We request that students leave personal items, especially electronics and toys, at home. In efforts to prevent virus transmission we kindly ask students that they do not share any toys or belongings. If museum staff determines that the presence of these items is disruptive to the class, they may be confiscated and held until the end of the session. Frost Science makes every reasonable attempt to safeguard students' possessions. However, the museum will not be held responsible for the loss, destruction, or theft of any personal items (i.e. clothing, book bags or purses, toys, games, electronic devices, cellphones, or money) your child may bring to the museum.

#### How are homeschool sessions facilitated?

In-Person homeschool sessions are facilitated by a Frost Science Educator in our Knight Learning Center at the museum on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Materials for the activities and experiments are included in the homeschool registration.

Please note that select homeschool sessions may be a hybrid model with our virtual homeschool for select portions of the lessons.

#### What does a typical session of homeschool look like?

Students will be engaged in the theme of the session through hands-on activities, special experiences such as guided museum tours and educational videos.

Students in grades K to 5 will have two engagements per week, including introductions, hands-on activities, special museum experiences at least once a week, and reflecting/journal writing time. The engagements will take place on a set schedule between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with breaks built in.

## Who are the teachers and staff that will be with my child?

The homeschool instructors are trained museum education facilitators, including scientists and program developers in the given theme. All homeschool instructors are trained by the museum's Director of Educational Programs. They will be trained in strategies and techniques for incorporating inquiry-based learning into a web-based learning experience, classroom management and accessibility.

## What materials will be provided for my child to complete their activities?

Each registered student will receive materials during each lesson for the four-week session as part of their registration. These materials will include an assortment of class tools and supplies needed for completion of homeschool experiments and activities.

## What is the drop off process?

If you would like to drop off your child for their lessons please meet an education staff member at the entrance of the museum between 12:45 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please leave your car in the bus lane, (maximum 10 minutes), head up to the science plaza and head to the museum's main entrance. For safety reasons, a parent / guardian must accompany their child(ren) to the homeschool check-in and sign them in. Students are not allowed to sign themselves in.

Parents and/or guardians are welcomed to accompany their child during the lesson, stay in the area and/or explore the museum (by paying for admission or using membership benefits) while the lesson is completed. Those wishing to accompany their child, stay in the area and/or explore the museum may not park in the bus lanes for the duration of the lesson. Parking in the garage will not be complimentary, all those who wish to park in the garage will be subject to regular parking fees.



Please note that due to additional guidelines relating to COVID-19, all students will have their temperature checked through a non-contact thermal scan in the presence of a parent/caregiver before entering the museum. Any child who registers a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher will not be allowed to enter the museum that day, and we cannot issue any refunds for sick days. Parents and/or caregivers will also need to complete a short questionnaire onsite about recent travel of the child (or a member of their household) and symptoms recognized by the CDC for COVID-19. Please refer to our sick policy for more information. Additionally, all parents must wear a self-provided cloth face covering including while at drop-off and must maintain 6 ft of distance between check-ins. We appreciate your patience in advance.

Additionally, please note that per current mandates in public spaces, students (and any accompanying parents and/or guardians) will be required to wear a self-provided cloth face covering during their time at the museum. Please note that face shields in lieu of a cloth face covering is not permitted. However, one may be worn in addition to a cloth face covering if desired, but this is not required. For more information and recommendations for children wearing cloth face coverings we suggest reviewing this helpful article from the American Academy of Pediatrics: <a href="https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/chest-lungs/Pages/Cloth-Face-Coverings-for-Children-During-COVID-19.aspx">https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/chest-lungs/Pages/Cloth-Face-Coverings-for-Children-During-COVID-19.aspx</a>

## What is the pick-up process?

In-person homeschool pick-up takes place at 3:00 p.m. at the entrance of the museum. For safety reasons, students will only be released to the individual(s) listed on your original registration form or on an authorized for release form. Additionally, all individuals must present a photo ID every time they come to pick up a child. Once the ID has been verified, your child(ren) will be brought to you. Museum staff WILL NOT allow anyone not listed on the form to pick up a child unless specific written instructions have been provided by a parent/quardian in advance.

All parents/guardians must wear a self-provided cloth face covering during pick-up and must maintain 6 ft of distance between check-outs. We appreciate your patience in advance.

#### Where do I park?

Parking for homeschool drop-off and pick-up will take place in the bus lanes before entering the garage. Please leave your car in the bus lane, head up to science plaza and meet an education staff member in the museum's main entrance. Parking in the garage will not be complimentary, all those who wish to park in the garage will be subject to regular parking fees.

#### What is your behavior policy for students?

Good behavior is a key component to a successful homeschool experience. In an effort to provide all students with a safe and fun filled homeschool experience, it is important that all students exhibit proper behavior and etiquette. Students are expected to respect and listen to their instructors and fellow students at all times. Inappropriate, disruptive, and/or aggressive behavior while at homeschool sessions will not be tolerated. Examples of inappropriate behavior include, but are not limited to: name calling, foul language, arguing, disrespectful actions, and bullying.

The Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science reserves the right, upon notification of parents, to dismiss any student during any sessions for conduct that is deemed detrimental to the well-being of other students, staff, or to the overall operation of the homeschool sessions. No refund/credit will be issued if your child is dismissed.

# How will the homeschool sessions handle special needs?

All Frost Science programs are inclusive. Thus, any student with special needs is welcome. It is requested, if possible, for the parent to disclose any special needs of their child in advance of the first day of homeschool to the museum's Director of Educational Programs, Daniella Orihuela at (305) 434-9569 or <a href="dorihuela@frostscience.org">dorihuela@frostscience.org</a>, so that the staff can be properly trained and prepared to ensure a fun, educational experience during the sessions. This information will only be shared with the homeschool instructor and select homeschool staff. The homeschool instructors and staff will do their best to adapt their lessons as needed to accommodate all children. We aim to incorporate multiple learning styles and techniques throughout our sessions to ensure a broader and friendlier learning environment for all our students.



## What is your cancellation policy?

Classes that do not meet minimum enrollment requirements are subject to cancellation. If we must cancel your class, we will contact you to inform you of other classes or educational program options.

#### Withdrawals?

If a student withdraws from a class for which they are registered before the first day of session, a museum credit will be given (minus the cost of the materials, if they have already been provided with materials). This credit will be good for one year from the date of issue and may be applied to a Frost Science homeschool or educational program. If a student withdraws from a class for which they are registered after the first day of session, there will be no credit of refund.

#### Absences?

It is up to the student and their parent/guardian to attend homeschool sessions. Absences may not be "made up" by having your child(ren) attend another homeschool on a different day, nor will you receive a refund or credit for any missed days/engagement sessions.

## Who do I contact if I'm having a problem situation with the homeschool program?

Please notify Daniella Orihuela, Director of Educational Programs, at 305-434-9569 or <u>dorihuela@frostscience.org</u>, if your child is having a problem with homeschool. We want your child to have an enjoyable and rewarding homeschool experience. With your help, we can ensure that all students are at ease and comfortable.

The Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science reserves the right, upon notification of parents, to dismiss any student during any session for conduct that is deemed detrimental to the well-being and learning experience of other students, staff, or to the overall operation of the homeschool sessions.

#### In case of an emergency, who do I contact?

If you need to reach the education staff or your child during their lesson, please call 305-434-9564 or 305-434-9502 for an immediate answer. The person at the extension will help get you in contact with the appropriate staff.

## What happens in the event of an emergency at the museum?

The museum and thus the education team has an emergency action plan that is part of the safety training for all staff. This training includes what to do in the event of a fire, severe weather, a missing child/parent, and more. All education instructors, staff, and volunteers have completed this training prior to the start of any education program and will undergo retraining as needed.

In case of an emergency, the priority will be the safety of all the students. Once the student(s) are safe, and the Emergency Action Plan procedure is followed, parents will be notified as quickly as possible using the emergency contact information provided for each student at registration.

In the event of a medical emergency, museum staff will contact emergency medical personnel and will then contact the child's parent or guardian. Based on the medical personnel's assessment, your child may be transported to a local hospital to receive further medical attention. Please note, emergency medical personnel cannot honor requests to bring children to specific hospitals, doctors, or medical establishments.