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LONG ISLAND SOUND**



**Sea Pirates (grades 5-6)**

**2008 Summer Camp  
Parent Packet**

Includes:

- ◆ Parent Information (includes Drop-off/Pick-up Info)
- ◆ What to Wear/Bring
- ◆ Directions
- ◆ Frequently Asked Questions

Please contact Schooner Inc with ANY questions at 203-865-1737!

# Sea Pirates Parent Information

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## First Day Orientation

Please plan to bring your campers to Monday morning check-in at 8:45 am. Schooner Inc staff will hold a **brief** orientation from 9:00 – 9:05 am at the **INFO New Haven Center @ Long Wharf** (don't get directions online – they are not correct, see our directions page!) on Monday morning after check-in for parents to get agendas and important phone numbers, go over basic camp rules, and field any questions about the week. Please make every effort to plan to attend this orientation.

## Daily Schedule

Sea Pirates should arrive by 9:00 AM and be picked up at 4:00 PM at the **INFO New Haven Center @ Long Wharf** in New Haven. The *Quinnipiack* will sail from, and return to, the Long Wharf Pier each day. Campers **MUST** be signed in with the Sea Pirates Coordinator each morning and signed out each afternoon - campers **CAN NOT** be signed out at the Long Wharf building, boats, or dock unless special arrangements have been made with the Sea Pirates Coordinator due to special circumstances.

## Sea Pirate Activities

The Sea Pirates program is based on an adventure theme – imagine you are a pirate sailing into New Haven Harbor for the first time. If you decided to make this harbor your newest hideout, you would need to know how to create a map, find out what lived there, and where the best places to sail would be. Campers join the captain and crew of the schooner *Quinnipiack* on their discovery of New Haven Harbor by land and by sea.

Sea Pirates can expect to spend some time each day discovering the plants and animals of Long Island Sound, working on seamanship skills (knot-tying, sailing, etc), and learning about pirates in history. On the first day of camp, you will receive an agenda detailing the activities that your child will participate in during the week. Please feel free to speak with the Sea Pirates Coordinator during your week if there are any questions or comments about your child's experience. **Please note**, however, that since activities will vary depending upon the weather, tides, and group interests, our daily and weekly activities may not always be the same.

Campers should not feel intimidated by being on-board the *Quinnipiack* for a week; all of history's great captains, pirates, and marine scientists had to start somewhere! On Monday, they will be a landlubber... by Friday they will be one of the crew!!!

**\* Sea Pirate Parents/Guardians there will be an Open House on Thursday from 3pm-4pm for your 'Pirate' to give you a tour of their boat and their shore-side lair to show you what they have been doing all week. Check out on Thursday will still be at the New Haven Visitor Center, but will begin at 3pm.**

**Questions?** Contact Schooner Inc by phone (203) 865-1737 or email [manager@schoonerinc.org](mailto:manager@schoonerinc.org)

## Sea Pirates Parent Information

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### Weather Plan

Outdoor trips are never ruined by bad weather, but they are sometimes ruined by bad preparation. The weather on the water is often **very different** than on land; the sun and wind feel stronger. There is no shelter on board the *Quinnipiack*, so participants should pack a **sweatshirt or sweater and long pants** in case the weather is cool. Please bring **rain gear** from home each day. If it should thunder/lightning and we are unable to sail, Sea Pirates will continue activities onshore in our Long Wharf facilities. The complete list of What to Wear and Bring can be found later in this packet.

### Behavior Plan

Schooner Inc staff members are all trained to maintain situations that are engaging and safe for all of our participants. This also requires the help of our campers – please review the attached Code of Conduct with your child and return it with the other required information. If you have ANY questions, please feel free to contact the Sea Pirates Coordinator or Camp Director at any time.

### Accident/Incident Procedures

Schooner Inc staff members are required to make note of any incidents or accidents during each day of camp. This information is communicated to parents as well as the Camp Director on a daily basis either at the end of the day or, if warranted, at the time of the incident.

### Drop-off / Pick-up Policy

Your Sea Pirates Coordinator will be waiting at the New Haven Visitors Center for campers to be **signed in** at 9:00 am and **signed out** at 4:00 pm. Due to both Schooner Inc and CT State Camp License policies, each child must be signed-in and signed-out each day so that staff can ensure that all children are safely picked up each day. To expedite this process, you will be handed a colored sheet of paper with your child's name, camp, and important location/phone numbers on the first day of camp. Please bring this sheet each day to pick-up or make sure that the person picking up your child has this sheet – this will indicate to camp staff that you/they are on the list of approved people to pick-up your child. If you do not have this sheet, staff are required to ask for ID to confirm that you are an approved pick-up person. Also, make sure that all persons picking up your child are listed on your camper form – if someone is not listed, staff are required to contact you by phone to confirm that your child can be released.

# Sea Pirates Parent Information

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## Schooner's Medication Policy

Schooner's staff will **not administer medications of any kind**. If your child will need medication, it is required by the State of Connecticut that the Authorization for Administration of Medication be filled out and signed as required (see below). The only medications that can be brought to camp will need to be self-administered by the camper, which means that the camper must be able to determine which medications are theirs by size, color, amount, or other label identification; know the frequency and time of day for which the medication is ordered; and consumes the medication appropriately.

### **Non-prescription Topical Medication Requirements:**

- Only applies to ointments free of antibiotics, antifungal, or steroidal components; medicated powders; and gum or lip medications available without prescription (i.e. Abreva, Gold Bond Medicated, etc – NOT sunscreen, though)
- Authorization for Administration of Medication must be completed and signed by parent (physician signature not required).
- Medication Administration Record will be completed by Schooner Inc staff and kept on file
- Medication must come in its original container with a label containing camper's name, name of medication, and directions for the medication's administration.
- Medication will be held by camp staff
- Any unused medication will be returned to the parents or destroyed by the program staff member within one week of the camper's departure from camp.

### **Non-Prescription (other than topical) and Prescription Medication (Non Emergency):**

- Includes oral medications, topical medications not described above, inhalant medications, and injectable medications (by premeasured syringe for emergencies only)
- Authorization for Administration of Medication must be completed and signed by parent and physician.
- Medication Administration Record will be completed by Schooner Inc staff and kept on file
- Medications must come in original child-resistant safety container with a label that includes the child's name, the name of the medication, the directions for the medication's administration, and the date of prescription.
- Medication will be held in locked container/area and refrigerated as necessary.
- Any unused medication will be returned to the parents or destroyed by the program staff member within one week of the camper's departure from camp.

**Questions?** Contact Schooner Inc by phone (203) 865-1737 or email [manager@schoonerinc.org](mailto:manager@schoonerinc.org)

## What To Wear And Bring

Summer weather in New Haven can be hot (85-95 degrees) and humid, but the breeze off the Sound can sometimes be chilly. Our over 35 years of experience with outdoor education during the summer months has helped us to create flexible schedules and back-up activities for rain or extreme heat as well as these lists of what to wear (LAYERS! LAYERS! LAYERS!) and what to bring to make sure the campers are comfortable and safe during their entire stay.

### WHAT TO WEAR

(Make sure EVERYTHING has the camper's name on it!)

#### Make Sure You Wear Each Day:

- Weather appropriate clothing that can get wet and muddy
- Bathing Suit (under clothes)
- A hat with a visor
- Waterproof Sunscreen (SPF 15 + )**
- Closed-toed field shoes (see suggestions below)
  - water shoes with socks (to prevent blisters)
  - old tennis shoes with laces



(Make sure EVERYTHING has the campers name on it!)

#### Make Sure You Bring Each Day:

- Nutritious bagged **snack** with a drink\*
- Nutritious bagged **lunch** with a drink\*
- Backpack containing:
  - Waterproof sunscreen - lotion, not spray (SPF 15 +)
  - Bug Repellent (lotion, not spray)
  - Water bottle - reusable** (water provided as needed)
  - Towel in Ziploc bag
  - Sweatshirt or light jacket in Ziploc Bag
  - Full set of extra clothes in Ziploc bag
  - 2-3 extra Ziploc bags
  - Alternate pair of shoes
    - (Sandals, TEVAs, sneakers, etc)

\*(please no glass bottles, candy, or caffeinated beverages)





## Directions

### Sea Pirates Drop-off / Pick-up Site

Parents:

Sea Pirates meet Seafaring Scientists meet at **INFO New Haven Center @ Long Wharf** in New Haven each day.

We realize that if you need to cross the Quinnipiac Bridge or use the 91-95 interchange, there is sometimes unavoidable traffic. Please contact Schooner Inc (203)865-1737 if you are stuck in traffic or running behind and we will contact your child's camp. We will do our best to accommodate your situation.

On the next pages, you will find directions to the drop-off / pick-up location for each day of camp. Camp will be run rain or shine at this location.

### Schooner Inc Camp Office

60 S Water Street  
New Haven, CT 06519  
Camp License # 512

**Questions?** Contact Schooner Inc by phone (203) 865-1737 or email [manager@schoonerinc.org](mailto:manager@schoonerinc.org)



# Directions

## Sea Pirates Drop-off / Pick-up Site

Info New Haven Center @ Long Wharf  
351 Long Wharf Drive  
New Haven, CT 06519

**From the Southwest (Stratford, Bridgeport, Norwalk):**

Take I-95 North to Exit 46 (Long Wharf). Take a left at the end of the exit ramp. The Info New Haven building will be on your right – camp signs will direct you to enter the lot and park.

**From the East (Branford, Madison, Clinton):**

Take I-95 South to Exit 46 (Long Wharf). Take a right at the end of the exit ramp. Turn right at the light, go straight until the next light and turn right onto Long Wharf Drive. The Info New Haven building will be on your left – camp signs will direct you to enter the lot and park.

**From the North (Hamden, North Haven, Wallingford, Meriden):**

Take I-91 South to I-95 South. Take Exit 46 (Long Wharf). Turn right at the end of the exit ramp. Turn right at the light, go straight until the next light and turn right onto Long Wharf Drive. The Info New Haven building will be on your left – camp signs will direct you to enter the lot and park.

**From the Northwest (Derby, Ansonia, Waterbury):**

Take Route 34, Route 1, Route 63 or Whalley Avenue to the Boulevard (Route 10). Follow the Boulevard south and pass under I-95. At the stop sign, turn left onto Howard Avenue. At the traffic light, turn right onto Sargent Drive. At the next light, turn right (under highway) and follow around down Long Wharf Drive. The Info New Haven building will be on your right – camp signs will direct you to enter the lot and park.

Long Wharf – Schooner Inc Site  
389 Long Wharf Drive  
New Haven, CT 06519  
Camp License # 512

**Questions?** Contact Schooner Inc by phone (203) 865-1737 or email [manager@schoonerinc.org](mailto:manager@schoonerinc.org)

# Frequently Asked Questions

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## **Why are kids asked to wear bathing suits under their clothes each day?**

On days with good weather and environmental conditions (no jellyfish), campers may run through sprinklers, wade in the Sound, or go swimming off of the *Quinnipiack*\*. Also, Schooner Inc has many campers and limited changing facilities. We don't want to spend all of our time changing rather than exploring!

***\* Please note campers will only swim off the boat with lifejackets and at the captain and lifeguard's discretion. If weather or safety is a concern campers will not go swimming. Swimming is not a daily activity.***

## **Why must my child bring their own water bottles and sunscreen – can't Schooner Inc provide these?**

We spend many hot hours in the sun and our main concern is keeping our campers safe and healthy. It is imperative that children have water to keep hydrated. Schooner will carry a supply of water to refill personal water bottles and will require campers to take water breaks. Schooner Inc will be able to provide sunscreen only when parents sign-off on the brand that will be available (see Camper Information Form).

## **Will the campers wear life jackets?**

According to the US Coast Guard, campers are not required to wear life jackets unless working over the side of the vessel (USCG Regulations CFR 185.506 and 185.508). The campers will receive a complete safety orientation as soon as they come on-board. Please be assured, however, that the schooner *Quinnipiack* is a large, stable sailing vessel.

## **What about seasickness?**

The schooner *Quinnipiack* is a large, stable vessel and does not go out in weather conditions that would be severe enough to cause seasickness. Seasickness medication is usually unnecessary and, in many cases, will cause drowsiness which can take away from the camp experience. However the psychological effect of 'an ounce of prevention' may have a calming effect for some campers. Ultimately, we rely on each campers and their family to make the best decision for their situation.

## **Is there a bathroom on board?**

Yes, but we call a ship's bathroom the "head"! The "head" is a manual flush toilet that is connected to a holding tank onboard – it should be thought of as an emergency option and not a convenience.

## **Can my child bring their digital camera/MP3 player/cell phone/etc?**

NO – they are a distraction from normal socializing that is an important part of camp AND the saltwater is notorious for destroying electronics and we cannot be responsible for caring for such items. Waterproof cameras are a great option for budding photographers.

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# Frequently Asked Questions

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## **Why must my child bring a sweatshirt for summer camp – isn't it too hot?**

The weather at the shore is usually different than inshore. It is generally ten degrees cooler due to breezes off of the Sound and the sun is stronger due to reflection off of the water and sand. Since we are often getting wet, it is important for campers to have something warm to put on each day in case it gets cool. Layers of clothing help campers deal with these variations in temperature.

## **What happens when there is a water quality issue?**

The sites used for Schooner Inc Summer Programs are under the jurisdiction of local health and park authorities who monitor these areas and decide when/if to close them - these authorities are very conservative in their judgments. Schooner Inc is in close contact with local authorities regarding their decisions. We have back-up activities planned if we are not allowed in the water.

## **Why do I need to send bug repellent and sunscreen lotions rather than sprays?**

Due to the allergic reactions that can be caused by spray sunscreens and bug repellents, Schooner Inc asks that only lotions be used to prevent any adverse reactions in other campers.

## **What can I do to prevent my child from getting bitten by ticks and mosquitoes?**

Sending your child with bug repellent lotion is one of the best ways to prevent being bitten by bugs. It is important, though, that you check your child every day after camp for ticks