

BioPark Beginnings

FAQ's

Where do classes meet?

Classes alternate between the Zoo, Aquarium/Garden, and Tingley Beach. Zoo classes meet at the Colores Education Building behind the children's play area. Aquarium/Garden classes meet in the AQ/BG Education Annex. Tingley Beach classes meet at the Train Station Platform. There will always be SIGNS out for directions to the classroom of the week.

How do we keep track of which facility we are at?

A schedule is included in the Handbook received at the first session attended. Also, a calendar for two months at a time is handed out to each family for posting at home including the facility meeting place, time of class, and topic of the week.

What time do classes begin?

Classes always meet at the same time no matter the facility. Tuesday classes begin at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday classes begin at 9:30 a.m. Plan on arriving early especially on Zoo days as there may be lines at the front entry and it is a long, long walk back to the Colores Education Bldg.

What happens if it is rainy on class day?

BioPark Beginnings meet rain or shine no matter the facility. Be prepared for the weather.

What if it is snowing?

BioPark Beginnings meet no matter the weather, unless it is severe enough that APS closes, in which case, BioPark Beginnings will be canceled, as well. If APS is on a two hour delay, BioPark Beginnings will meet at its regular starting time. Listen to the morning school cancellations carefully.

What do we do when classes are canceled?

Should classes be canceled due to weather or instructor illness, we pick up the next week with the scheduled class and facility. A make-up week will be added to the end of the season for the missed class. There are always 12 sessions to a BioPark Beginnings season, which is never shortened. Families scheduled to bring snack or help with clean up will do so at the make-up session.

If we have to miss our class during a week can we come to the other class?

Yes. If a scheduling problem prevents a family from attending their regularly scheduled class they may come to the other class in the week, however, this may not become a recurring event.

Will there be a snack provided during class?

Yes, with the help of families. Each family will sign up at the first class to provide food or drink for at least one session per child during the season. Reminder notes with exact student numbers will be handed out one week prior to the snack sign up date.

What if we have to miss our snack sign up date?

Families are responsible to see that their snack is delivered to the facility of the week even when they must miss that class. The other option is to change weeks with another family previous to the missed class. Most families are usually very willing to help another family out when needed.

Are there any other family responsibilities?

Families are also asked to stay after class one week to assist with clean-up of the room. Also, adults that come to class are expected to be role models and participate in all class activities with their children, setting an example of how they wish their children to act during class time.

What about Passes to enter the facilities?

Passes are issued at the beginning of the season. They allow entry into the facility of the day for class only. Passes may never be used for re-entry to a facility or another facility on the same day after class is over. Admission must be paid for entry into any facility after class is finished for the day or show your NM BioPark Society Membership Card.

Can we bring a younger child or guest to class?

Younger children, including babies, must register and pay the "additional child" class fee. Other guests, including relatives, are discouraged as classes are usually full to the max. It is unfair to the registered families to let others in for "special" reasons. Thank you for your support making BioPark Beginnings an exceptional experience for our children!