



Code of Conduct and Expectations

Statement of Development and Origin:

The mission of the Emerald Coast Science Center, with a caring staff and welcoming atmosphere, is to provide students with the scientific knowledge and skills necessary to understand STEAM in a challenging and safe environment.

Purpose:

The educators at the Emerald Coast Science Center strive to provide opportunities for students to become lifelong learners through a safe, nurturing, and challenging environment. The Emerald Coast Science Center also provides a safe and respectful environment centered around a code of conduct and classroom expectations for all students while they explore STEAM. The safe environment that the educators and staff of the Emerald Coast Science Center provide is altered when the students do not adhere to the code of conduct. If a student is unable to follow classroom expectations and educators, administrators, or volunteers have repeatedly tried to redirect their behavior, then they will be removed from the classroom (please see our 'Misconduct Behavior Plan' below).

Classroom Expectations:

Don't talk when the educator is talking, and listen to instructions.

Raise your hand if you want to speak or answer questions.

Be **E**ager to learn about STEAM.

Have **A**ppropriate classroom attitude and behavior.

Have **M**utual respect between staff and students and between students and students.

Stay Safe

We keep our hands/feet to ourselves.

Remain seated in the classroom unless you have permission from the educator to get up and leave.

Take care of our exhibits and equipment.

When class is done, turn in your name tag and let the educator know that your parent is here to pick you up.

Classroom Attention Phrases: (Will be listed in the classroom for students to reference during programs)

Educator says, "To Infinity..." Students respond, "And Beyond!"

Educator says, "Class, Class." Students respond, "Yes, Yes."

Educator says, "Chicky, Chicky." Students respond, "Bacq, Bacq."

Educator says, "Hands on top." Students respond, "Everybody Stop." With this, the students will place their hands on their heads.

Educator says, "Waterfall, Waterfall." Students respond, "Shhhhhhhhhhh."

Misconduct Behavior Plan:

The Emerald Coast Science Center is implementing a three-strike system as our misconduct behavior plan. In this plan, there will be different strike levels based on the student's behavior and the methods used to redirect behaviors by the educators and administrators. Educators and administrators can redirect misconduct behaviors from any student by letting them know that they should stop that behavior, moving the student to a different seat or area in the classroom, removing items from them if they are mishandling them, and if the misconduct behavior persists, the students may be removed from the classroom and parents will be contacted. Parents/guardians will be notified each time a student receives a strike and receive an explanation of why they received that strike with a referral from the Emerald Coast Science Center. Educators and administrators reserve the right to determine what behaviors are considered misconduct behaviors for our drop-off programs.



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Strike System:

Strike One: The student demonstrated misconduct behavior to the point where educators and administrators could not redirect the behavior, and therefore, the student was removed from the classroom and taken home.

Strike Two: The student demonstrated misconduct behavior a second time to the point where educators and administrators could not redirect the behavior, and therefore, the student was removed from the classroom and taken home. Parents are spoken to about the misconduct behavior which has continued for a second time as well as how it is affecting the classroom environment.

Strike Three: The students demonstrated misconduct behavior for a third time to the point where educators and administrators could not redirect the behavior, and therefore, the student was removed from the classroom and taken home. Parents are spoken with to let them know that their student is now suspended for one calendar year from all drop-off programs.

Students Shall Not:

- Be late for the program.
- Be disrespectful towards educators in the course of their duties.
- Fail to do or complete the work assigned to them by educators.
- Cheat or be dishonest when the educators talk to them.
- Make any verbal or written threats to other students or the educators.
- Speak any inappropriate language or while at the program (including and not limited to politics, religion, profanity, etc.).
- Leave the classroom without permission or go outside the area the educator allows when in the backyard.
- Damage to any property of the Emerald Coast Science Center and its affiliates.
- Physical misconduct or mistreatment of others.
- Disobey the instructions of an educator, staff member, or volunteer when instructed.
- Must not cause disruptions within the class; for example, making a noise, jokes, screaming, or out-of-turn comments over the educator, staff member, or volunteer consistently.
- Use their mobile devices unless it is an emergency.
- Be in possession of weapons of any kind (including Swiss army knives).
- Take things that do not belong to them.
- Place fingers in the animal cages or interact with an animal inappropriately.
- Place their hands/feet on other students, educators, or volunteers.

Automatic Suspension for Harmful Physical Contact:

Any child who engages in harmful physical contact with a student, volunteer, or staff member will be subject an automatic suspension from all drop-off programs for a period of one year from the date of the incident. This is being implemented to reinforce the importance of respectful behavior and maintain a safe environment for everyone involved in our programs (Summer STEAM Workshops, Home School Academy, Maker Days, and any other drop-off programs). Examples of harmful physical contact include biting, kicking, hitting, or any other form of physical force that is intentionally used to strike or attack another person. Please note that the examples provided are not exhaustive but serve to give you an idea of the types of behavior that will be considered harmful physical contact. Any action that poses a threat to the physical safety and well-being of another individual will be taken seriously.



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Resetting of Strikes for Each Program:

The "three strikes" system will be reset at the beginning of each program, ensuring that every participant starts with a clean slate. For example, strikes will reset after the last Summer STEAM Workshop in July and they will reset after the last Home School Academy, Maker Days, or Pathways Workshops in May. We believe this approach will provide children with an opportunity to learn from their mistakes while maintaining a fair and supportive environment for all participants.

To ensure the best classroom experience, we encourage you to share these expectations and plans with your child(ren) before coming to class. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have by calling 850-664-1261 or by emailing business-office@ecscience.org. Thank you for supporting the Emerald Coast Science Center; we look forward to sharing many exciting moments with your child(ren).