

# Connecticut Science Center

## OVERNIGHT SURVIVAL GUIDE

Things-to-Bring • Direction/ Parking • Securities & Emergencies • Food and Drink  
Sample Itinerary • Policies and Procedures



# Connecticut Science Center

## What is Overnights at the Connecticut Science Center?

An Overnight at the Connecticut Science Center is an exclusive, after hours learning experience where children are introduced to different forms of science in an eventful and educational way.

The Overnights integrate the use of hands-on science and specific activities that engage children with our exhibits. In addition, participants will engage in free exploration of all our exhibit galleries, enjoy drop-in science activities, one-on-one time with some of our live animals, touch tank, and exotic reptiles and insects, view one of our films in our 3-D digital films, and a snack break to refuel for the rest of the night.



## Who are overnights designed for?

Overnights are for children ages 5 to 12 and their chaperones/parents. Families and groups can register for this event. Scouts, schools, churches, community groups and others are also welcome at the overnight. Groups can range in size, but must always maintain a minimum 1:8 ratio of chaperones to children. Chaperones must be at least 21 years old.

Connecticut  
Science Center  
250 Columbus Blvd.  
Hartford, CT 06103

860.SCIENCE [724-3623]  
[www.CTScienceCenter.org](http://www.CTScienceCenter.org)

## Arrival and Check-In

Check-in is from 6:00 PM to 6:45 PM. Scheduled activities begin at 7:00 PM sharp. Please do not plan to arrive before 6:00 pm. When you arrive there will be a check-in table on the ground floor. You will receive a map of the building, an itinerary for the night, and be directed to the room where your gear will be stored. All registered children & chaperones MUST be listed on our roster. Admission for guests who are not included on the roster is not guaranteed.

If you arrive after 7pm, go to the security desk and ask security to contact the Overnight Coordinator or Assistant Coordinator to check you in. If you are running late please call (860) 520-2155 and inform them that you are running late and your approximate arrival time. All doors and other entrances of the Science Center will be locked during the overnight program, you will not be able to exit the building and come back in again should you leave.

## Things-to-Bring

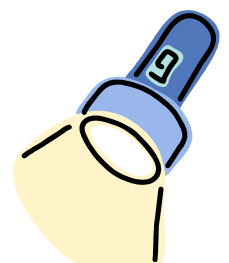
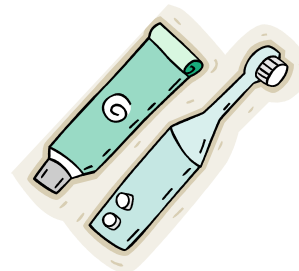
### WHAT TO BRING:

- Sleeping bag, air mattress, and/or foam pad
- Blanket
- Pillow
- Flashlight
- Toiletries
- Water
- Money for gift shop



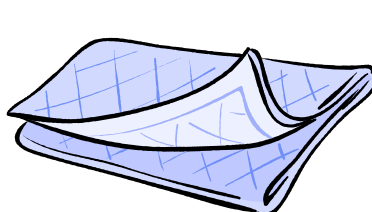
### WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Food & Drinks
- Electronic games
- Cots
- Personal Music Players
- Tents
- hair dryers
- curling irons
- alarm clocks



### HOW TO PACK YOUR GEAR

All gear should be clearly labeled with your group and individual name. Your gear will be stored among the belongings of the other participants.



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## PARKING

Participants may park in the Science Center/Riverfront Garage (via Grove Street, on the right) at a reduced rate of **\$19** per vehicle. This cost allows you to park from 6pm the night of your overnight until 6pm the next evening. Please note that CT Science Center neither owns nor operates the Science Center/Riverfront garage.

Note: If you foresee needing to leave in the middle of the night, it is recommended that you park in the Convention Center Garage (located directly across Grove street next to the Hartford Marriott Downtown).



## SECURITY & EMERGENCIES

- Our security staff is trained in CPR/ First Aid as First Responders. In the event of an emergency, they will respond to the situation.
- There will be a security officer on duty throughout the evening and overnight. Security can be reached at (860) 520-2155. Leave this number with parents and others at home. If you are running late call this number as well.
- Please notify the Overnights office prior to the overnight if any member of your group has special needs or if any adult or child must leave early. We are better able to accommodate your needs with advance notice.
- The Science Center is equipped with a first aid room in case of emergencies.
- **As an adult participant/chaperone, you are responsible for the supervising children at all times.**

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## Food

- An evening snack and a light breakfast will be provided.
- Outside food and drink are prohibited, with the exception of **approved** special dietary, nut and gluten allergies, etc. needs.
  - You will be allowed to bring your own food labeled with the guests name; it must be given to an overnight staff member during check-in.
- Those with special dietary needs are encouraged to bring their own food substitutes. Please notify Connecticut Science Center Overnight Staff of any special dietary or medical requirements before your scheduled overnight.
- Complimentary coffee will be available for adults throughout the night and during breakfast.
- There is access to vending machines. ***Connecticut Science Center staff is not responsible for lost money, empty vending machines, or other vending-related issues.***

## Sleeping Spaces

All attendees are assigned a specific exhibit and floor to sleep on. Sleeping areas will be handed out during check-in. The space you are assigned depends on the size of your group. All participants are required to remain in their assigned spaces after lights out.

- Overnight participants may sleep in their clothes or change into pajamas in the restrooms. Changing clothing is not permitted in the sleeping locations.
- Air mattresses are permitted but we cannot guarantee adequate space. If there is not enough space, Connecticut Science Center staff will ask you to deflate your air mattress.
- Please be considerate of your fellow overnights. Your group may be sleeping near other groups. Please respect others' need for quiet after lights out (this includes respecting members of other groups as well as members of your group). Groups or individuals not following this policy may be asked to leave.

## **Rules and Guidelines**

- Chaperones must be at least 21 years old.
- Chaperones must remain with children at all times and may not leave them unattended at any time.
- Chaperones are strongly urged to participate with their children in the scheduled activities.
- Participants are not allowed to leave the building except in an emergency.
- Be respectful of the property and personal space of other participants and the Science Center.
- Profanity is not allowed at any time during the overnight program.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself at all times.
- The Connecticut Science Center has zero tolerance for name calling, fighting, or harassment of any sort.
- Participants may not use or possess cigarettes, lighters, matches illegal drugs, alcohol, and weapons of any kind.
- Smoking is prohibited throughout the building. The Connecticut Science Center is a smoke free zone. Smoking within 25 feet of the building is strictly prohibited (this includes the Parking Garage).

### **LIABILITY**

Neither Connecticut Science Center nor its employees will be liable to any Overnight participant for injury or damage to person or property arising out of the use of the Connecticut Science Center Properties nor those associated.

### **GUEST / GROUP REMOVAL**

If a guest or group is asked to leave the program, that group is responsible for any charges incurred by the Connecticut Science Center. Refunds will not be granted to guests / groups who are asked to leave the program.



# Connecticut Science Center

## Departure

Overnights end at 8:00am the next morning. All gear must be stowed away in your vehicle by 8:00am and Overnight staff will be available until then. Overnight visitors are invited to play in our KidSpace area until 10am. Starting at 10am you are free to explore the entire Science Center. The wristbands given out during check-in gives you access to the science Center for the day following your Overnight.

## Cancellations

Groups or individuals who choose not to participate in an overnight, which has not been officially cancelled, will not be granted a refund.

### Inclement weather

The final decision to cancel or operate an overnight will be made by the Connecticut Science Center. Connecticut Science Center will inform you of any cancellation by noon on your scheduled overnight date. The group leader is responsible for contacting participants with the cancellation information.

### Rescheduling

In the event Connecticut Science Center cancels an overnight event, we will reschedule. If a suitable reschedule date cannot be agreed upon, we will provide a full refund.

## Special Tips for Leaders and Chaperones

- Please be prompt. The overnight officially begins at 7:00 pm.
- Have emergency contact info for all children on hand.
- Flashlights are recommended for late night trips to the bathroom.
- Actively participate with the children in **all** activities.
- Help us keep the program on schedule by following the itinerary.

**MOST IMPORTANTLY, HAVE FUN!!**

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