

Health and Safety Plan for Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts Little Learners

Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts will host Little Learners for the enrichment and exposure to STEAM Education for children and youth throughout Central PA and surrounding areas.

During Little Learners, the building will be closed to the public. The only people that will occupy the Center will be those attending Little Learners, Community Classrooms, and the Whitaker Center Staff. These groups will not occupy any of the same spaces throughout their visit.

The Little Learners program will be held in KidsPlace only and will run from 9:30-11am. Please note, the rest of the science center will not be available for exploration and KidsPlace will close promptly at 11am.

Little Learner Procedures

All participants must enter the Center by way of the Market Street Entrance. Before entering the Center, each participant's temperature will be taken with a non-contact, infrared thermometer. **Anyone with a body temperature over 100.4 ° F will not be permitted to enter the Center and will need to go home immediately.**

We strongly encourage anyone who believes they are sick or has had recent close contact with a person with COVID-19, not to attend Little Learners. All participants are expected to follow all rules and directions we have put into place to keep all visitors and staff safe. If at any time participants are unable or unwilling to follow these rules and directions the individual will be required to leave.

Participants should come to Little Learners with a **disposable** water bottle. **Also, our water fountains will not be accessible and those in attendance will not be allowed to fill up their water bottle at any sink throughout the Center or in the bathroom.** For this reason, participants should bring enough water for their activities in disposable plastic bottles.

All Participants over the age of 2 years old are required to wear a face mask for the duration of the time at Whitaker Center. The child should be comfortable putting their own mask on without assistance. Everyone should be encouraged to touch their mask as little as possible. A cloth or "surgical mask" is acceptable, as long as it covers the mouth and nose, and does not restrict the person's vision.

All Whitaker Center Staff are also required to wear a face covering at all times during their work day. All Whitaker Center staff's temperature is checked daily and logged. The participants may request a copy of this log at any time. Any Whitaker Center staff who have tested positive for COVID-19, does not feel well or who believe they have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 are required to stay home from programs at the Center.

When in the Harsco Science Center, Whitaker Center Staff will encourage social distancing while interacting with the exhibits and participating in Little Learner activities. The Whitaker Center Educator has designed the activities and the rotation of the materials to allow materials to be cleaned regularly.

The restrooms on Street Level will be used exclusively during the program and only by Little Learners participants. Whitaker Center staff will encourage caretakers to regularly escort their child(ren) to the restroom to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. We will encourage hand washing after anyone has coughed or sneezed and after interacting with exhibits others may have touched. Our paper towel dispensers and trash cans are all no-touch. Hand sanitizers that contain at least 60% alcohol will also be available in all spaces of the Center and participants will be encouraged to use this often.

All areas throughout the Center that participants are using will be cleaned and disinfected frequently. A schedule of increased, routine cleaning and disinfection has been put into place. Any item that is difficult to clean, sanitize, or

disinfect has been removed from the Center and will not be used for Little Learners. Whitaker Center will ensure safe, correct use and storage of all cleaning products so they are stored securely away from the public. In addition, the restrooms will be cleaned frequently on all levels of the Whitaker Center.

Whitaker Center has a designated staff person responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns. Jessica Rice, Director of Education, will be onsite to handle these issues. Jessica Rice can be reached at 717-724-3865 or jrice@whitakercenter.org.

If a Little Learner Participant Should Get Sick

The participants should notify the designated staff person (717-724-3865 or jrice@whitakercenter.org) if a Little Learner Participant or family member becomes sick with COVID-19 symptoms, test positive for COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with symptoms or a confirmed or suspected case. Additionally, if a member of the immediate family group has COVID-19 symptoms, presumptive exposure, or is awaiting test results, Whitaker requests notification of that status, so we may properly evaluate contact that has occurred with our staff. Any information provided will be kept in the strictest confidence, and will be used between the designated staff person, senior staff, and the family providing the information to make informed, fact based decisions regarding next steps.

If an individual is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath) while at the Center, the individual will need to leave the program immediately.

Any area that the potentially sick individual used will be closed off to the rest of the Little Learners participants, and all areas of the Center will be cleaned and disinfected 24-hours after a case of COVID-19 is suspected.

Local health officials, staff, and all families will be immediately notified of any suspected cases of COVID-19 that have been inside the building while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with the Americans with Disability Act.

Whitaker Center also recommends that families continue to practice social distancing and good hygiene at all times, both to set an example for children, and to limit the spread of any disease, particularly COVID-19 between Little Learners participants, staff, and families.

Thank you so much for choosing Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts for your Little Learners experience. We are excited for your visit and have many educational and fun activities, experiments, and experiences planned.