



Kids Week - Frequently Asked Questions

What should my child bring?

Below is a list of items that each child should bring with them every day:

- Dry bathing suit
- Sunscreen – applied before arriving and throughout the day
- Dry towel
- Water shoes or sandals
- Extra pair of dry shoes and dry clothing - to wear at the end of each day
- Lunch & snacks - packed in zip-lock bags or waterproof containers
- 2 bottles of water – avoid juices and soda
- Layered clothing – preferably synthetics, avoid cotton if raining
- Necessary medication (please alert and discuss with the staff)
- Dry bag or backpack for all their “stuff”
- Sunglasses
- Hat with visor
- Rain gear (if rain is expected) - jacket and boots
- Waterproof camera (optional)
- and ... a SMILE!

Does my child need to bring any kayaking/paddle boarding equipment?

All kayaking and paddle boarding equipment will be supplied by Plum Island Kayak. (kayak, paddle, life jacket, stand up paddleboard, etc). Please discuss with us if your child has equipment that he or she would like to use during the program. Please make sure your child brings all the items on the “What Should My Child Bring” list which is shown above.

What about drop-offs, pick-ups & parking?

Unless otherwise specified, all pick-ups and drop-offs will be at our shop:
92 Merrimac St. Newburyport, MA

Please arrive 15 minutes early. Be sure to sign-in and sign-out your child each day!

In order to be courteous to our neighbor and to other Plum Island Kayak customers, please park behind our building for all drop-offs and pick-ups!

What about bad weather?

We operate rain or shine. If it's raining we'll probably be paddling. However, we will NOT be paddling if there is any threat of lightning! Wind is what usually stops us from paddling. If, while paddling, conditions worsen and the winds increase we'll radio for the Plum Island Kayak bus and arrange for a quick pick-up.

If the entire or partial day gets rained out, we have a variety of "rain day" activities. One of which might be, a birding field trip to Plum Island, a tour of the Mass Audubon Center or the Parker River Wildlife Headquarters, ice cream in downtown or perhaps some classroom instruction. Rain or shine, we'll be doing something!

What if my child can't swim?

Swimming skills are not necessary. Every child will ALWAYS be wearing a life jacket while on the water!

Are life jackets required and are they provided?

Yes, we require that all paddlers wear a life jacket at all times – even while on swim breaks! And yes, they are provided each and every day.

What if my child has never kayaked?

Don't worry ... Kid's Week is designed for children who have never paddled before as well as for children with extensive paddling experience. Each child will progress at his or her own pace. Each session is small enough to ensure personal attention to all participants.

What safety certifications and training does the staff have?

All our lead guides are CPR and First Aid certified and all our guides are trained in various on-water rescues procedures and kayaking techniques.

How many years has the Kids Week Program been operating?

Plum Island Kayak has been operating since 2003. Our Kid's Week Program was launched in 2007 and has operated every year since.

What if my child doesn't attend all 5 days (due to illness, oversleeping, etc)?

No deductions or refunds will be given for days missed.

What is the Refund Policy for the Kid's Week Program?

A full refund minus a \$100 cancellation fee (per child) will be given for cancellations made more than two weeks prior to the program starting. No refunds will be given for cancellations made less than two weeks prior to the program starting. There are no make-up days or refunds for days missed.

Is it possible to sign my child up for a partial week and pay a prorated fee?

Yes, it's possible, although we prefer that no child misses the first day. Please call us to discuss.

What is the average group size and the Child-to-Staff ratio?

On average, each group consists of about 8 -12 participants and is led by two to three staff members consisting of at least one lead guide. We will not exceed a 4:1 ratio.

What if I have other questions?

Please feel free to call, email or drop by our shop at any time to discuss any questions you may have! No question should ever be left unanswered!