



## 2016 Outback Chaperone Sign-Up



Please complete and return to:  
Outback Summer Program  
20 Sacramento Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
[registration@agassiz.org](mailto:registration@agassiz.org)  
or fax to (617) 497-4388

Our goal is to have between 6 - 8 parent chaperones on all beach trips. Please note that you may not get your top choices, as we have a lot of chaperone interest. **We will confirm which trips you are chaperoning the Friday before each trip.**

**I AGREE TO CHAPERONE THE FOLLOWING FIELD TRIPS, RAIN OR SHINE:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ JULY 7            Week 1: COCHITUATE STATE PARK (NATICK)
- \_\_\_\_\_ JULY 14        Week 2: NAHANT BEACH (NAHANT)
- \_\_\_\_\_ JULY 21        Week 3: STAGE FORT PARK (GLOUCESTER)
- \_\_\_\_\_ JULY 28        Week 4: CRANE'S BEACH (IPSWICH)
- \_\_\_\_\_ AUGUST 4        Week 5: NAHANT BEACH (NAHANT)
- \_\_\_\_\_ AUGUST 11      Week 6: SINGING BEACH (MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA)
- \_\_\_\_\_ AUGUST 18      Week 7: STAGE FORT PARK (GLOUCESTER)
- NA        AUGUST 25      Week 8: SPECIAL FIELD TRIPS—NO BEACH TRIP

NAME OF CHAPERONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF CHILD(REN): \_\_\_\_\_

[Please keep this page for your record]



## Outback Field Trip Information for Adult Chaperones

Our beach trips are always a lot of fun for everyone. For the adults, however, the good times are mixed with some real work. Outback relies on the continued support of parents. Parent helpers need to come without younger siblings (unless they are enrolled in Outback). Parents may also be expected to go into the water on beach trips. The following outline will tell you what to expect and what is needed from you.

### Arrival and prep:

- Please arrive at Outback at 8:30 am and report to the Baldwin School gym (ground level). You (and your child) will be assigned to a teacher and together you will oversee a group of children.
- Before boarding the buses, we will meet for announcements, safety rules and attendance. When we have boarded the buses, we will again take attendance.
- Once we arrive at our destination, we will bring children in groups to a specific location. You and your teacher will be responsible for getting your group and all its belongings off the bus, and together we will go to a designated location on the beach.
- **Please be aware that you may not be alone with any other child than your own when on the trips nor may you supervise children without an Outback staff member present.** We appreciate your help, but that does mean we cannot let you bring other children to the bathroom. Thank you for your cooperation. This rule is in accordance with Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) regulations.

### On The Beach:

- Ropes will be set up to mark our location before children enter the beach area. You and the teacher will find a spot in the designated area for your group.
- We will often eat snack right away.
- The staff is assigned beach and waterfront positions.
- We will have several group check in times during the trip – upon arrival, snack time, lunch time and upon departure. We also have three to four trip leaders who will float and monitor the perimeter of our established area and the waterfront.
- **The most important rule:** The trip leader will tell group leaders when the waterfront is open, which is only after both lifeguards have entered the water and deemed it safe. This system is efficient and allows for a safe way for the kids to enjoy the beach and each other.

### In The Water:

The staff is assigned waterfront responsibilities, and is in position before anyone enters the water. We also have ropes set up on the sand to identify Outback's "area". All campers must stay within the human markers whenever they are in the water. As you know, the water can be dangerous and careful supervision is our most important safety measure.

**Return Home:** We ring the bell around 1:30 to start getting ready to leave. From 1:30 – 2:00 we will all collect belongings, garbage, and make trips to the bathrooms. We will board the buses in our groups. You and your teacher are responsible for getting your group onto the bus. Attendance will be taken before we depart.

**What to bring:** Warm clothes, sunscreen, lunch, towel and a bathing suit.

**Cancellations:** We will cancel a beach trip only in case of serious downpours or thunderstorms. Cool days with scattered rains usually will not be enough to stop us from going on our trips. We will have plan B events in case of inclement weather. Chaperones do not need to participate.

**In General:** The best assistance a parent helper can give is OBSERVATION. No matter what you are doing, look around and be aware of the kids in your group. **If you can't find a child, do not waste time looking for the child. Go to the group leader right away.**