



## 2023 Homeschool Day FAQs

August 8th, 10th, 23rd & 31st 10am - 4pm

*Life of an Alligator*

### **What are the times I can be at the park?**

OSP hours are 9am - 5pm daily. We are offering a schedule of activities running on the hour from 10am - 4pm. You may arrive as early as 9:00am to meet your group and sign up for activities. The park gates close at 5:15pm.

### **What does my reservation time mean?**

Your online reservation time is your boat tour time, *not* your arrival time. Please arrive at the boat dock at least 15 minutes prior to your reservation time to ensure our boats can leave on the hour. We recommend arriving at the park at least 30 minutes prior to your boat tour time to ensure time to check-in and get to the boat dock.

### **How do I find out about my schedule of activities for the day?**

Your boat tour is the only activity scheduled in advance at the time of your reservation. All other activities will be chosen upon your arrival at the park given the number of spots still available when you check-in. Arriving earlier will provide your group with more options to stick together or break apart depending on ages and interests. Please note that there is a max number of participants for most activities; this means that larger groups (over 20) may have to split up for some activities. There is also a minimum number of participants required for some activities, mostly games.

### **What is the cost?**

Admission to Homeschool Days is \$18.00 + tax per participant for the entire day. Children three and under are free.

### **What is the schedule for the additional educational activities (not the boat tour)?**

The schedule for Homeschool Days includes three themed monthly activities (in addition to the boat tour, train ride, and nature shows) all repeating throughout the day. Activities are on the hour and will be spaced out from 10am-4pm depending on naturalist availability, weather conditions, water levels, etc. Each month for the special themed activities we try to have at least one swamp ecology talk/walk, a movement based game for all ages, and an art activity.

### **How many people will be on the boat at one time?**

The capacity of each boat is dependent on the water levels along the boat trail at the time of the event. At any time, no more than 25 participants are allowed on each boat. Children ages 13 and under are required to wear a provided PFD per Georgia law.

**How long are the boat tours, train rides, nature shows, and other activities?**

All activities are designed to be 30-45 minutes in length allowing guests enough time to get to the next activity or to have a bathroom break. The boat tour is 45 minutes long with short stops along the water trail to look at specific plants, animals, etc. The train ride is 45 minutes with a stop at Pioneer Island (dependent upon weather conditions).

**I'm with a group of other families, and we will all have different arrival times. Is it possible for us to have the same schedule?**

We recommend arriving at relatively the same time but understand this can be a challenge. If you would like for your entire group to have the same schedule, please make our staff aware upon your check-in. Staff may request that you wait for your entire group to arrive prior to creating your schedule. Please note that large groups may not be able to complete the same activity at the same time, as some activities have limited availability.

**Will lunch be available at the park? Will we have an assigned lunch time?**

Lunch will be available for purchase from our Snack Shack. Eat inside or enjoy the weather at one of our many picnic tables in the park. Lunch is on your own time. You will have 15-30 minutes between programs to eat and/or explore the park. If you would like to build in more time for your lunch, please make our staff aware at check-in so you don't have activities booked back to back.

**What should I bring for our visit?**

Every time of year in the Okefenokee has the potential for hot and sunny days as well as passing thunderstorms. We highly recommend bringing a refillable water bottle, sun protection (hat and sunscreen), and insect repellent. Other items you may want to bring are binoculars, a camera, extra money for the gift shop, and layered clothing as temperatures can change quickly from opening to midday.

**Are discounts available for military, senior citizens, law enforcement, etc?**

Since the 3-hour boat, train, nature show package is already being offered these days at a discounted rate to the general public, Okefenokee Swamp Park will not be offering additional discounts.