

NIHERST Virtual Vacation Camps

VIRTUAL Vacation Camps

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What are the VIRTUAL Vacation Camps about?

There are two (2) types of virtual vacation camps – *Ultim8STEM!* And *Cre8, Innov8, Tinker!*

Ultim8 STEM! camps use hands-on activities to inspire and educate about phenomena in the natural and physical world. All activities are designed to stimulate campers' curiosity in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and to build critical 21st century skills.

Ultim8 STEM! 5-day Camps:

Date and Timeslots	Camp Name	Age Groups
Mon 11 th – Fri 15 th July <i>Early Birds</i>	Young Vets	5-6 years 7-9 years 10-13 years
Mon 11 th – Fri 15 th July <i>Later Gators</i>	iBuild	5-6 years 7-9 years 10-13 years
Mon 18 th – Fri 22 nd July <i>Early Birds</i>	Mathletes	5-6 years 7-9 years 10-13 years
Mon 18 th – Fri 22 nd July <i>Later Gators</i>	Moguls Inc.	5-6 years 7-9 years 10-13 years
Mon 25 th – Fri 29 th July <i>Early Birds</i>	TriniGold	5-6 years 7-9 years 10-13 years

Cre8, Innov8, Tinker! camps provide hands-on experiences for developing capabilities in technological innovation and entrepreneurship in STEAM fields, as well as exposes participants to new concepts and ideas that may not be on the school curriculum. All camps are aimed at engaging youth in hands-on activities that excite a sense of curiosity and desire to understand how things work, while simultaneously cultivating 21st century skills.

Cre8, Innov8, Tinker! 5-day Camps:

Date and Timeslots	Camp Name	Age Groups
Mon 11 th – Fri 15 th July <i>Early Birds or Later Gators</i>	e-Magination	7-9 years
Mon 11 th – Fri 15 th July <i>Early Birds or Later Gators</i>	Robo Tech	10-13 years
Mon 18 th – Fri 22 nd July <i>Early Birds or Later Gators</i>	E-Builderz	10-13 years

Mon 18 th – Fri 22 nd July <i>Early Birds or Later Gators</i>	Young Inventors	10-13 years
Mon 25 th – Fri 29 th July <i>Early Birds or Later Gators</i>	Anim8	10-13 years
Mon 25 th – Fri 29 th July <i>Early Birds or Later Gators</i>	Tinker Titans	10-13 years
Mon 8 th – Fri 12 th August <i>Early Birds only</i>	e-Magination	7-9 years
Mon 8 th – Fri 12 th August <i>Later Gators only</i>	Robo Tech	10-13 years
Mon 8 th – Fri 12 th August <i>Early Birds and Later Gators</i>	Young Inventors	10-13 years
Mon 15 th – Fri 19 th August <i>Early Birds or Later Gators</i>	GrafX	10-13 years
Mon 15 th – Fri 19 th August <i>Early Birds or Later Gators</i>	Tinker Titans	10-13 years

For further descriptions about each camp, please visit the [NIHERST website \(click\)](#).

2. What are the camp times?

There are two (2) timeslot options available.

- **Early Birds** (*morning ONLY*): **9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**
- **Later Gators** (*afternoon ONLY*): **1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

3. How can I register?

The registration process is done entirely online.

You can register using the Registration Link [HERE \(click\)](#) or on our website and social media platforms ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#)). Once the registration form is submitted, you will receive instructions for payment. **Please note that your child's spot is not guaranteed until proof of payment is received.**

Once proof of payment is received, your registration is complete and you will receive a Welcome Note including instructions on how to setup and use Zoom to join camp sessions, the materials required, and further relevant information.

4. Is there a registration fee?

The following fee structure is applicable to the **Virtual Vacation** camps.

All camp themes will be offered in the format of 5-day camps for each age grouping. Multiple themes can be booked as content varies for each camp.

Materials and supplies are not included in the basic camp fee. Details on required materials, supplies and software will be shared when registration is confirmed.

Price for each 5-day camp: \$250

5. How can I pay the registration fee?

Upon submission of your completed online registration form(s), you will receive an email with instructions on how to make payment. We will be accepting direct deposits ONLY (over the counter bank transactions, fast deposits, online banking transfers).

Please note it is required that you retain a proof of payment to submit to us via email as this is what will be used to confirm your spot in camp if space is available.

6. Can I register outside of the age range?

This will be at the discretion of the facilitator. You may be able to register your child for a higher age group if your child is academically on par with that age group.

7. Will the same content be taught at each camp or can I register for multiple sessions?

Each differently themed 5-day camp will cover different content. You can register for multiple themes once the timeslots are available and do not clash with each other.

8. Can I sign up multiple children?

Yes, you can sign up more than one child, but you will need to fill out a separate form for each child.

9. Can siblings attend sessions together?

Yes. We will allow a maximum of one additional sibling (in the same age group) using the same PC during the session at no extra cost. If more than one PC is to be used during the same session, this will count as an additional spot and each child will pay the full price. Siblings will be required to adhere to the **Camper Code of Conduct**. This can be viewed on the [NIHERST website \(click\)](#).

10. Can I register on the same day as the camp?

Registration on the same day of the camp will not be facilitated. Registration for each camp will be closed at noon two (2) business days before each camp's date, or earlier as necessary if the camp becomes full. ***Please note that the registration process is only complete after proof of payment has been received.***

11. Is my spot confirmed once I submit my registration form?

No. Submission of the registration form creates a "Pending Registration" status for your child/children. Your spot is only confirmed upon verification of proof of payment.

Because spaces are limited, we will contact you once you submit your registration form with instructions on how to pay. Once your payment is confirmed, your registration status will be updated to "Confirmed".

12. How do I prepare for Virtual Camps?

Upon confirmation of payment for the camp, we will send you an email to outline how to setup any software required for the camps that you selected and a link to install **Zoom**.

13. What is required for camp?

Your child should have access to an internet-connected device with camera and microphone, as well as the Zoom application as this is the platform we are using.

The list of materials and supplies that your child can use to partake in the hands-on activities will be sent upon receipt of your proof of payment. Most of the items required are traditionally found and readily available around the house.

If you are not able to provide all the materials, the camper can still join and follow along during each camp.

Where applicable, for each session, an interactive presentation with camp content will also be shared with the campers.

14. What are the basic Online Course requirements?

Online Course Requirements:

- Mac or Windows PC/laptop
- Webcam (functional)
- Stable internet connection with access to **Zoom**
- Any additional software required for the club sessions will be sent in an email upon confirmation of payment where applicable
- Internet Browser (Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer etc.)
- Headset or headphones with built-in microphone are strongly recommended

15. Can I get assistance setting up the software?

Yes. Please email camps@niherst.gov.tt to access support if you need assistance to make sure your computer system is ready.

16. Are supplemental materials packages available for purchase?

No. Supplemental materials packages are not available for purchase.

If you are not able to provide all the materials, the camper can still join and follow along during each camp.

17. Does my child need a separate email address?

Children are not required to have a separate email address. The email address inserted on the registration form in the "Camper Email Address" section will be the address used to add him/ her to the online sessions, as well as to forward additional resources. If you wish to setup an email address for your child, use the following link as a guide (Gmail): <https://support.google.com/families/answer/7103338?hl=en>

18. How do we join the session(s)?

Once registration is complete and payment is confirmed, a recurrent meeting link will be sent to the camper email address listed for your child to join the session on **Zoom**.

19. Are parents allowed to stay during the camp session?

It is mandatory for an adult (or older sibling) is present with each camper in the 5-6 age group and nearby for the 7-9-year age group. This is to ensure proper supervision and to assist with activities. Parents may be allowed to view the 10-13 age group sessions, but this is at the discretion of the facilitator.

20. How many campers do you take in for each camp?

For **Ultim8 STEM!**, each camp will accommodate up to 20 campers

For **Cre8, Innov8, Tinker!**, each camp will accommodate up to 10 campers.

21. What is the ratio of counsellor to campers?

This varies with the age group, however at least two (2) facilitators will be present for each timeslot.

22. Are background checks conducted on facilitators?

Facilitators are interviewed and based on their performance are hired accordingly.

The Virtual Vacation Camps are facilitated by NIHERST staff **alone**.

23. Can I get the facilitators' contact information?

Contact information for the specific Camp Coordinator is available for emergency situations ONLY.

24. Are the sessions recorded?

Sessions may be recorded to ensure quality delivery of content and to evaluate for future programmes.

25. Can I get access to the recorded sessions?

We will provide students access to the materials used for each session (slides, project files etc.). View-Only Access to the missed sessions may be available upon request after the camp has ended.

26. Do I need to have my video on?

Yes.

27. Will I need to share my screen?

Yes.

28. Is there a dress code?

Yes. See **Camper Code of Conduct** on the [NIHERST website \(click\)](#).

29. Can I use a virtual background?

Ideally, students should be seated in a distraction-free area of their home. Virtual backgrounds can be distracting to the facilitators and other campers, so we do not encourage campers to use these.

30. Can I get a refund?

Please refer to the ***Refund Policy for Cancellations*** outlined on the [Registration Form](#).

