

NIHERST Ulti8 STEM! Vacation

Camps

VIRTUAL Vacation Camps

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What are the VIRTUAL Vacation Camps about?

This July, there is one 5-day virtual vacation camp available under the **Ultim8STEM!** umbrella.

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.

Schedule:

Camp Name	Date & Timeslots	Age Groups
Digital Whizzards	Mon 15 th – Fri 19 th July Early Birds 9:00am - 11:00am	5-6 years 7-9 years 10-13 years 14-17 years
	Mon 15 th – Fri 19 th July Later Gators 1:00pm - 3:30pm	

Content:

Descriptive Blurb	General Learning Objectives
<i>Get ready for an amazing virtual experience with Digital Whizzards! Dive into the fascinating world of AI as you explore gaming technology, machine learning, and innovative digital tools. Discover amazing AI applications through fun, interactive activities, and learn to thrive in our rapidly tech-evolving world. Get ready for an unforgettable adventure that combines learning and fun, setting you up for a future in AI.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Understand AI and Machine Learning. Campers will grasp fundamental concepts, differentiate between AI and human intelligence, explore various forms of machine learning and understand how AI learns from data.● Explore AI Applications. Campers will identify and explore various applications of AI today in daily life and across various industries; and investigate how AI is used in fields including healthcare, education and entertainment. Campers will interact with a variety of AI applications to gain experience with these platforms.● Evaluate the Usefulness of AI. Campers will analyze how AI enhances human capabilities and solves problems; and will discuss the practical benefits of AI in improving everyday tasks and addressing global challenges.● Understanding Drawbacks and Ethical Considerations. Campers will examine the limitations and potential risks associated with AI; higher age groups will explore and assess regulations and policies that govern use of AI.● Raise awareness on AI Advancement. Campers will be encouraged to explore the advancement of AI in today's world and will be encouraged to stay updated on AI advancements through hands-on experiences with AI projects and platforms and coding exercises.

2. What are the camp times?

There are (2) timeslot options available. Participants may select ONE option and will be assigned to that camp time for the week.

- **Early Birds: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**
- **Later Gators: 1:00pm - 3:30pm**

3. How can I register?

The registration process is done entirely online.

You can register using the Registration Link 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 Confirmation Email and a Welcome Note including instructions on how to set up 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.

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 one-week VIRTUAL 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, and 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?

There is one virtual camp offered. This camp will run at two times, morning and afternoon. You may only select one timeslot as the content and activities done in the AM session is repeated in the PM session. Different content and activities will be done per timeslot over the 5 days.

8. Can I sign up multiple children?

Yes, you can sign up for 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) to use 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 set up 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 (laptop or desktop) with a 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 along with the Welcome Note. Majority of the activities are digital and require online resources; few other 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 a built-in microphone is 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 set up 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 recurring 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) to be 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 and 14-17 age group sessions, but this is at the discretion of the facilitator.

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

Each **Ultim8 STEM! Virtual** camp will accommodate up to 20 campers per age group.

21. What is the ratio of counsellors to campers?

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

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 the quality delivery of content and to evaluate 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?

Only if prompted by the facilitator.

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](#).

