



What is COSAM Outreach?

“COSAM” is an acronym for the College of Sciences and Mathematics at Auburn University. COSAM Outreach is an innovative outreach department that offers special activities, workshops and programs throughout the year to the public and K-12 students and teachers. These activities are designed to provide a continuum of programs for students in various stages of their educational development.

What is Science Matters?

Science Matters is a summer enrichment program for students in grades 1 – 7 that takes science education out of the traditional classroom to spark a child's interest in the world of science and discovery. **Science Matters** offers youngsters a supercharged, summer experience. The 2025 **Science Matters** program incorporates a hands-on learning approach developed by education experts. The program features activities that are fun, engaging and inspire exploration, imagination, and creativity, while building skills such as self- esteem and teamwork. During this action-packed academy, kids can design and build, enhance their science vocabulary, design amazing critters and more!

Who should attend?

Does your child like exploring the outdoors? Is he creative or always taking things apart? Does she love solving problems? Do your kids excel at math or science? If you found yourself answering yes to any of these questions or have a rising first through seventh grade child who shows high interest or aptitude in science, math, or technology-related subjects, **Science Matters** is the place for them! They'll have a blast, and you'll feel great about positively contributing to your child's education during summer break.

When will registration open?

Online registration will open Tuesday, February 18th beginning at the below specified time for each grade level.

<https://aub.ie/sciencematters-registration>

- Rising 1st/2nd registration opens at 9 a.m.
- Rising 3rd/4th registration opens at 9:15 a.m.
- Rising 5th/6th/7th registration opens at 9:30 a.m.

When are Science Matters camps offered?

Science Matters will be offered during six weeks throughout the summer. Each week features a different theme. Your child can participate in as many weeks as they like! Below is a list of the weeks when the program is in session:

Dates	Camp Theme	Grade
June 2 - 6	Curious Curators	5/6/7
June 9 -13	I Dig Dinosaurs!	1/2
June 9 -13	Can you Dig it?	3/4
June 9 -13	Jurassic Exploration	5/6
June 9 -13	Curious Curators	4/5
June 16 - 20*	Out of this World!	1/2
June 16 - 20*	Space Odyssey	3/4
June 16 - 20*	Astro Adventures: Exploring the Universe!	5/6
June 23 - 27	Ride the Science Coaster!	1/2
June 23 - 27	Magic Makers: Adventures in Creativity and Wonder!	3/4
July 7 - 11	Storybook Puzzles	1/2
July 7 - 11	Storybook STEM	3/4
July 7 - 11	Math is Everywhere!	5/6
July 14 - 18	Under the Sea	1/2
July 14 - 18	Ocean Odyssey	3/4
July 14 - 18	Dive into the Deep Blue Sea	5/6

** We will offer Curious Curator sessions for rising 4th, 5th and 6th grade students. Curious Curator sessions will be hosted by the AU Museum of Natural History in their building (behind MW Smith on the corner of Mell St. and Samford Ave). The daily schedule will vary significantly from the other courses as it will include field trips and more intensive learning/activities. Pick-up and drop-off times/locations will be the same as those campers in other Science Matters sessions, but they will then walk to the AU Natural History Museum for their course.*

What is the daily schedule?

7:45am – 8:00am	Drop-off students (Location TBD)
8:00am – 8:30am	Thematic Activity (Cross-Curricular Activities)
8:30am – 11:30am	Science Instruction
11:45am – 1:00pm	Lunch and Outdoor Play
1:00pm – 3:30pm	Science Instruction
3:45pm– 4:00pm	Child Pick-up (location TBD)

My child is an advanced rising second grader who would prefer the course offered for 3rd/4th graders. May my child be grouped with older students?

This program has been created around a set of educational and social expectations that go beyond what a child would learn in the average classroom. To ensure the integrity of our summer programs please place your child in camp designated to their grade.

Who will be supervising my child?

All **Science Matters** instructors, counselors and staff have undergone a rigorous application and screening process following Auburn University camp personnel policies. All personnel have extensive experience working with K-12 children and have undergone a federal background check.

What makes this program different than other science programs?

At **Science Matters**, children are taught by university science staff and/or exceptional schoolteachers with significant experience relating to kids. We offer students the opportunity to explore science in a great environment (AU's main campus). Furthermore, class sizes are kept small enough to receive personal attention from the instructors. The staff to student ratio is approximately 1:10. **Science Matters** allows kids the opportunity to explore science in their own unique way yet still maintain a structured environment. Students will engage in the theme of the week through technology, art, communication skills, literature, problem solving, and hands-on science activities and experimentation.

This sounds like a great program. How much does it cost?

We have worked hard to maintain the integrity of the program yet still offer it at an affordable price. The price is \$250 per week for each child for our Science Matters Camps and \$300/week/child for our Curious Curators camps (these camps have additional field trips and resources from our typical Science Matters camps). There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$15.00 per participant.

Payment Options:

A minimum deposit of one week's tuition + service fee for each child attending should be paid at the time of registration. Payment in full is due by May 5, 2024. If payment is not received in full by this date, sessions will be forfeited to the next person on the waitlist.

Parents who are registering for multiple weeks may consider the following payment option:

Installment Option: Those families paying for two or more weeks may choose to make multiple payments.

- 1.) Parents may make as many payments as needed.
- 2.) All tuition must be paid in full prior to May 5, 2024, for all registered sessions.
- 3.) Registrants will not be billed; however, email reminders will be sent to all registered parents about deadlines.

Are scholarships available?

There are a limited number of scholarships available for children from underrepresented populations (Hispanic and African-American) who demonstrate financial need. Please contact our office for more details. In addition, you may consider contacting your community civics organizations to see if they will sponsor your child.

Please note that participation in the program qualifies as 'childcare service.' Talk to your tax agent about receiving a tax break for childcare services. Auburn University employees on the Flexible Spending tax-exempt program may be able to use their Flex account to pay their child's tuition. We will be happy to fill out any tax-related paperwork that you provide.

What is included in the program fees?

- All materials and supplies
- Experienced instructors and counselors
- Exploratory activities
- Morning and afternoon snacks

- *Science Matters* T-shirt
- *Science Matters* backpack

What happens if I register for a class that is already full?

We offer a waiting list for applicants interested in attending a class that is already full. If a spot becomes available, you will receive an email notifying you of an opening. You have 48 hours to confirm the spot before forfeiting the available seat to the next person on the waitlist.

What is the refund policy?

- **Non-refundable registration fee of \$15.00.**
- **Full Session(s) Refund** – If cancellation is made by May 5, 2025.
- **50% Refund** – If cancellation is made after May 5, 2025 and at least 2 weeks prior to camp session start date.
- **NO Refund** – If there is a no show or cancellation is made within two weeks prior to the camp session start date.

Science Matters Refund Policy			
Session Dates	Due date to receive a 100% refund	Due date to receive a 50% refund	No refund available
June 2 - 6	Monday, May 5, 2025	Monday, May 19, 2025	Tuesday, May 20, 2025
June 19- 13	Monday, May 5, 2025	Monday, May 26, 2025	Tuesday, May 27, 2025
June 16 – 20*	Monday, May 5, 2025	Monday, June 2, 2025	Tuesday, June 3, 2025
June 23 - 27	Monday, May 5, 2025	Monday, June 9, 2025	Tuesday, June 10, 2025
July 7 - 11	Monday, May 5, 2025	Monday, June 23, 2025	Tuesday, June 24, 2025
July 14 - 18	Monday, May 5, 2025	Monday, June 30, 2025	Tuesday, July 1, 2025
\$15 Non-refundable Registration Fee			
All balances must be paid by May 5, 2025, or any unpaid sessions will be forfeited to the next registrant on the waitlist. Payments are applied to sessions in chronological order.			

*Science Matters camp **will be held** on the Juneteenth holiday.

Still have questions? Contact Kristen Jackson at 334-844-8123, kristenjackson@auburn.edu