

HELPFUL HINTS

LESSONS



Tahoe Donner Downhill Ski Resort specializes in teaching first-timers and novices and is committed to being the best place for family fun and learning in the Tahoe region. Listed below are some tips to make your experience as enjoyable as possible.

- Purchase a ski or snowboard package (includes lift ticket, lesson and rental equipment) at our ticket and lesson location. Reservations are highly recommended.
- Children must be able to use bathroom independently, be potty trained, and no pull-ups allowed.
- Meet at the appropriate Learning Center 10 minutes before your lesson starts.
- Be sure to receive your child claim check and have it when picking up your child at the end of the lesson.
- Please keep in mind that the ski lessons are physically demanding, and your child must be willing to ski and separate from you. We recommend a hearty breakfast to start the day.
- Allow a least 1 hour before your lesson to be fitted with your rental equipment on most days. **Allow up to 2 hours on weekends and holidays, so you can make your lesson on time.**
- Be sure to have the appropriate clothing for skiing and riding. Key essentials are gloves, eyewear, jacket, and snow pants. Kids taking lessons are required to have eyewear, water proof clothing, gloves, and helmet to participate. This will help make their first experience great!
- Parents must remain at Tahoe Donner Downhill Ski Resort throughout the whole lesson time. Parents can watch their child's lesson, ski/ride, take a lesson, or enjoy the sundeck, fire pits, cafe or lodge. Parents may not leave the facilities while their children are in lessons.
- Ask questions! Our staff is here to help and will do everything possible to make your day on the slopes a memorable one.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Safety, Fun, and Learning!
- Half day lessons (ages 5 + up) have 1 hour 45 minutes of skiing (breaks will be given if needed)
- Full day lessons have up to 5 hours of skiing with a lunch break (extra breaks will be given if needed)
- Mini Snowflakes (ages 3-4) have 1 hour 15 minutes of skiing (breaks will be given if needed)

PARENT TIPS!

- Parents who wish to watch their children in class should watch from a distance to help keep the child's attention on the instructor.
- Remember, children all learn at a different rates and weather conditions play a big part.
- Please arrive 10 minutes early to pick up your child if you would like to talk to your child's instructor.
- Be supportive and encouraging with your child no matter how they do in class.
- Each child will receive a 'report card' at the end of the day so that parents will know what skills were worked on in the class. Instructors will also make suggestions for the next step of instruction.
- Please note that these lessons are on-snow physically demanding lessons and not day care. Participants will be on the snow in active outdoor activities.
- If your child is in an ALL-DAY LESSON and is allergic or just a picky eater, please communicate your concerns when making the reservation and when you check in.

WHAT TO BRING!

- Sunscreen above SPF 15
- Appropriate layered clothing to be outdoors for several hours, waterproof outer layers, no need for a hat because HELMETS ARE REQUIRED (Helmets provided in lesson packages in rentals)
- Waterproof gloves or mittens. If it is snowing, consider bringing a second pair.
- Goggles are required on a windy or snowy day and goggles or sunglasses on a sunny day.
- Don't forget to add a snack in your child's pocket.

LESSON FAQs

Do the children ski all day? Do they have playtime?

Yes, the children ski or snowboard throughout their lesson. Our programs are physically demanding but we do have classes take breaks when needed.

What if my child doesn't want to ski anymore after the lesson starts?

We try to encourage the child to ski. If they truly do not want to participate, we may then call the parent for encouragement or to be picked up.

Can my 3-year-old take a nap in the afternoon?

Tahoe Donner Ski School does not offer day care, so we do not nap. We offer four lessons for 3-year-olds throughout the day.

Can my 5-year-old be in my 12-year-old's class? They are both beginners.

Cognitive and physical skills are different for each age group, and we find that learning takes place with the appropriate age groups. Please speak with a supervisor upon arrival if you have any questions.

Do you take the 3-year-olds on chairlifts?

Yes, when they can turn and stop. We review chairlift safety with all children.

Can I pick up my child for lunch and bring him or her back for the afternoon lesson?

It is not impossible, but we do try to discourage this due to time constraints and separation issues.

Can I have lunch with my child?

There is not enough room in our lunchroom for parents to eat with their children. A parent may come to check on the child but should not stay.

Can I pick up my child early from the lesson?

Yes, if it does not disrupt the class. Parent needs to have the claim check. The instructor may not have time to discuss child's progress unless the parent comes back after the class is over.

What time should I pick up my child from group lesson? Where is pickup?

Mini Snowflakes Mornings: 10:30AM & 12:15PM

Mini Snowflakes Afternoons: 2:15PM & 4:00PM

Ages 5-12

Morning: 12:00PM

Full day: 3:45PM

Afternoon: 3:45PM

Students in Mini Snowflakes and Snowflakes lessons get picked up at the Snowflakes Learning Center. All other students in lessons get picked up at the Learning Center between Snowbird and Eagle Rock chairlifts.

Can I keep my child's equipment after the lesson?

The equipment is good for the full day. Equipment needs to be returned by 4:15PM. If child is taking multiple lessons with us, they may check their skis overnight.

I am going into town or possibly Reno, is that ok?

Parents or guardians of children under the age of 6 are required to remain at Tahoe Donner. Parents or guardians should not leave the area in harsh weather and/or bad road conditions.

What is the latest time I can arrive in the morning?

The latest time to arrive with a reservation is 1 hour prior to your lesson start time on non-holidays and non-weekends. During holidays and weekends, arrive at least 2 hours with reservation prior to your lesson start time. Without a reservation, guests should arrive at Ticket Office around 8AM. We highly recommend making an advanced reservation to ensure your child a spot in one of our lessons.