



Boston Explorers

Celebrating 12 Years

2011-2022

The mission of Boston Explorers is for urban youth to explore Boston, inspire one another and engage their curiosity.

A mission that was inspired by different aspects of Alphonse's mother & father.

Mom

Scrappy, committed to equity, always spoke her mind, taught her children how to live fearlessly in the world, and approached challenges and obstacles in life with humor and wit.

Dad

An explorer: no monument, roadside marker, historic trail and natural trail went unobserved. He instilled in Alphonse his love for carpentry and working with his hands, and believed that the best way to learn was to just roll up your sleeves and do it.



Our vision

Boston is a world-class city that people from all over the world come to visit. Yet, much of its economic and cultural wealth have been inaccessible to our families. Boston Explorers was founded in 2011 on the belief that kids come to “own a place” by experiencing it. The camp is a natural extension of Alphonse’s ranging interests in Boston history, architecture, and geography, and of his commitment to social justice and equity in our city. His dual belief in experiential learning and equity in education was the inspiration for this city-wide camp where all children, regardless of background, family means or zip code, would have full and equitable access to our city—its rich history, culture, and commercial and natural resources.

Creativity, hands-on learning, exercise, building character, and freedom, choice and spontaneous play.

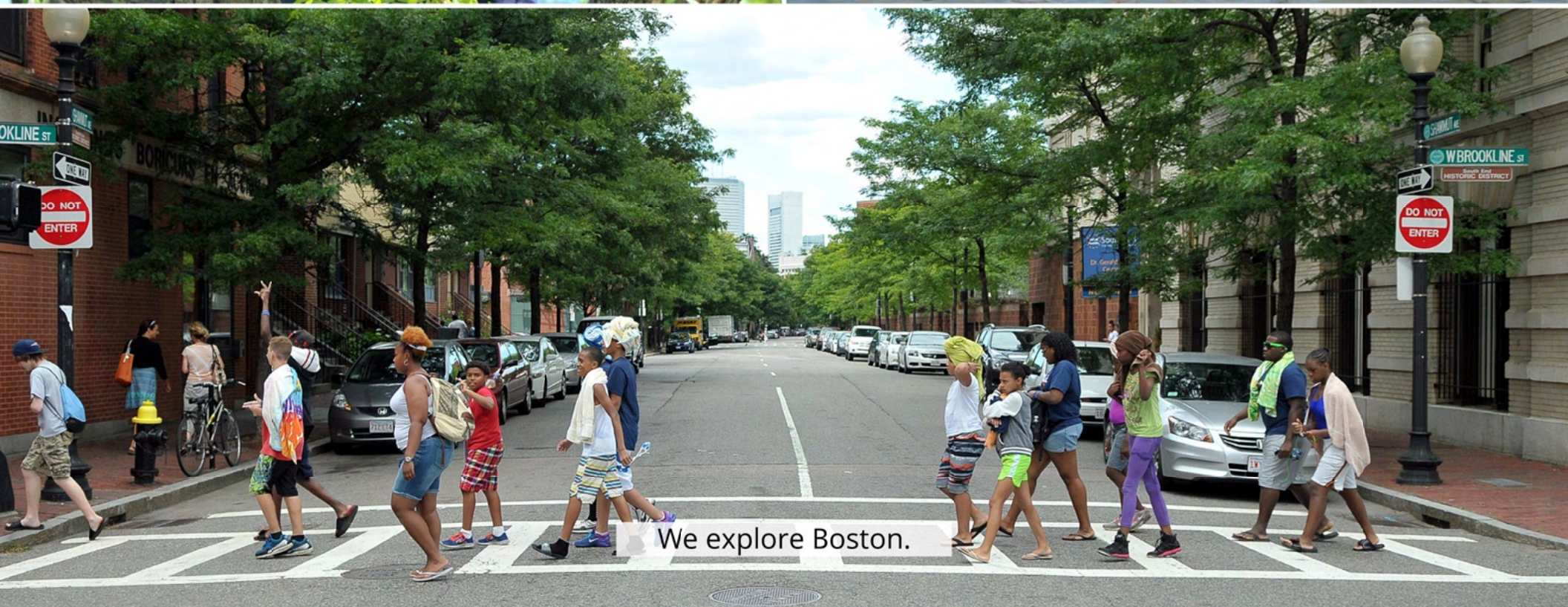
These have been the guiding principles of Boston Explorers since the pilot program in 2011 with 11 children and one week.



Today, Boston Explorers is a bustling summer and out-of-school program. Many things changed through the years: staff, programming, and the base camp location. Yet, the important things never changed: we have always been electronic-free and interage. Choice and spontaneous play have been core programming elements. Children build relationships with each other and with caring adults.

And we still do the Four Things every day.











We make things with our hands.











And we are kind to everyone.

	WEEKS	CHILDREN
2011	1	11
2012	3	37
2013	4	110
2014	7	110
2015	7	125
2016	7	130
2017	7	145
2018	7	170
2019	8	215
2020	7	70
2021	6	60
2022	8	130

WHERE WE'VE BEEN



Boston Explorers combines the best of summer camp-- creative, spontaneous play, and hands-on activities-- with the sights and sounds of the city. Campers ages 6-15 are on the move, visiting historic sites, natural spaces, buildings and waterways. On foot, bike, boat, and public transit: Boston Explorers is about utilizing all our city has to offer.

Boston Explorers Over the Years

