JPMS Outdoor Education Planner

Volume 7, Issue 1 **2017-2018**

John Poole Middle School Goes to Smith Center

September 18, 19, and 20th

Outdoor Education can be one of the most beneficial and memorable experiences in your child's school career. At camp, we will be able to do things that we can't do in a regular classroom. The classroom teachers are still responsible for instruction, but the classroom becomes the outdoors.

Students attend activity sessions throughout the day to study things we can only study outside.

This year's activities include:

Predator/Prey Activity

Forestry/Nature Study

Confidence Course Activities

Nature Crafts & Games

Night Hiking & Campfire

Astronomy

Geocaching

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Outdoor Education Objectives

1. Cultivate students' awareness, knowledge, appreciation, and concern for the natural environment
2. Motivate students to develop positive attitudes toward learning through varied experiences in the natural environment
3. Provide students with many direct experiences in using scientific processes such as observing, measuring, classifying, hypothesizing and predicting
4. Make the students' school program more meaningful by applying the knowledge and skills acquired in the classroom to real-life situations beyond the classroom
5. Help students to learn to live democratically and responsibly for the welfare of the total group
6. Improve human relations among students and between children and adults
7. Promote students' physical fitness
8. Instill a sense of responsibility to the environment and promote positive actions towards it

We Need Donations:

Graham crackers

Marshmallows

Hershey bars

Rubber Bands

Give them in to your Social Studies teacher.

Parent Informational Meeting

A meeting for all sixth grade parents will be held on September 14th prior to Back to School Night. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

What to Bring:

Student's clothing and possessions must be confined to **one piece** of luggage which he/she can carry (in addition to his/her bag of bedding). Each child will have his/her own bed but should bring 1) a pillow AND 2) sheets and a blanket OR a sleeping bag in addition to the suitcase. Please wrap all bedding in one large plastic bag. **All possessions should be clearly labeled.** It is not necessary to purchase new clothing. In fact, old clothing is more appropriate for most outdoor activities. ***Students are required to wear long pants at all times while outdoors.***

Trash bag for laundry (kitchen trashcan size)
Plastic bags for wet clothing items (grocery bag size)
Gym shoes/sneakers
Jacket/sweater/sweatshirt
Jeans or other pants (3 pairs)
Pajamas
Raincoat or poncho with hat
Pillow
Sheets and blanket OR sleeping bag
Shirts-long sleeve and short sleeve
Tall Socks (6 pairs)
Toilet articles: bath towel, wash cloth, comb/brush, soap, toothbrush/paste, deodorant, tissues
underwear (several sets)
hat
flip flops (for the shower)
pen/pencil
bag lunch (for Monday)

Optional Equipment;

Binoculars	Watch	Insect repellant
Camera/film	Deck of cards	gardening gloves
Compass	Shower cap	
Flashlight	Stationery/stamps	
Lip balm	Sunscreen	

Strongly suggested—tick repellant and reusable water bottle

Things not to bring:

aerosol sprays	**music players**
curling iron	**electronic games**
knives	**sandals**
gum, candy	**soft drinks**
food	**matches**
toys	**cell phones**

Mail

We will have mail call nightly. Please send your child's mail to:

John Poole Sixth Grade
c/o
Lathrop E. Smith Center
5110 Meadowside Lane
Rockville, MD 20855

Phone

Students will not be permitted to use the phone. If your child becomes ill, you will be notified by a teacher. The camp emergency # is 301-924-3123.

Questions ???

Please contact Ms. Brooks or Mr. Mattingly
(301) 972-7979
Carissa_L_BrooksJones@mcpsmd.org
Edward_J_Mattingly@mcpsmd.org

Outdoor Education Expectations

In order to facilitate learning and enjoyment for all campers, students will be asked to follow standards that are consistent with our standards at school. Students who violate the school discipline policy or the camp standards will be sent home.
We are asking that parents and students sign this form indicating that they are aware of these standards. We are also providing a list for parents as a reminder of what the sixth grade team needs from them.

Students will:
Follow the PRIDE expectations, which include:
Be respectful of others and their property.
Remain in the camp boundaries at all times.
Remain in their assigned instructional group.
Follow directions given by the adult in charge.
Only enter their cabins with an adult present.
Participate in scheduled activities.
Show proper behavior (no horseplay, pillow fights, etc.).

Parents will:
Supervise the packing of their child's luggage.
Agree to pick up their child from Smith Center if necessary.
Notify staff of any special needs for their child.
Send medications and appropriate signed medical forms to school by September 11th.
Send permission slip and fees to school by September 11th.
Provide a bag lunch on Monday, September 18th, or order a school bag lunch through Mrs. Brooks or Mr. Mattingly (by Wednesday, September 8th).
Provide for transportation to school on September 18th between 7:40 and 8:00 am.
Provide for transportation home from school at 1:00pm on September 20th .

Fees:

The total cost of the outdoor education program is $86.00.
($76.00 per child for Smith Center, additional $10.00 provides for s'mores, tye dye t-shirts, and other miscellaneous items)
Please send cash, pay online, or a check payable to JPMS no later than September 11th.
If this fee imposes a financial hardship on any family, confidential arrangements can be made through Mrs. Brooks and Mr. Mattingly, Mr. Maruskin, or Mr. Sinclair.

No child should be denied this valuable learning experience for financial reasons.

I understand the student expectations and agree to follow the camp standards.
I understand that if I do not follow the expectations at camp, I will be sent home.

Student Signature_____

I understand the parental expectations.
I understand that I cannot participate as a volunteer unless I have submitted a volunteer registration form and a chaperone disclosure form by September 11th.

Parent Signature_____

Chaperone Information ~ Page 1

We need many parent volunteers, both male and female, to make the Outdoor Education program run effectively. We have various volunteer opportunities available, which include the following various responsibilities.

All chaperones must complete an online Child Abuse and Neglect training. This course takes about 45 minutes to complete. Staff will be available prior to Back to School Night on September 14th at 6:00 pm to assist and answer any questions.

Monday Daytime 9:30am to 5:00pm

- Load luggage at JPMS (9:30am) and unload luggage at Smith Center (follow buses there)
- Eat lunch with students (bring bag lunch)
- Supervise unpacking in cabins
- Supervise afternoon activity
- Supervise cabin time before dinner

Monday Evening 5:30 to 9:30pm

- Set up evening activities
- Supervise evening activities
- Supervise snack time

Monday Overnight 9:30pm to 8:00am Tuesday Morning

- Supervise cabin time and sleeping

Tuesday Morning 8:30am to 12:00pm

- Supervise morning activities
- Supervise cabin time before lunch

Tuesday Afternoon 12:30 to 5:00pm

- Supervise Student Service Learning activities
- Supervise afternoon activity
- Supervise cabin time before dinner

Tuesday Evening 5:30 to 9:30pm

- Supervise snack time

Tuesday Overnight 9:30pm to 8:00am Wednesday Morning

- Supervise cabin time and sleeping

Wednesday Morning 8:30 to 11:30am

- Assist with packing in cabins
- Supervise morning activities
- Supervise students before lunch

Chaperones Disclosure Form and Informational Brochure
In order to ensure the safety of every child at Outdoor Education, Montgomery County Public Schools requires all parent volunteers to disclose any criminal charges or convictions. A chaperone disclosure form is printed on the reverse of your volunteer registration. Please ensure that both sides of this document are completed and submitted no later than September 9th. Volunteers also need to review the MCPS informational brochure regarding volunteering.

* All parent chaperones are required to be fingerprinted by MCPS.**

Sleeping Arrangements
Parent volunteers sleep in the same rooms as the students, with separate cabins for men and women. If a male parent accompanies his daughter to Outdoor Ed, he will sleep in the boys' cabins, while moms whose sons attend Outdoor Ed will sleep in the girls' cabins. Parents will need to bring the same materials as the students, including clothing for the outdoors, toiletries and towels, pillows, and bedding (either a sleeping bag or sheets and a blanket).

Clothing
Chaperones will participate with students in most activities, so volunteers need to dress like the students, complete with sturdy shoes, layered clothing, and long pants. No shorts are permitted for outdoor activities. Chaperones should also bring a water bottle and rain gear because activities will occur rain or shine.

Transportation
Chaperones will need to provide their own transportation to and from the Smith Center. The address, telephone number, and driving directions are listed below.

Lathrop E. Smith Environmental Education Center
5110 Meadowside Lane
Rockville, MD 20855

Phone: 301-924-3123
Fax: 301-924-3149

FROM POOLESVILLE: Traveling South on I-270 take the exit for I-370 going East towards the Metro. Take the Shady Grove Road East exit. Pass Midcounty Highway. Take a right onto Muncaster Mill Road. After Avery Road traffic light, turn right onto Meadowside Lane into the park. At the L.E. Smith Environmental Education Center sign, turn right.

Chaperone Registration Form

Thank you for volunteering to help with Outdoor Education!
Parent Name _____
Student _____
Email Address
_____
Cell Phone Number
_____
Work Phone Number
_____
Please indicate which shifts you would like to volunteer:

_____ I would like to participate in the entire experience.

_____Monday Daytime 9:30am to 5:00pm

_____ Monday Evening 5:30 to 9:30pm

_____ Monday Overnight 9:30pm to 8:00am Tuesday Morning

_____ Tuesday Morning 8:30am to 12:00pm

_____ Tuesday Afternoon 12:30 to 5:00pm

_____ Tuesday Evening 5:30 to 9:30pm

_____ Tuesday Overnight 9:30pm to 8:00am Wednesday Morning

_____ Wednesday Morning 8:30 to 11:30am

Notes for Ms. Brooks/Mr. Mattingly

_____

_____

_____

Please sign below to indicate your understanding of the following:

- I have read the MCPS informational brochure and **signed and attached the volunteer disclosure form**.
- I understand and agree to the sleeping arrangements and luggage expectations.
- I understand and agree to the clothing expectations for volunteers.

Signature_____ Date _____

Outdoor Environmental Education Program
Parent/Guardian Permission

MCPS
CLEAR FORM

MCPS Form 345-7
October 2015

Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland 20850

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE PARENT/GUARDIAN: Please complete this form and return it to your child's teacher. The teacher will deliver the completed form to the health assistant or nurse upon arrival at the outdoor education center.

Student's Name _____ Birth Date ____/____/____

Address _____

School Name _____

Please check all that apply:

- ❑ My child needs medication. (Parent is required to furnish medication in the original properly labeled container, correctly authorized on MCPS Form 525-13: *Authorization to Administer Prescribed Medication*. No medicine will be given that is not in compliance with MCPS Regulation JPC-RA: *Administration of Medication to Students*.
- ❑ My child should take the following over-the-counter medications _____. I have submitted MCPS Form 525-13: *Authorization to Administer Prescribed Medication*. (A doctor's signature is **not** required for over-the-counter medications at the outdoor environmental education program **only.)**
- ❑ My child is allergic to insect bites to the extent that he/she needs medical treatment. (If epinephrine is required, attach MCPS Form 525-14: *Emergency Care for Management of Anaphylaxis.)*
- ❑ My child has an anaphylactic reaction to _____ food(s). Attach MCPS Form 525-14: *Emergency Care for Management of Anaphylaxis* if epinephrine is required.
- ❑ My child is allergic to _____.
- ❑ My child has special dietary requirements _____. (Some special diets will require that parents supply some food.)
- ❑ My child has other special conditions of which you should be aware. They are: _____

_____

Date of student's last Tetanus shot ____/____/____

INSURANCE INFORMATION

Medical Insurance Carrier's Name _____

Group/Organization _____

Policy Number _____

If Family is member of HMO/PPO:

Name of Group _____

Office Used _____ I.D. #_____

Telephone ____ - ____ - ____

Name of Family Doctor _____

Doctor Telephone ____ - ____ - ____

OTHER INFORMATION

Parent's/Guardian's Home Telephone ____ - ____ - ____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Work____ - ____ - ____ Cell____ - ____ - ____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Work____ - ____ - ____ Cell____ - ____ - ____

Emergency Contact Name _____

Emergency Contact Telephone ____ - ____ - ____

Emergency Contact Name _____

Emergency Contact Telephone ____ - ____ - ____

❑ Check if your child is serving as a high school student assistant and list school your child attends:

_____

I give permission for my child to participate in the outdoor education program described in the accompanying letter which I have read. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the staff of the outdoor education center to secure proper treatment for my child.

Parent/Guardian Name (please print) _____

Signature, Parent/Guardian _____ Date ____/____/____