



TAKING LEARNING OUTDOORS



Outdoor Education Information Guide

www.collincountyadventurecamp.org

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To book your school: Contact the Outdoor Education Director who will work with your lead teacher or administrator to plan the basics of your trip. These basics will include: • Available Dates • Length of Program • Selection of Classes and Activities • Number of Participants • Special Requests (Special/restricted diets • Limited mobility • Learning disabilities)



Reservation: Requests can be made up to 12 months in advance. Groups using the camp during the current school year have the right of first refusal the following year. We engage students in Grades 1 through 12 in outdoor education programs at our facility on weekdays according to the academic calendar of Collin County schools. All school groups are welcome regardless of public or private status, as well as religious affiliation. In order to guarantee adequate staff availability for your group, we will contract you for a minimum number of program participants. While we cannot guarantee exclusive use of the facility for your group, we typically try to pair up schools from the same district in order to adhere to specific district policies regarding student, teacher, and parent interaction. Meal planning is done in coordination with the Food Service Director.

Cost, Deposits, and Billing will be discussed as we work to set dates, programs, and number of participants.

Chaperone Ratio: 1 chaperone per 6 students (2 chaperones/12 campers in a cabin) MORE ADULTS WELCOME!

Learning Groups: 20-24 students preferred. We trust that you know which students work well together, so it is up to the school to determine how to split students. Most schools take one cabin of boys and one cabin of girls for learning groups.

Nurse: Each School is responsible for providing a nurse that meets your district's policy. There will be an exam room assigned to each campus furnished with lockable shelves and refrigerator. The nurse will be responsible for communicating with teachers and parents any injuries or illness, as well as make the decision whether to transport an individual in a medical emergency.

Cabins: Camper Cabins are 2 sided 'duplex' building that sleep up to 14 (12 campers and 2 chaperones.) The 2 'cabins' sides are referred to separately. (Ex: Redbud A and Redbud B are 2 cabins) A cabin list will be sent to the lead contact for each school so that you will know which cabins have been assigned to the school. Schools decide how to split up the students into cabins.

Teacher Cabins Sleep up to 16 and have a central meeting room w/ couches and chairs. *The Nurse has the option to stay in teacher cabins or in the infirmary with a private room and bathroom.

Online Resources: Packing List • Driving Directions • "Hold Harmless" Form • "Student Field Guide"

Standard Programs:

3-day/2-night Outdoor Education Program: Our most popular program, offering teachers the choice of four classes and two night activities. Utilizing your students' curiosity about the natural world, our instructors will guide your students through hands-on activities that engage students in higher-level thinking, problem solving, and personal growth.

2-day/1-night Outdoor Education Program: A quality outdoor education experience when time and funds may be limited. Students will participate in two or three core classes and one night activity. Since instructional time is extremely valuable, the 2-day/1-night program is fast-paced and energetic. Students will be engaged in instruction and thrive in the natural setting of our outdoor school.

1-day Programs: We offer various 1-day programs that will be fun and interactive for your students. Teachers can choose classes or recreational activities, but the programming is flexible and can be catered to your needs.

Most Popular Classes and Recreational Activities:

Core Classes follow the academic standards found in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) guidelines and a constant thought to connecting camp experiences to the ever evolving fields of S.T.E.M.

Curriculum Based Activities

Forest Adventure (2.5 hrs.): Hike through the forest, interact as an ecologist, and learn basic tree identification, the carbon dioxide/oxygen cycle, and how man can and has affected the environment.

Inspired by Nature (2.5 hrs.): Express the wonder of nature through poetry. Learn imagery and draft your very own poem surrounded by inspiring nature.

Race through Time (2.5 hrs.): 'Race' through a team-guided journey in order to discover how the earth changes over time. **replaces Exploring the Land*

Water Lab (2.5 hrs. **paired with canoeing and fishing*): Learn about how the water cycle and watersheds affect drinking water in their area, and determine the health of Lake Lindberg by searching for local macro-invertebrates.

Texas Living History (1 Day program): Travel back in time and become a settler who is looking to buy land in North Texas. **Program is designed for 4th grade students studying TX history.*

Science Day at Camp (1 Day program): Students Explore and Discover as they adventure through classes designed to connect classroom and nature. **Program currently developed, around 2nd and 3rd grade science TEKS, but is available for any age group.*

Night Activities

NSI: Grab your thinking caps and help discover how humans can better protect the animals of the Blackland Prairie. This class will also be paired with a creative S.T.E.M activity.

Camp Fire: S'mores, songs, and skits around a blazing fire what more could you ask for to make your camp experience complete? Will include stargazing when possible. ** We provide skewers and firewood, and s'mores.*

Night Hike: Explore the trails after dark and "see" how things change.

Recreational and Teambuilding Activities

Challenge Course: We offer a wide array of challenges that are designed to teach students the importance of thinking outside the box and working together. *(Challenge Course will be paired with either archery or climbing wall as recreational activities. Groups that choose to do archery and climbing wall will do one activity during the challenge course class and one as an afternoon free time activity.)*

Archery: Students have the opportunity to hit a Bulls-eye in this camp classic.

Rock Wall: Students will feel that the sky is the limit on our 35ft wall. **Participants wear a harness and helmet and are held by a belay system (safety rope)*

Canoeing: Exploring the Lake Lindberg ecosystem in a team-powered boat.

Fishing: Get up close and personal with the fish in our lake. All fishing is catch and release.

Outdoor Living Skills (1 – 2.5 hours): Safely build a fire, identify edible plants, orient yourself with a compass and make a shelter, because it is always best to be prepared.



If you have a class you would like to see or changes you would like made for your school, we can help tailor any program to fit your needs.

Daily Schedule:

Day 1:

Arrive at 11:00-11:30am: Buses should drop off students at their cabin area (first left as you enter camp). Staff will meet you on the road near the cabins to help you find where to go. Adults unload luggage on the outside of the circle drive (departing school's luggage will be on the inside of the circle) *many groups find that color coding luggage with ribbons or duct tape according to cabin groups makes belongings easier to identify.

Lunch: Eat a sack lunch upon arrival *students and adults will need to bring a lunch. After lunch there should be enough time to get settled into the cabin before orientation begins.

Prepare for Class: Please be sure that students have everything they need for class (i.e. water bottle, field guide, pencil, appropriate clothing and shoes). Class will begin immediately after orientation.

Orientation: The first scheduled activity. The students will have orientation with the CCAC instructors. The chaperones will meet with one of the OE Coordinators. We recommend splitting teachers up to get all of the information. Staff will be there to direct you to the correct room or location. Amy will meet with the lead teacher at the beginning of orientation to collect final numbers and Hold Harmless forms.

First Class – approximately 2.5 hrs.

Free Time: After the first class, students will have about an hour and a half of "free time". Some groups may also be doing the climbing wall or archery during this time, depending on their schedule.

Dinner: The school will line up in front of the Dining Hall (in the courtyard) by cabin groups. A CCAC staff will be there to greet the groups and let them into the dining hall.

Evening activities will take place after dinner. Your schedule will tell you exactly where to meet for those activities. Students may want to bring flashlights, bug spray, or warmer clothes depending on the season.

Day 2:

Breakfast

2nd Class

Lunch

Quiet Time

3rd Class

Free Time

Dinner

Camp Fire

Free Time:

The choice is yours!

This is a great time to visit the camp store where T-shirts, snacks, refreshing drinks, and camp souvenirs be purchased. Explore the Discovery Room. Come play in the courtyard where tetherball, four-square, and a gaga pit can be found. There are hiking trails, a GPS course, and scavenger hunts available.

Day 3:

Groups need to move luggage out, of the cabins and into the inside of the circle drive, before going to breakfast (so that our cleaning crew can get the cabins ready for the next group.) *If there is rain we will designate a cabin to put the luggage into so it will not be sitting out in the rain.

Breakfast

Last Class

Lunch and Camp Evaluation

Load Busses at the dining hall around 12:30pm. The busses will then drive you down to the cabin areas to load your luggage and depart for school. We have found that this is the best way to do this since groups are coming in and out at the same time. By the time your school goes back to the cabin area, the arriving school will be going to orientation.

