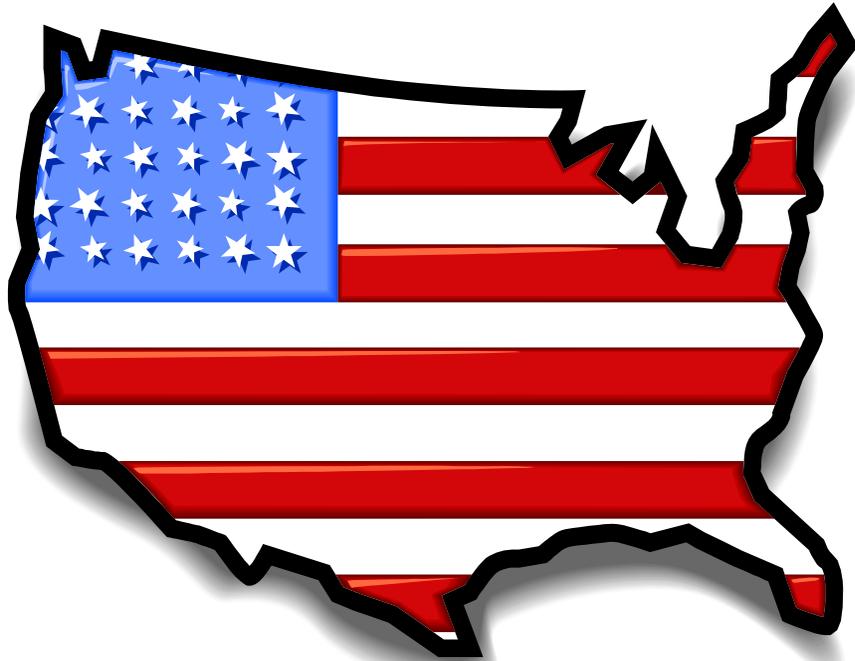


The Outdoor Campus Middle School



Spring 2016



"Healing the broken bond between our young and nature is in our self-interest, not only because aesthetics or justice demand it, but also because our mental, physical, and spiritual health depend upon it."

—from ***Last Child in the Woods***

By Richard Louv

Spring Middle School Days

One of our most popular programs for middle school students is Middle School Day. Students spend an entire day at The Outdoor Campus, rotating through 5 different stations. Descriptions for station options follow. Be sure to read the registration information. Call (605) 362-2777 for more information.

The mission of middle school days is to provide an opportunity for students in grades **6-8** to experience a variety of hands-on activities that will enhance their own sense of place in the natural world. In addition, they will be exposed to several skills common to South Dakota outdoors, such as fishing, outdoor cooking, and hiking. Scientific procedures including collection, identification and evaluation are also taught.

How many students can come each day?

The Outdoor Campus can accommodate up to 80 students each day. Larger schools may need to come two separate days. Smaller schools can combine grade levels to bring the maximum number or may be able to join another smaller school for the day.

When are Middle School Days?

This spring, Middle School Days will be held on the following **Thursdays: March 31st, April 7th, 14th, May 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th.**

How long will we be at The Outdoor Campus?

Students will be at The Outdoor Campus from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. During that time, they will rotate through 5 stations. Also included is a lunch break.

What are my responsibilities?

In addition to preparing your students for this experience, you must provide at least 5 chaperones. The Outdoor Campus staff will visit briefly with your chaperones the morning of your visit. Each student, chaperone and teacher must also bring a sack lunch.

How many times can I come to Middle School Days?

Due to the popularity of this day, schools are allowed to participate once a school year. We do offer these days every season (Fall, Winter, and Spring).

Requirements

Because our building is funded by the sale of hunting and fishing licenses we now require fishing and archery to be stations for Middle School Days.

Spring Program Options

The following options will be available for participating schools. Once selected, you will meet with the program coordinator and decide which sessions you would like offered. In the event of inclement weather, alternative sessions will be planned at the discretion of The Outdoor Campus staff.

Outdoor Cooking

This session focuses on the basics of fire building and safety, the how-to of outdoor cooking and testing some tasty snacks.

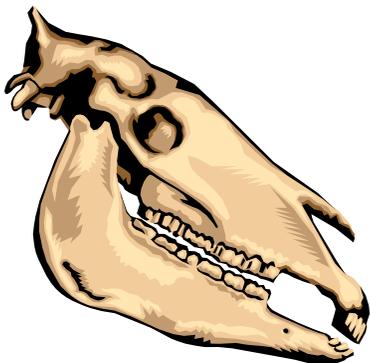


Fishing (Required)

Learn the basics of fishing, necessary equipment, casting techniques and knot tying. Then try your luck fishing in our pond.

Nature Hike

Practice observation skills and investigate nature at The Outdoor Campus. Hike on the trails or through the prairie and discover who shares this space.



Skins and Skulls

Enter the animal kingdom and investigate who eats what through the use of skulls. Identify adaptations that aid in survival in the animal world.

Owls: Who Gives A Hoot?

Enter the world of the owl—modern day raptor. Learn about food chains and dissect an owl pellet to determine what was eaten.



Wildlife ID

This session will focus on identifying South Dakota wildlife and what they do in the winter. Students will also try to identify tracks made by common South Dakota animals.

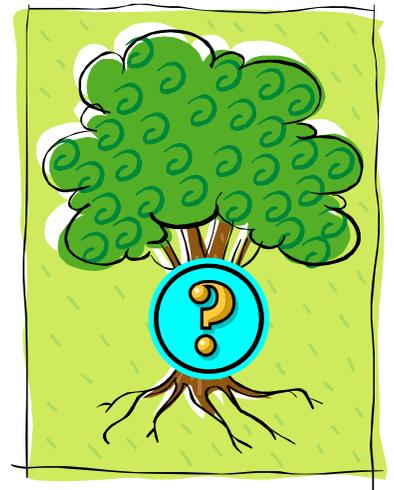


Orienteering

Learn map reading and how to use it in finding one's way. Experience the orienteering course at The Outdoor Campus.

Mystery Tree Challenge

Join in the fun of investigating plant classification. Discover how scientists classify trees. Be a tree detective, sorting through clues to identify your tree "sample."

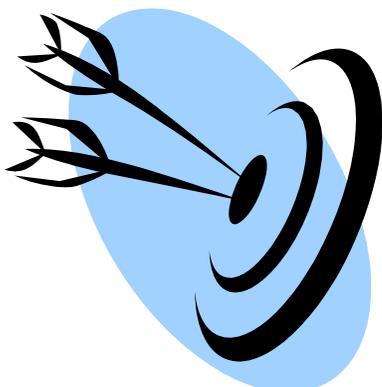
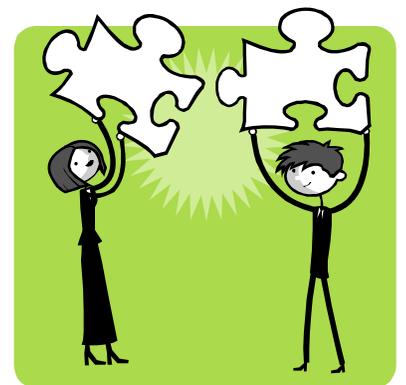


Wetland Ecology

South Dakota's wetlands are special habitats important to wildlife and humans. Explore the ecology of our very own wetland environment.

Going WILD at TOC

Students will participate in one or two community building activities from the Project Adventure company. The activities promote teamwork, cooperation, communication and much more!



Archery (Required)

Introducing students to a lifetime sport such as archery has benefits inside and outside the classroom. This class will teach your students the basics of archery in a fun and safe environment. Getting kids active in the outdoors makes it more likely that they will serve as stewards of our state's bountiful natural resources as well.



Application Procedure for Spring Middle School Programs

We will be offering middle school days 7 Thursdays this season. They are : **March 31st, April 7th, 14th, May 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th.**

1. Fill out the application form completely. You can drop it off at The Outdoor Campus in person; mail it to 4500 S. Oxbow Ave., Sioux Falls, SD, 57106; fax it to (605) 362-2704; pull up our website at www.outdoorcampus.org and complete it online.

This must be done by 5:00 p.m. on February 10th to get in the first drawing.

2. Each teacher must apply for their own classroom.
3. Each grade is allowed to attend one middle school program per school year from this brochure.
4. Each teacher is allowed to attend one program per school year from this brochure.
5. On February 11, beginning at 8:00 am, Campus staff will select names randomly and number them in the order drawn.
6. The spring schedule will then be filled in beginning with application number 1 and continuing until all slots are filled or all applications are scheduled. Any remaining slots will be filled on a first-come first-served basis.
7. Everyone will be contacted the following week concerning registration.

Application for Spring Middle School Programs

Contact Person: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

School: _____

Ad- _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____

Number of students: _____ Grade: _____

Special Needs: (Please indicate any students with mobility, health, allergies, disability or other concerns.)

Circle the dates you *can*

March 31st

April 7th

April 14th

May 5th

May 12th

May 19th

May 26th

Activity Choices

1. Fishing (Required)

Rainy Day

2. Archery (Required)

1.

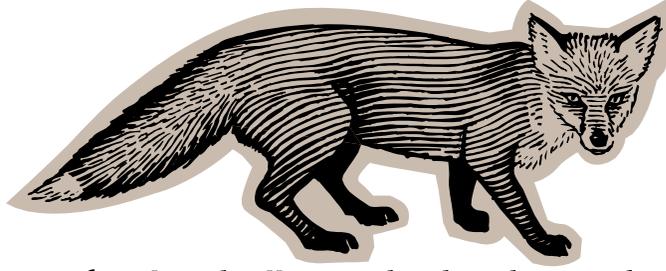
3.

2.

4.

5.

Borrow These Teaching Tools



The Outdoor Campus has crates of pelts, skulls, tracks, books, and activities available for use in classrooms, libraries, camps, Scout and church groups, or after-school programs.

Mammal Crate A

Endangered Species Crate

Prairie Crate

Bird Box

Beaver Crate

GPS Crate I & II

Wetlands Crate*

Mammal Crate B

Grasslands Bag

Tree Trunk

Bat Crate

Coyote Crate

In town Mammal Crate*

Camera Crate

**Means the crate must be picked up and cannot be shipped.*

A \$75 deposit in the form of a check or money order to The Outdoor Campus is required for each crate requested and will be held until the crate and contents are returned in good condition. The deposit will then be returned or shredded.

Contact information is below.

For more information on any of these opportunities, contact Hilary Fernholz at 605-362-2777 or hilary.fernholz@state.sd.us. These classes are funded by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish & Parks.



Contact Information

The Outdoor Campus

4500 S. Oxbow Ave

Sioux Falls, SD 57106

(605)362-2777

Fax (605)362-2704

Email: toc@state.sd.us

Web site: www.outdoorcampus.org