Outdoor Environmental Education Program
Outdoor Education in Montgomery County

“Nothing is real until it is experienced”

“Providing opportunities for all students in Montgomery County to engage in authentic learning outside of the four walls of the classroom”
Outdoor education learning opportunities correlate highly to performance-based learning

- **Performance based learning** ...
- Integrates all disciplines: reading, writing, science, math and social studies
- Combines independent and cooperative activities
- Emphasizes authentic problem solving and solutions
- Provides content and assesses student skills and critical thinking
- Completion of Student Service Learning (SSL) hours

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Instructional Activities

These Areas of Study Are Possible at All Outdoor Education Centers
Watershed Study

- Students explore the meaning of the watershed and learn their place in it
- Collect and analyze data to determine stream health at outdoor education
- Apply the techniques and knowledge to study their local stream

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Predator/Prey

• Students will research predator/prey relationships
• At outdoor education students will participate in a simulation activity and collect data based on their experience
• Students will analyze the data to better understand the roles of animals in the food chain
Orienteering

- Working as a team, students will find orienteering poles located at various places at the outdoor education site.
- Students utilize topographic maps, compasses and GPS units to navigate.
Confidence Course

• Each center has a confidence course comprised of mentally and physically challenging events.
• All activities are designed to increase confidence, promote teamwork, and improve human relations.
Forest Community

- Students will increase their awareness and appreciation of the total forest community.
- During forest exploration the students will study unique trees, identify trees, explore leaf and soil samples.
Wildlife

- Students will be involved in a series of outdoor activities focusing on various aspects of the wildlife community.
- These might include simulation games, hikes observing evidence of wildlife, surveys, and studies of animal adaptation.
Weather

• Students may collect authentic weather data at a variety of locations at each outdoor education site.

• Students will gain experience using weather-related instruments, interpreting data, and making a weather forecast.

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Local History

- Each site presents students with evidence of the past history of the area.
- Observation and small group discussion give students a glimpse of past customs and ways of life.
Available at each site-
Nurse’s Office

“Nothing is real until it is experienced”
BOYS ONLY
No Girls Allowed

Available at each site-
CABINS

“Nothing is real until it is experienced”
Available at each site-
Bathrooms

“Nothing is real until it is experienced”
Available at each site-Dining Hall

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Who is going?

Loiederman’s 6th graders, a few of their guardians, 6th grade teachers, some 7th and 8th grade teachers, the 6th grade administrator, and the on-site coordinator.
What can you do to help?
(We have a few suggestions.)
Complete the permission slip and be sure to include:

- Home, work, cell and emergency contact name and phone numbers
- Medical information (particularly the date of last tetanus shot)
- Food allergies
- Parent signature
Complete the Physician Order Form:

Physician Order Form is required for ALL meds accompanying your child on outdoor education. If your child has medication in the health Room already, it will be sent to outdoor education. No further action is required.

NO MEDICATION WILL BE ALLOWED ON OUTDOOR EDUCATION WITHOUT FORM FILLED OUT APPROPRIATELY.

Any questions, please call the nurse at 301-929-6921.
Complete the Physician Order Form:

For over-the-counter medications—the entire form can be filled out by the parent—no signature is required from the doctor.

Prescription medications—the parents fill out the top, the doctor is required to fill out the middle portion of the medication order form.

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Any ?s, please call nurse at 301-929-6921.
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Help your child pack!

• Fashion is NOT important! Being dry and warm is.

• Your child will get a list. Be sure they include all items.

• Dry socks are REALLY important!

• Be sure to pack a plastic bag for dirty or wet clothes.

* Students have to carry their own luggage. We recommend one suitcase plus one sleeping bag/bedroll!!
* Make sure all pieces of luggage are labeled with your child’s first and last name
What to Pack

- Sturdy footwear
- Hat
- Jacket
- Sweatshirts
- Long Sleeve Shirts
- Long pants or jeans
- Pajamas
- Shirts
- Bag for dirty clothes

- Socks (lots!)
- Underwear
- Waterproof raincoat or poncho
- Sheets and blanket or sleeping bag, pillow
- Toiletry items
- Bag lunch (no glass bottles)
What You Might Pack

- Shorts for rec time
- Binoculars
- Disposable (recycling) camera
- Compass
- Flashlight
- Lip balm, sunscreen
- Insect repellant (non-aerosol)

- Slippers
- Shower cap
- Flip-flops or sandals for shower use
- Stationary and stamps
- Pen or pencil
- Watch
What NOT to Pack

- Electronic devices
- Aerosol Sprays
- Curling Irons
- Firearms
- Knives
- Hair dryers
- Matches
- Money
- Glass bottles
- Gum, candy, or food

If necessary an adult may pick up their child's confiscated cell phone in the main office upon our arrival back at school.
Volunteer to Chaperone!!!!!!!!

We always need parent chaperones, especially men. Please consider coming along, and spend a couple of fun days out in the world with your child.
What is Outdoor Education?

Former 6th grade students have said...

I wish I could go again!

Spending so much time with my friends was fun!

The food was delicious especially the smores!

It was awesome

It's an adventure.

We encourage students to ask multiple 7th and 8th graders about their trip.