

## Teach 6<sup>th</sup> graders about nature!

As a Counselor, you will spend 4 hours each day teaching students about nature through structured small-group activities. Activities are fun and focus on interactive, hands-on natural science lessons, including:

- Aquatic animal collection and identification
- Animal tracking
- Plant identification
- Tide pool exploration
- Water quality testing
- Soil composition & erosion
- Night hikes to learn about nocturnal animals



## Learn from our amazing Staff!

Outdoor School staff members are some of the coolest people you'll ever meet! They are fun, energetic and smart. They will teach you everything you need to know to be a confident & successful Outdoor School Counselor.

All Counselors receive a full day of training at camp before students arrive. Throughout your week at Outdoor School, the staff is always around to help you with anything you need, and you'll share feedback with them throughout your week as to how you are doing.

## Daily Schedule

A day at Outdoor School is full of fun activities. Below is an example of a typical day at Outdoor School:

- 7:00 Wake-up
- 7:45 Breakfast
- 8:30 Duties & Cabin Clean-Up
- 9:00 Morning Field Study
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:45 Relaxation with cabin group
- 1:30 Afternoon Field Study
- 4:00 Recreation
- 5:00 Cabin time
- 6:00 Dinner
- 7:00 Meetings & Homeroom Time
- 8:30 Campfire
- 10:00 Lights out



## Recreation and Campfire

While learning is the focus of Outdoor School, there is plenty of time for other fun outdoor adventures. Recreation times let everyone unwind, and each night ends with the whole camp singing songs and performing skits at Campfire. Recreation activities include:

- Hiking
- Fort Building
- Bird Watching
- Field Games
- Nature Crafts
- Camp Games



## Being a Cabin Leader

As a Counselor, you'll live with and lead a cabin of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students all week. You'll play games and sing songs with them to build cabin unity in a fun way. You'll help them grow as a team as your cabin performs duties such as serving meals, cleaning their cabin, or presenting a weather forecast. You may even help your 6<sup>th</sup> graders create a skit to perform at campfire one night!

Equally important, you will be responsible for maintaining a safe and healthy environment for your cabin of students. Being a mature and positive role model is a key quality of a successful Counselor!



## Great Food!

Mealtimes at Outdoor School are good times to relax and have fun, getting to know everyone, while eating some wonderful food. The food is the favorite part of Outdoor School for many participants! This isn't just ordinary school food – it's made from scratch, is nutritional and is very tasty. We eat family style, which reinforces table manners and good etiquette.

# What is Outdoor School?



Outdoor School allows 6<sup>th</sup> grade students the chance to learn about the natural world firsthand, in the woods or on the beach. Students live and learn together at Outdoor School. There is something very special about combining students with the outdoors. Their natural inclination to explore, combined with guidance from our qualified Staff and volunteer Counselors, results in an outstanding and unforgettable educational experience.

In the natural laboratory at Outdoor School, the study of ecology, science, math and conservation of natural resources takes on real meaning. Through hands-on activities, students develop an understanding of individual parts of the environment and how the parts fit together. They develop an appreciation of the natural world and their place in it.

Social growth also occurs as the students learn, live and play together in well-supervised cabin groups.

## Outdoor School Sites

- ❖ Camp Cedar Ridge (Vernonia)
- ❖ Camp Trickle Creek (Salem)
- ❖ Camp Westwind (Lincoln City)
- ❖ Camp Magruder (Rockaway)



All Outdoor School sites have cabins with heat and electricity, restrooms with hot showers and a dining hall with excellent food. There are beautiful study areas with forests, meadows, ponds and streams. Camps Westwind and Magruder also have beach study areas right on the Pacific Ocean! All are in NW Oregon. Transportation is provided to all camps.

# Volunteer to be a Counselor

Outdoor School Counselors are instrumental in educating students about the natural environment, and in helping those students find their place in the natural world.

Students love Outdoor School because they love our volunteers and the experience they create. They look up to Counselors as if they are rock stars! The bonds you build with them are genuinely unforgettable. You will make new friends as you work with Counselors from other schools, and with the Staff.

You'll learn **leadership, teaching, teamwork** and communication skills that will serve you well not just at Outdoor School, but all throughout your life. You'll discover strengths and talents that you never knew you had.

**Most of all, YOU'LL HAVE FUN!**

**No prior experience is needed!** You only need to be ready and willing to learn at Outdoor School.

**Some high schools offer credit to Outdoor School Counselors, and college credit from PCC is available!**

People wishing to counsel at Outdoor School must:

1. Enjoy children and the outdoors
2. Take initiative to engage students in activities
3. Be responsible & mature
4. Be enthusiastic & positive
5. Be a willing & flexible team player
6. Focus always on making Outdoor School as rewarding of an experience as possible for students.



### **For information or to volunteer, contact:**

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# Volunteer as a Counselor



# NORTHWEST OUTDOOR Science School

*"Where Learning Comes Naturally"*



A program of the  
Northwest Regional Education Service District

[www.nwresd.k12.or.us](http://www.nwresd.k12.or.us)  
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