

DERBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM (IN STATE)

School: Irving School Principal: Aimee Misset

Date(s) of Trip: 5/15 - 5/17 Trip Organizer(s): Jacqueline Nathman

Destination of Trip: Nature's Classroom - Lakeside CT

Grade level of student participants: 5 No. of Students: 59

Educational Objectives including related classroom activities prior to / following the trip:

Science (NBSS) themed activities (Life, Earth, Physical)

Team-Building activities w/ students from both elementary schools

Funding Source(s): Alliance Grant, PTO, parents & guardians

Total fees required from each student: \_\_\_\_\_

Breakdown of Fees: Transportation Cost: \$430 Event Fee: \$295 pp Meals —

Cost of Nurse (if applicable): — [ ] No students are identified with health concerns.

\*Name of transportation service vendor: All-Star No. of buses required: 1

Cost per bus: \$430

Date / Time of trip: Departing Derby: 5/15/19 Returning to Derby 5/17/19

Number of chaperones on trip: 5 staff per day + NC Counselors (K-10) 1:30 pm

Include the information below when submitting this approval form.

(Place a check mark by each item indicating its inclusion in the approval packet.)

Parent / guardian letter explaining the trip and travel itinerary

Permission Slip

List of Chaperone Names and Phone Numbers

Be sure the school administrator has a list of those students participating in the activity and a copy of the emergency contact numbers.

In State Field Trip Request Form must be approved by:

Principal: Recommendation for Approval  Recommendation Trip Be Denied \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent: Trip Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Trip Denied \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

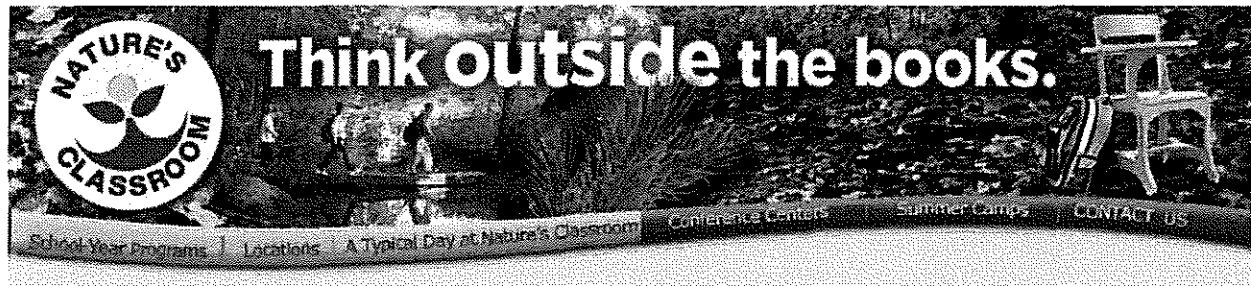
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\_\_\_\_\_

**Revised March 2018**



Irving School is excited to be offering our fifth grade student an opportunity to learn outside of the classroom at the Lakeside CT location of Nature's Classroom. Nature's Classroom offers a unique educational experience to students and their teachers. The goal of Nature's Classroom is to create a living-learning community that integrates the social development of that community with academic experiences. Common goals that are woven throughout the experience are for the students to improve his/her self-concept; to work together with others for the positive benefit of all members of the community; to recognize that the community is comprised of individuals with their own individual needs; and to gain an understand of what education can offer him/her. Each Nature's Classroom program is developed in conjunction with the classroom teachers in order to create an experience that is connected to the school's curriculum and goals.

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We have reserved May 15-17, 2019 for our visit to Nature's Classroom. We will be leaving Irving on Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> at approximately 10:00 a.m. and returning to Irving on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> at approximately 1:30 p.m. The cost of the Nature's Classroom trip is normally \$287 per student + transportation. The school district has already put a substantial amount towards the trip and we have done some of our own fundraising. NO MONEY IS DUE RIGHT NOW. Permission slips and medical forms are due Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. Once we determine the number of students attending, we will send a final cost letter home with your child on Tuesday April 10<sup>th</sup>. That letter will indicate the cost of the trip which is due, May 9<sup>th</sup>. Last year the cost was \$194 per student, with some students paying much less as a result of fundraising such as, Cookie Dough Fundraiser or the Pasta Dinner.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email your child's classroom teacher.

Sincerely,

The Fifth Grade Team

# Nature's Classroom Procedures

We are so excited for our upcoming trip to Nature's Classroom. Here is some important information about drop-off and pick-up procedures.

## Drop-off:

- All students must be brought to school with their luggage packed (ie-no loose pillows) by 9:00 a.m on Wednesday, May 15th.
- All belongings must be labeled with the child's name.
- Any medication needs to be out and ready to be checked in (in a ziploc bag). As a reminder, it must be in its original box and have the child's name on it. It should also be listed on their medical form that we have already received. If it is additional, please let us know then.
- After your child has checked-in, we ask that all parents leave, so we can resume our day.

## Pick-Up:

- We will be arriving back at Irving School on Friday, May 17th at 1:30 p.m.
- Parents are asked to pick their child up at this time. **Do not park in the bus lane. We need to be able to pull in with the students.**
- Weather pending, we will unpack and wait on the grassy area outside the gym.
- When you pick up your child please be sure to sign your child out (there will be a sheet outside) and pick up any medications you gave us.
- Please fill out and detach the bottom of this form, so we can easily dismiss your child on Friday. If there is an issue, please let your child's classroom teacher know.

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I plan on picking up my child, \_\_\_\_\_ on Friday, May 18th at 1:30 p.m from Irving School.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Chaperone Names</b>	<b>Contact #</b>
<b>Jacqueline Nathman</b>	<b>203-823-0223</b>
<b>Stacey Mullenax</b>	<b>203-954-7191</b>
<b>Stacey Wasilnak</b>	<b>203-214-0366</b>
<b>Nick Bartoli</b>	<b>570-704-6892</b>
<b>Elise Chambers</b>	<b>203-906-6731</b>

# Nature's Classroom

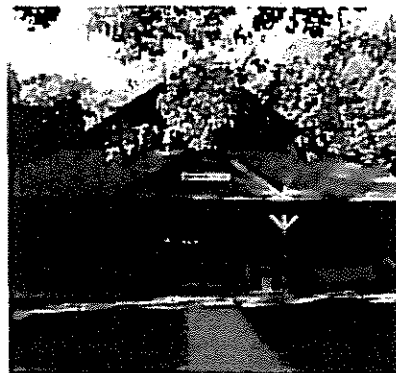
## at Lakeside, CT



### DIRECTIONS

**From I-84 in Waterbury, CT:** Take exit 20 (Route 8) north towards Torrington. Take exit 38 (Route 6, Route 109). Bear left at the end of the ramp and go under the overpass. Turn left at the first light and follow signs for Route 6 and Route 109. In about 0.5 miles, at the stop sign, continue diagonally across the intersection onto Route 109. Black Rock School will be on your left. Continue on Route 109 through East Morris stop sign to the stop sign in Morris (intersection of Route 61). Continue straight on Route 109 for 3 more miles. Pass a cemetery, lake, and go up a hill. At the top of the hill, turn left onto Kenyon Road (this is a tricky turn, look for the Episcopal Camp sign). Camp entrance is about 0.5 miles on the left.

**From southbound Route 8:** Take exit 38 (Route 6, Route 109). Continue straight through the light onto Route 6 and Route 109. In about 0.5 miles veer right onto Route 109. Black Rock School will be on your left. Follow directions in bold above.



### FEATURES

This property features eight recently renovated cabins sleeping 14 to 16 students each. Each cabin has a private adult room and an attached bathroom.

The property also contains about 400 acres of woodlands, a historic family cemetery, and rock walls dating back to the 1600s.

Clockwise from top left:

- Each cabin sleeps 14 to 16 students. Adults sleep in a private room in the cabin. Each cabin has its own bathroom with several sinks, toilet stalls and shower stalls.

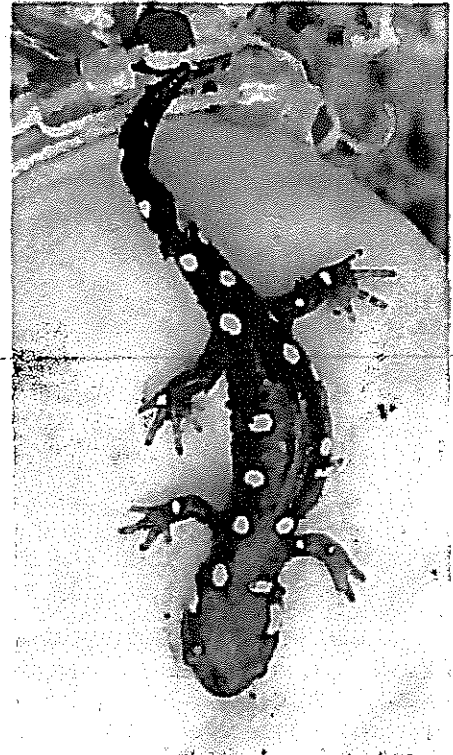
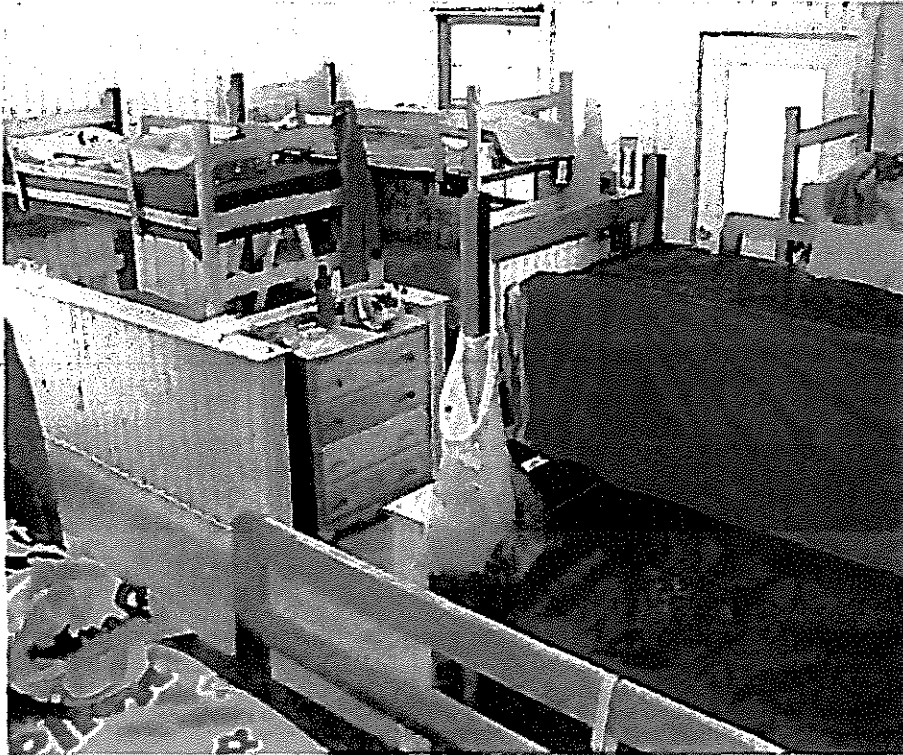
- Students find a wide variety of creatures from yellow-spotted salamanders to crayfish. With such a densely rich property, there is a wealth of wildlife to find.

- Lucky students may have the chance to

find several species of reptile, including this ring-necked snake. They may also run across turtles, garter snakes, and deer tracks.

- Eight cabins ring the large field in front of the dining hall.

# Lakeside, CT



## **DEAR PARENTS,**

Your child will soon have an opportunity to participate in a residential outdoor school program. This letter attempts to answer some of the questions parents usually ask. Please feel free to ask us about any other concerns you may have about the program. Outdoor environmental education uses the out-of-doors for learning experiences that cannot easily take place in the classroom. Students and teachers learning outdoor awareness in this extended classroom can use the experience to help in their understanding of the natural environment, their school subjects, and the way people live. The program includes activities such as examining life in lakes and swamps, investigating weather, Colonial and Native American skills, and confidence building group challenges. A variety of field walks, classes in all subjects, and evening activities insure an exciting, stimulating experience.

**SUPERVISION AND STAFF:** Students are supervised 24 hours a day. In addition to the classroom teachers and chaperones accompanying each visiting group, Nature's Classroom has a permanent staff residing on site consisting of a director, environmental teachers on 1:12 ratio, and a nurse, EMT or health staff person on call at all times.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY:** There is no requirement that students undergo a medical examination before attending Nature's Classroom. The program is physically intensive, however, and you may wish to consult your physician if there are any concerns that should be brought to the attention of the staff. Such guidance will assist them in planning the program of activities with the students. Please note any special health concerns on the Nature's Classroom medical forms. The forms must be completed before a student can attend. Health and safety are our most important objectives! A fully staffed and equipped hospital is less than 30 minutes away from all of our facilities. Every student is covered by insurance while attending the program.

**CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT:** A clothing and equipment checklist is furnished. Particular care should be taken in supplying ample footwear and pants, as students frequently participate in activities in wet areas. Clothes should be chosen for comfort and durability, rather than style. Please add or delete items appropriate for the season (gloves, hats, parkas, etc.)

**FOOD AND LODGING:** Meals are prepared by a permanent cooking staff and are served family style. Special dietary needs should be noted on the medical forms. Students, visiting teachers, and chaperones are lodged in winterized dormitories and cabins. Parents are welcome to visit any of our Environmental Education Centers and to view the facilities; such visits, however, should be made before or after your child's experience, preferably midweek. The physical facilities are always open, so a weekend visit might be possible. You must call the site and make an appointment with the Program Coordinator before coming.

**TELEPHONE:** The telephone is **not** available for the students' use, and parents are asked not to call students **except in case of an emergency**. The Nature's Classroom telephone number is 860-567-8403.

**MAIL:** Mail is most appreciated by students, but to be safe, allow 4 days for delivery. Mail posted midweek may not reach Nature's Classroom until Friday after the group has left (please make sure there is a return address in case we need to send it back). Please include the name of both the student and the school to assist delivery. Mail should be sent to Nature's Classroom, 190 Kenyon Rd, Lakeside, CT 06758.



## OVERVIEW OF NATURE'S CLASSROOM

Nature's Classroom offers a unique educational experience to students and their teachers. The goal of the program is to create an educational community that integrates social development, student-driven exploration and interdisciplinary study. Students are under adult supervision at all times both during the day and at night. Small student to teacher ratios are maintained to promote personal growth and provide individualized attention to each student. The Nature's Classroom staff is comprised of professional staff with a wide variety of academic backgrounds and interests. Nature's Classroom encourages students to cooperate as a community, strengthen their self-concept and gain an appreciation of curiosity and learning. Working closely with your student's classroom teachers, Nature's Classroom develops a program that dovetails with the classroom curriculum and reinforces key concepts.

A typical day at Nature's Classroom features a morning *Field Group*, afternoon *Special Interest Classes*, and a *Large Group Activity* in the evening.

*Field Group* is generally the first activity of the day. Students are assigned by their classroom teachers to a field group; each field group is assigned to a single Nature's Classroom teacher. During field group, a strong emphasis is placed on working and learning as a team. Each day with their field group, students have the opportunity to explore in natural surroundings while studying important ecological concepts and their connection to the world and its life support systems. Students are encouraged to use critical thinking skills and work together to investigate a wide variety of natural phenomena and relationships.

*Special Interest Classes* occur primarily in the afternoon. Students have an opportunity to choose classes from a wide range of interests and disciplines. Nature's Classroom prides itself in presenting hands-on classes that are planned in conjunction with your student's classroom teachers. Classes are selected to reinforce and build upon your school's curriculum and explore the relationships between various academic disciplines. In order to provide students with the maximum opportunity for discovery and growth, a new selection of classes are available each day.

*Large Group Activities and evening programs* are selected by the classroom teachers to best suit the needs and goals of the students. With subjects ranging from science to leadership, traditional living to theatre, and everything in between, large group activities are a great way to create shared experiences for all Nature's Classroom participants.

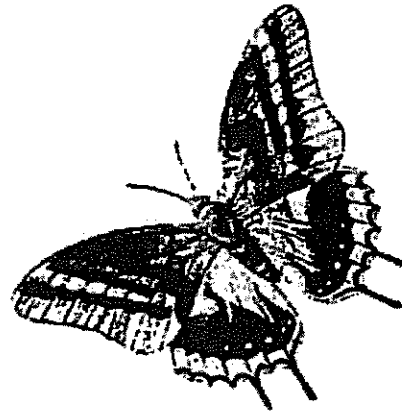
Breakfast, lunch and dinner are provided, as well as an evening snack at the close of each day. Meals provide an opportunity to interact with other members of the community and share personal triumphs and discoveries. The diversity of subject matter covered within field groups, classes and other activities encourages students and teachers alike to share their excitement and engage in meaningful conversation around the table. Medications and first aid are administered by an RN, EMT or other medical personnel who is always available. Lodging is dormitory styled.

Students return from Nature's Classroom with newfound interests, lasting memories, and a greater sense of independence. Relationships formed and strengthened among both students and their teachers carry over into the classroom and beyond. The real life experience, both social and academic, inspires an increased understanding and a deeper appreciation of community, education and curiosity. We look forward to providing your child with a unique opportunity to learn and play in a safe and supportive environment.

## Sample Basic Schedule

### First Day

- 11:00 Arrival & Settling In
- 12:00 Lunch
- Orientation
- Field Experience
- 4:00 Special Interest Classes
- 5:30 Dinner
- 7:00 Quest
- 9:00 Quiet Sing



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### Second Day

- 7:15 Rise and Shine!
- 8:00 Breakfast & Clean Up
- 9:30 Field Experience
- 12:00 Lunch
- Free Time
- 2:00 Special Interest Classes
- 4:00 Special Interest Classes
- 5:30 Dinner and Free Time
- 7:00 Night Experience
- 9:00 Quiet Sing

### Third Day

- 7:30 Luggage Out
- 8:00 Breakfast
- Final Clean Up
- Field Experience
- Evaluation
- 12:00 Lunch
- Departure



# Sample of Special Interest Programming

The curriculum for **Nature's Classroom** contains over 500 hands-on science, math, humanities, and social studies lesson plans with follow-up activities for use in the schoolroom as well as references for further investigation.

## FIRST CLASS

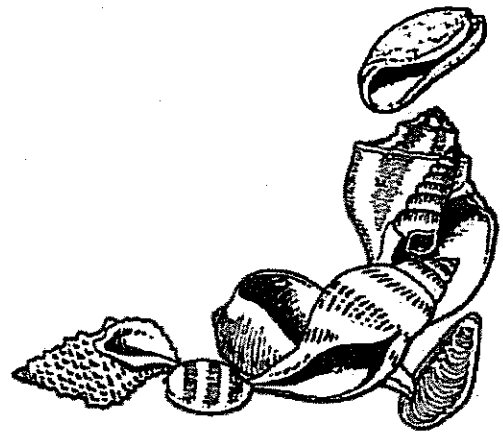
- SC Double Bubble (Chemistry of Soap)  
Just Plane Fun (Flight and Aerodynamics)  
Incredible Edibles (Edible Plants)
  - MA Geodome (Geodesic Dome Construction)  
Get Lost (Map and Compass, Orienting)
  - HM Feed Your Face (Natural Cosmetics)
  - SS The Oil Game (Sharing a Limited Resource)
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## SECOND CLASS

- SC Go with the Flow (Heart and Blood)  
Soccerball Dissection (Human Physiology)  
Egg Drop (Package Design)  
Go Fly a Kite (Wind, Atmosphere)
- MA Up and Away (Hot Air Balloons)
- HM On the Air (Radio Broadcast Writing)
- SS It's the Law (Criminal Justice)

## THIRD CLASS

- SC Crystals (Chemistry)  
Compost It (Biology)  
Pollution Solution  
Oh Rats! (Dissection)
- MA Speed Boats (Stream Power)
- HM Woods Words (Poetry)
- SS Egg Babies (Responsibility)



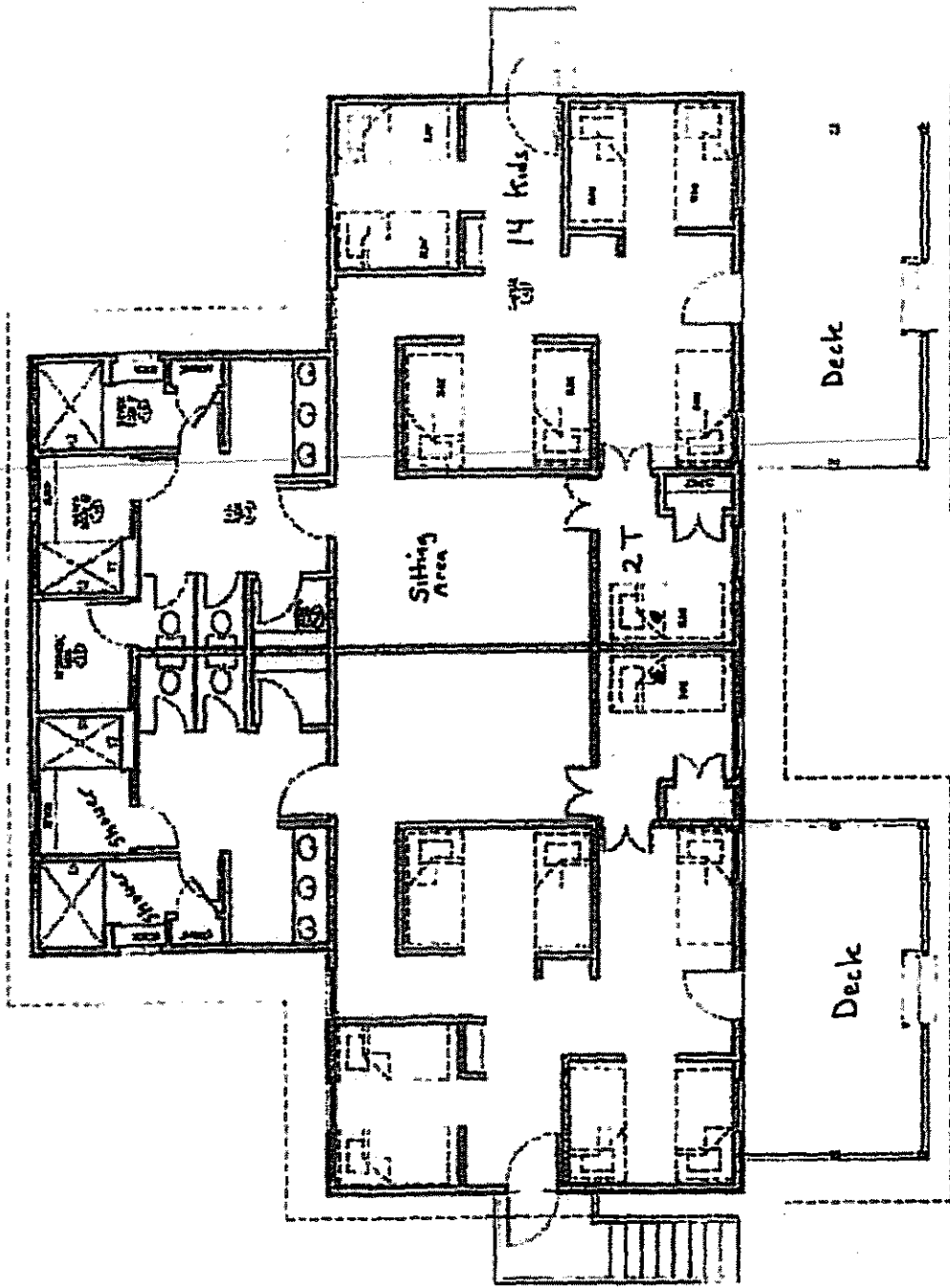
The preceding is a **SAMPLE** outline of courses for a group size requiring nine of our instructors. The specific courses offered vary with the time of year, location, current **Nature's Classroom** instructors, and goals the visiting school wishes to achieve.

**SC: Science**

**MA: Math**

**HM: Humanities**

**SS: Social Studies**



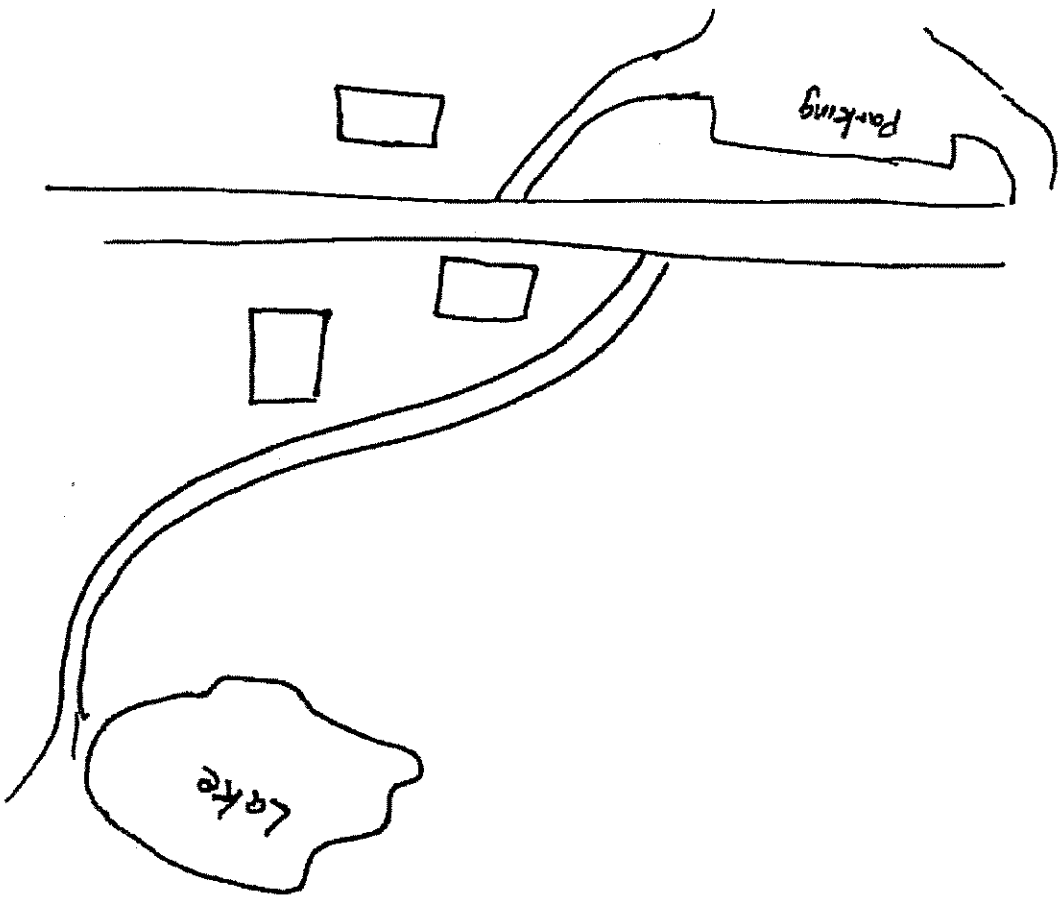
CABIN FLOOR PLAN

CABIN  
 CAMP WASHINGTON  
 MORRIS, CONNECTICUT

Nature's Classroom  
Lakeside, CT

Sport  
Fields

Fields  
&  
forests



Kenyon Hall  
All Purpose

D C Cabin  
B A Cabin

Dining Hall

Basketball  
&  
Volleyball  
area

NC STAFF

F E Cabin

H G CABIN

## NATURE'S CLASSROOM STUDENT REGISTRATION

Please print all information and please fill in all the blanks

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First)

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(No. and Street) (Town) (State) (Zip)

Parent's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Family Physician \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

I give permission for (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ to attend Nature's Classroom

for the period of \_\_\_\_\_ as part of the outdoor education program

of (School Name) \_\_\_\_\_. I understand that the director of Nature's Classroom may, if necessary, for my child's health, have him/her hospitalized or use outside medical, surgical, or dental care. I also understand that the director and/or school leaders may dismiss my child from Nature's Classroom if, in their opinions, his/her conduct or influence is not in the best interest of the entire group. No refund is given if such action is taken for discipline reasons. Nature's Classroom has my permission to use my child's image, voice and/or likeness for promotional purposes.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

### MEDICAL PERMISSION SLIP

Should your child become ill, get a headache, catch a cold or have other minor medical or dental problems, do you give permission for the administration of basic first aid at the discretions of the Nature's Classroom staff?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

If Ibuprofen or Tylenol needs to be administered, do you prefer:

IBUPROFEN \_\_\_\_\_ TYLENOL \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

# Nature's Classroom

## HOME AND HEALTH INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Session: \_\_\_\_\_

*The questions below are provided to give you a framework within which to provide that needed information to us. Please feel free to add whatever information you think will be helpful – attach additional sheets if necessary. We will share this information with your child's classroom teachers prior to his/her arrival at camp. Thank you for your cooperation.*

1. Is this your child's first prolonged stay away from home? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Is this your child's first sleep away experience? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Has your child ever had a problem with homesickness? If yes, please explain briefly. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Does your child have a bed wetting problem? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Date of last tetanus booster shot (not a tetanus shot given after an injury). \_\_\_\_\_

6. Are there any restrictions on your child's activities? Please include any special health concerns, e.g., special diet, recent hospitalizations, fractured bones, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. List any allergies, e.g., food, environmental, medication, and explain degrees of severity and current treatment.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Does your child have any sensory, physical or cognitive disabilities?  Yes  No If yes, explain.

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Has anything happened recently in your child's life that may affect him/her emotionally or physically while at camp? If yes, please explain.

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Additional information:

\_\_\_\_\_

# Nature's Classroom

## MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION FORM

**All medications (including prescription, non-prescription and vitamins) must come in original containers.**

Please complete *all parts* of the following chart for all medications being sent or the medication cannot be administered. If more than four medications are needed, please copy this page.

**CHILD'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

*I hereby give permission for the staff of Nature's Classroom to oversee the administration of the following medication(s) to my child:*

Medication	Dose (mg, tsp)	Time Medication Taken				
		Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Bed	Other

Comments (reason for taking medications, special considerations): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Your child will not be allowed to keep any medication in his/her cabin. Prescribed medications must be in original container with pharmacy label containing Rx number, the name of the medication, the dosage, directions for administration, and the child's name. Whenever possible, a copy of the doctor's prescription or letter may be sent to clarify any discrepancies. All non-prescription medication must be in their original containers, clearly labeled with the child's name, name of the medication and direction for use.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_



## SUGGESTED EQUIPMENT LIST FOR NATURE'S CLASSROOM

This list is for a three day program and dependent upon *seasonal weather*. Plan for everything!

---Water Bottle \*\*\* Super important!

---1 Sleeping bag or bedroll (sheets and blanket)

---1 Pillow and pillowcase

---2 Pairs of jeans/pants

---Multiple shirts (short and long sleeve)

---1 Sweatshirt/hoodie or sweater

---Pajamas

---1 Pair of slippers/flip-flops for cabin

---Shorts for cabin use only

---Many changes of underwear (for 3 days at least 4)

---Multiple pairs of socks (at least 2 per day)

---1 Warm jacket/coat

---Hat(s): warm hat and/or ball cap

---Gloves, scarf

---Shoes (2-3 Pairs): old sneakers, rain boots, well-broken-in hiking boots, etc.

---1 Raincoat or poncho

---Toiletries: soap (and container), shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, towels, washcloths

---Laundry bag or extra pillow case

---Pre-addressed stamped envelopes or postcards, paper and pens, etc. for writing home

---Notebook(s) and writing utensils

---Sunscreen

---Insect repellent (no aerosols please)

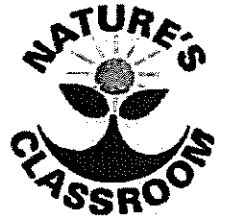
---"Day pack" or backpack

---Camera: preferably disposable

---Flashlight (optional)

---Book for reading at night

---Deck of playing cards (optional)



### DO NOT SEND:

- Electronics: cell phones, i-pods, MP3 players, portable gaming systems, kindles, nooks, tablets, etc.
- Pocket knife, candy/gum/food

\*\*\*Please do NOT buy new clothes or shoes for your child to wear at Nature's Classroom. Send old clothes that you do not mind your child getting dirty during outdoor activities.

\*\*\*Please make sure that every personal item (shoes, camera, socks, etc.) are clearly labeled with your child's name. Sharpie everything!

\*\*\*If your child loses any items at Nature's Classroom, contact the Program Coordinator Immediately. NATURE'S CLASSROOM TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOST ITEMS.