

**DERBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM (IN STATE)**

School: Bradley Principal: M. Ciccarrini  
Date(s) of Trip: 5/17-19/2017 Trip Organizer(s): M. Ciccarrini  
Destination of Trip: Nature's Classroom (190 Kenyon Rd., Lakeside ct)  
Grade level of student participants: 5 No. of Students: 41  
Educational Objectives including related classroom activities prior to / following the trip: See attached

Funding Source(s): Alliance (\$5000); Parents/Guardians; PTA  
Total fees required from each student: \$190  
Breakdown of Fees: Transportation Cost: 402 Event Fee: \$11,684 Meals: —  
Cost of Nurse (if applicable): N/A  
\*Name of transportation service vendor: All-Star No. of buses required: 1  
Date / Time of trip: Departing Derby: 5/17 10:00am Returning to Derby: 5/19 1:30pm  
Number of chaperones on trip: ● 5/17-5 ● 5/18-7 ● 5/19-5

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 ☐

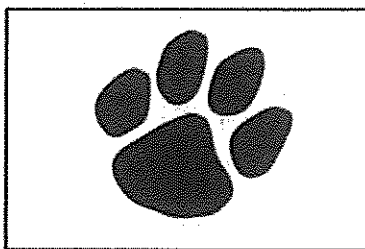
Comments: \$5000 deposit already paid. PTA paying for bus.  
Balance of \$6684 ÷ 36 students = \$190 per  
student.

Superintendent: Trip Approved ☐ Trip Denied ☐

*Maria Gocuin*

Comments:





**Bradley Elementary School**  
**155 David Humphreys Road • Derby, CT 06418-2250**  
**Mr. Mario Ciccarini, Principal**  
**Phone: (203) 736-5040 • [www.derbyps.org/Bradley](http://www.derbyps.org/Bradley)**

**Email: [MCiccarini@derbyps.org](mailto:MCiccarini@derbyps.org)**

**Nature's Classroom Field Trip**

Dear Grade 5 Parent/Guardian,

We are very excited to be attending Nature's Classroom in Lakeside, CT from May 17-19, 2017.

This packet includes all the forms that need to be completed prior to the trip. The forms include:

- Permission Form - completed by students and guardians
- Nature's Classroom student registration
- Home and Health Questionnaire
- Medication Administration Form

The cost of the Nature's Classroom trip is normally \$284 per student + transportation. Our school PTA has paid for transportation in the past. Our school district has already paid the \$90 deposit for all students. Therefore the balance you owe will not be more than \$194. That cost will be lowered further through some of our own fundraising. NO MONEY IS DUE RIGHT NOW. In late April a letter will be going home with students once we know how many students are attending. That letter will indicate a balance and due date.

If you would like your child to attend this year's trip please return the permission form and all other forms to Mr. Ciccarini by Wednesday, April 19, 2017. Again, we only need the forms back - no payment needed right now.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Ciccarini





### **Itinerary for Grade 5 Nature's Classroom Field Trip**

#### **Wednesday 5/17/17:**

- We are leaving Bradley School between 9:45 and 10:00 am.
  - Students should leave their luggage/bags in the front hallway outside of the foyer.
  - Parents/guardians have the option of sending students to school their normal way but depending on how many bags they have that may be challenging.
  - We recommend dropping students off to school with their bags.
  - If you decide to have your student stay with you in the morning they must be at Bradley no later than 9:30 am to allow for time to help load the bus.
- 
- We should arrive at Lakeside around 11:00 am.
  - We will unload the bags from the bus and follow the directions of the camp staff.
  - Lunch will be served at noon.
  - Dinner will be served at 5 pm.
  - Lights out by 10 pm (subject to discretion of adult supervising cabin).

#### **Thursday 5/18/17:**

- Breakfast at 8 am
- Lunch at 12 pm
- Dinner at 5 pm

#### **Friday 5/19/17:**

- Breakfast at 8 am
- Lunch at 11:30 am
- Depart for Bradley School by 12:30 pm
- Arrive at Bradley School by 1:30 pm - students to go home with parent pick-ups

If you have any questions please feel free to call the main office or email Mr. Ciccarini at [mciccarini@derbyps.org](mailto:mciccarini@derbyps.org)



## **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**.





## 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.



## NATURE'S CLASSROOM STUDENT REGISTRATION

Please print all information, and please complete all the blanks.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First)

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

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

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

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.

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

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

### PART II

#### 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 discretion 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 administer to my child the following medication(s):*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

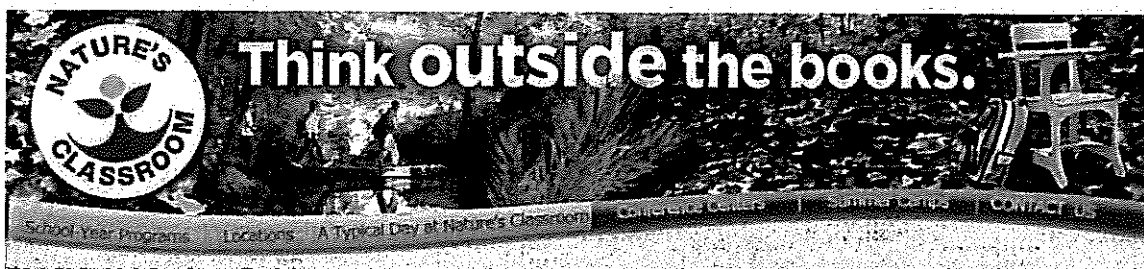
*Your child will not be allowed to keep any medication in his/her cabin. Prescribed medications must be in original container with pharmacy label containing Rx number, the name of the medication, the dosage, directions for administration, and the child's name. Whenever possible, a copy of the doctor's 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: \_\_\_\_\_







## PLEASE READ – 5<sup>th</sup> GRADE PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Bradley School is excited to be offering our fifth grade students 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 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 the members of the community; to recognize that the community is comprised of individuals with their own individual needs; to appreciate the individuality and uniqueness of each other; and to gain an understanding of what education can offer him/her...Each Nature's Classroom program is developed in consultation with the classroom teachers in order to create an experience that is connected to the school's curriculum and goals.

We have reserved May 17-19, 2017 for our visit to Nature's Classroom. We will be leaving Bradley on Wednesday the 17<sup>th</sup> at approximately 9:00A.M. and returning to Bradley on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> at approximately 2:00P.M. (Times are subject to change). The initial cost of the trip is \$284 per student, but we will be working with the P.T.A. and school to bring the per-pupil cost down prior to the trip.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mario Ciccarini".

Mr. Ciccarini

*At Bradley School we leave our P.A.W.S. on everything we do. We Persevere, Act Responsibly, Work and Play Safely, and Show Respect. These are the characteristics that define who we are and will help us become positive role models in our school and community.*



## OVERVIEW 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 student 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; to appreciate the individuality and uniqueness of each other; and to gain an understanding of what education can offer him/her. The process begins when teachers volunteer to bring their students to Nature's Classroom. Each Nature's Classroom program is developed in consultation with the classroom teachers in order to create an experience that is connected to the school's curriculum and goals.

The typical **daily schedule** at Nature's Classroom consists of a morning Field Group experience, two afternoon Special Interest class periods, and an evening activity. Meals and an evening snack are provided, and to close each day a Quiet Sing is presented.

The goal of the **field group** is for the student to understand and recognize the concept of dynamic equilibrium – constant upsetting influences being re-adjusted to maintain balance – in the natural world, in social interactions, and within him/herself. Each child is assigned by the classroom teacher to a field group and each group is assigned a single Nature's Classroom teacher. They focus on concepts and themes and their connection to the total life support system as they explore the natural environment. For example, the field group might examine producer, consumer, and decomposer concepts, predator-prey relationships or life cycles. The theme of "changes through time" may be an approach taken by a field group.

During the afternoon **Special Interest classes**, Nature's Classroom's academic environment, the emphasis is on learning motivation. The goals of the afternoon classes are for the student to choose the classes in which he/she is interested; to actively learn by doing; to understand and recognize the relationships between the major subject areas; to understand the importance of goal setting and work toward an attainable goal; and to gain an understanding of the personal value he/she can gain from education. The classroom teachers may request particular classes be offered from our two volume set of lesson plans and/or allow our teachers to teach classes of special interest to them.

**Evening activities** may be done by the full community together or by the smaller field group. The activity's emphasis may be academic or social. Large group academic activities may include an Environmental Hearing, Alpha Beta, a Science Exposition, or Back to Basics. The Environmental Hearing, set in a town meeting format, gives students a chance to role-play in a simulated hearing over land usage. Groups are assigned roles

as representatives of corporations, public interest groups, local citizens, and conservationists. Each group expresses their opinions and viewpoints as they negotiate and seek support for their positions. The Science Expo provides students a chance to experience a variety of chemical and physical science demonstrations. Stopping at multiple stations staffed by Nature's Classroom teachers, students observe and assist in experiments and discuss the principles involved. Back to Basic teaches students about Colonial and Native American crafts. A Folk Dance, a Mingle, or a Campfire are examples of social experiences. A Night Hike, with a focus on astronomy and vision, may be taken by the field group. Not all of these activities are done consistently at every site. Working with the Nature's Classroom Program Coordinator, classroom teachers can select those activities which best suit the goals they have for their students.

What the students learn in relation to community awareness and group cohesiveness in field groups and classes is applied in other activities. Mealtimes provide a chance to interact and to share experiences with others. The diversity within field groups, classes and other activities facilitates conversation among the students and adults allowing them to share their excitement. To be of service to the community, students take on the responsibility of helping as waiters.

The Nature's Classroom teaching staff is composed of individuals with a minimum of a bachelor's degree. We maintain a teacher to student ratio of one to twelve or less. There is a nurse, EMT, or medical person on site or on call at all times. The children are provided with 24-hour adult supervision. The responsibilities for supervision are shared by the classroom teachers and the Nature's Classroom staff.

Having spent a week at Nature's Classroom, living and learning together, students develop a sense of community, a confidence in themselves, and an appreciation for others that carries over to the schoolcommunity. They see their classroom teacher as a person and friend in the learning process. The strengthened peer cooperation and expanded student-teacher relationships have an influence on the cognitive growth of the students throughout the school year. Together, they return to the classroom united through this shared experience to achieve the common goal of the pursuit of knowledge.

# Nature's Classroom

## at Lakeside, CT



### DIRECTIONS

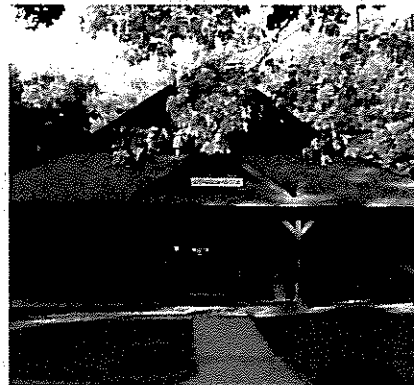
**From I-84 in Waterbury, CT:** Take exit 20 (Route 8) north towards Torrington. Take exit 38 (Route 6, Route 109). Bear left at the end of the ramp and go under the overpass. Turn left at the first light and follow signs for Route 6 and Route 109. In about 0.5 miles, at the stop sign, continue diagonally 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.

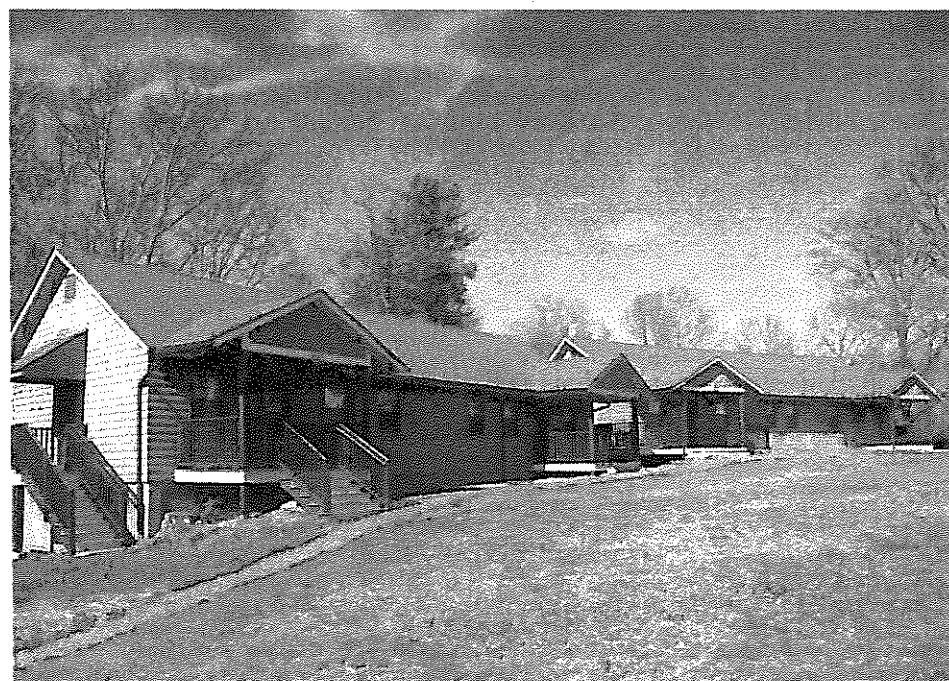
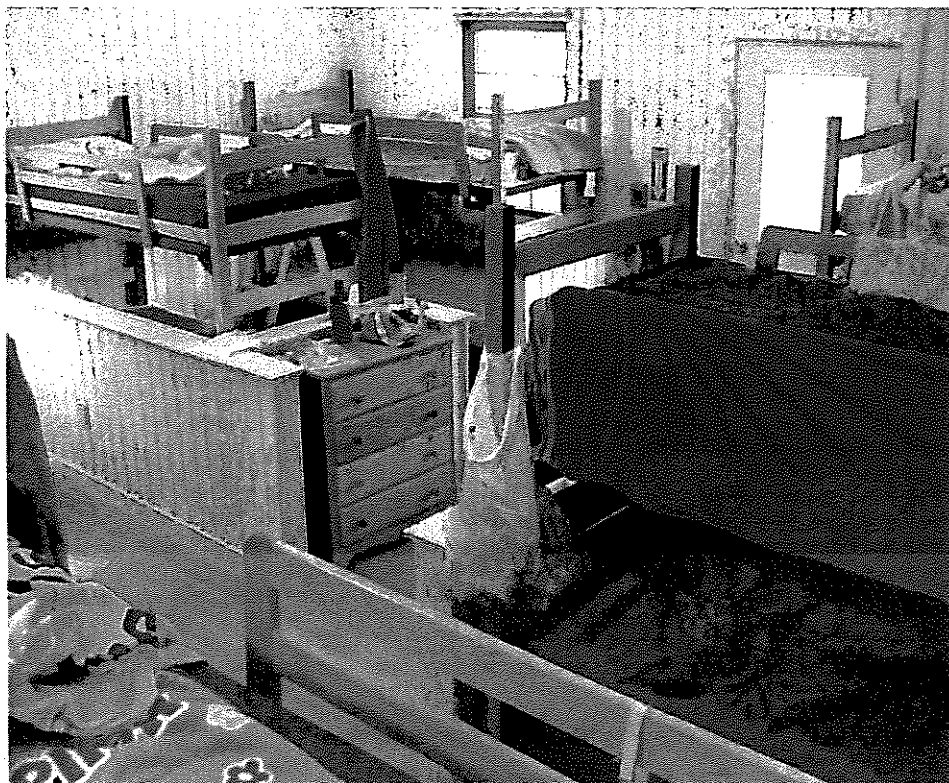
**Clockwise from top left:**

- 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.

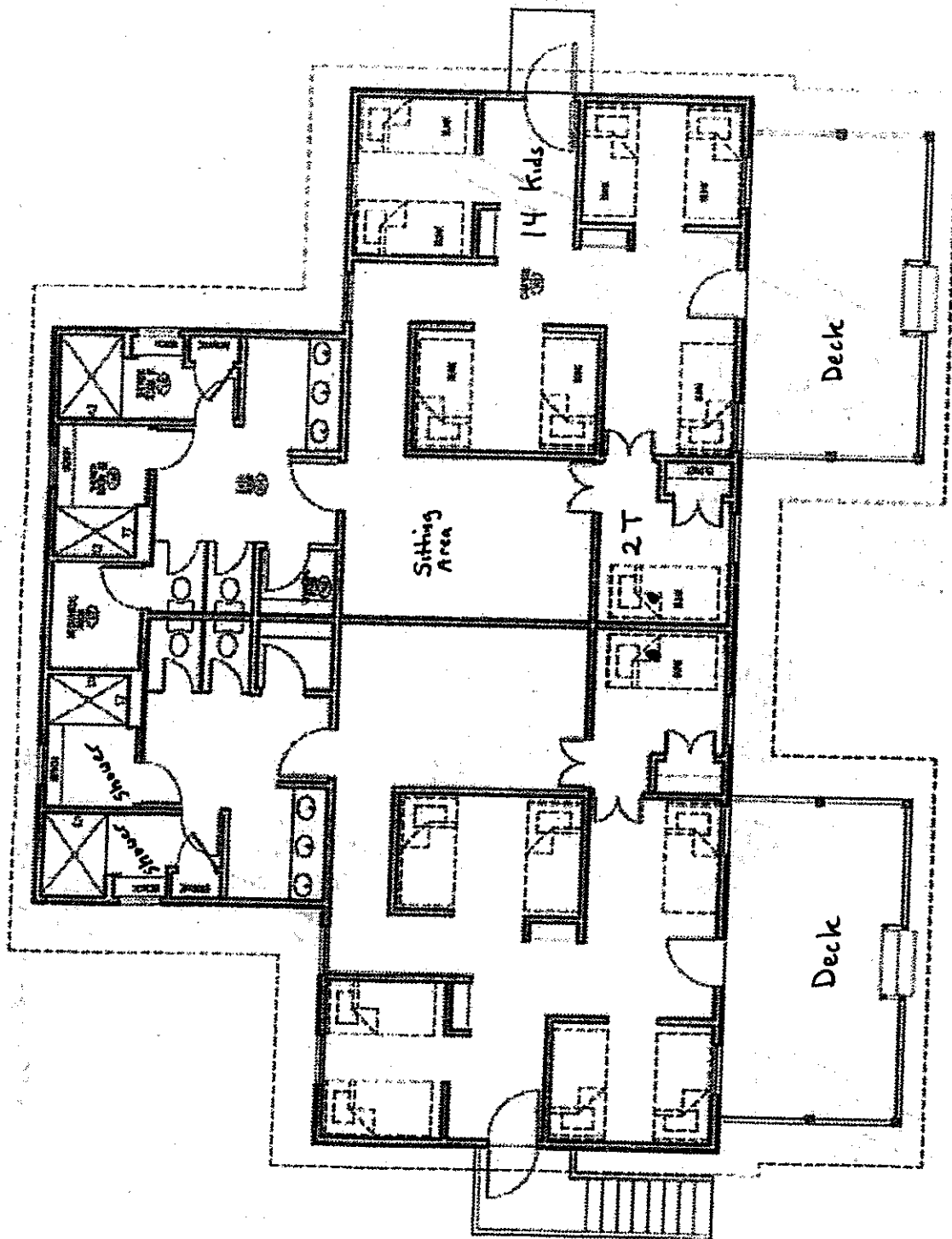
- Students find a wide variety of creatures from yellow-spotted salamanders to crayfish. With such a densely rich property, there is a wealth of wildlife to find.
- Lucky students may have the chance to

- 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



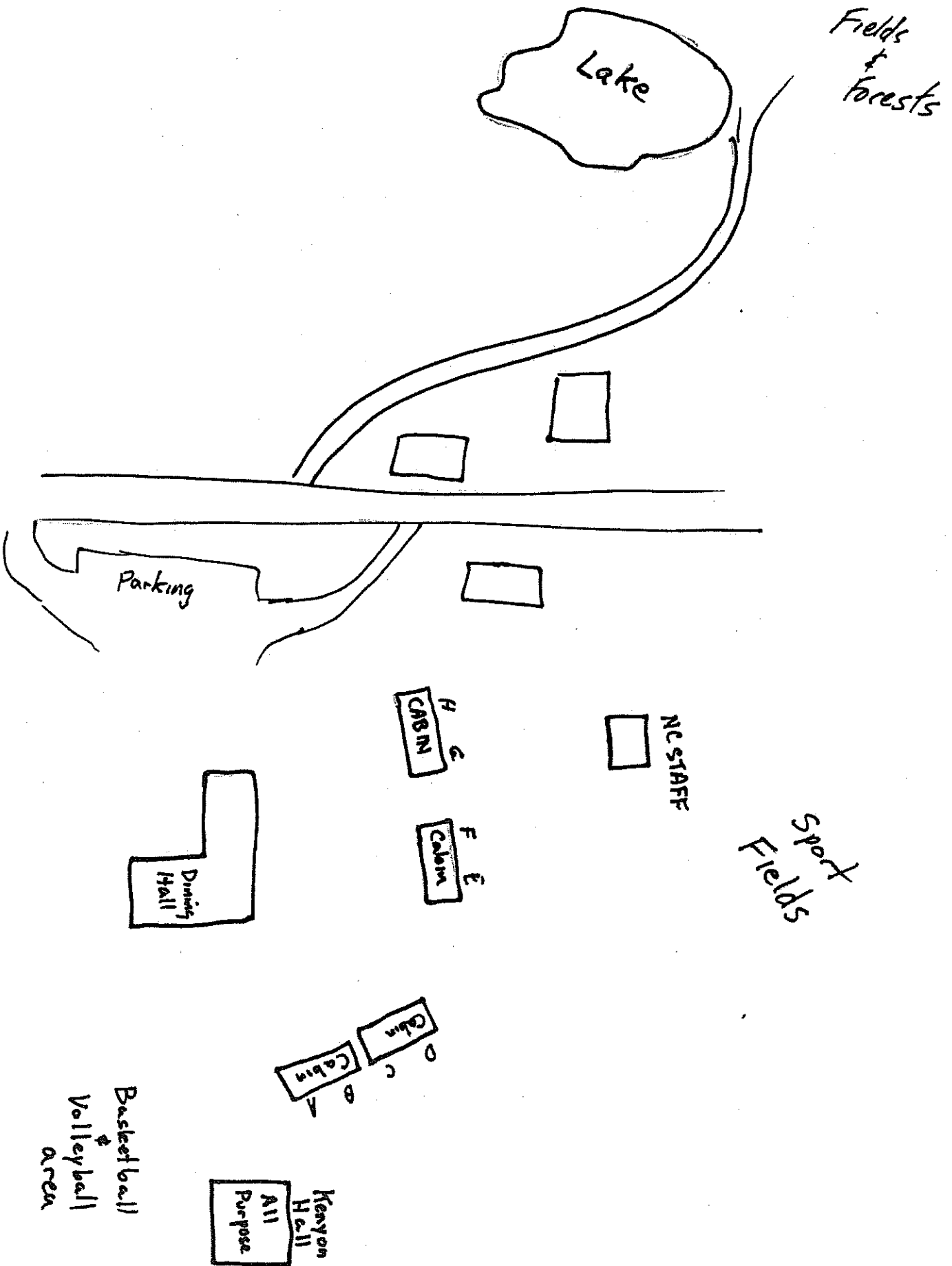




CABIN C FLOOR PLAN

CABIN C  
CAMP WASHINGTON  
MORRIS, CONNECTICUT

Nature's Classroom  
Lakeside, CT

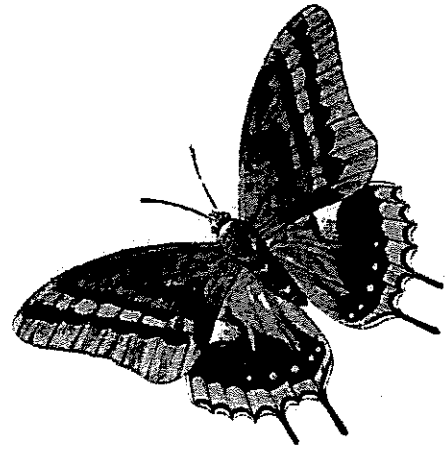




# Sample Basic Schedule

## First Day

11:00 Arrival & Settling In  
12:00 Lunch  
Orientation  
Field Experience  
4:00 Special Interests  
6:00 Dinner  
7:30 Quest  
Sing Down  
9:00 Snacks  
9:15 Quiet Sing



## Second Day

7:15 Rise and Shine!  
8:00 Breakfast & Clean Up  
9:30 Field Experience  
12:00 Lunch  
Free Time  
New Games  
2:00 Special Interests  
4:00 Special Interests  
6:00 Dinner and Free Time  
7:30 Night Walk  
9:00 Snacks  
9:15 Quiet Sing



## Third Day

7:15 Up and At 'Em  
8:00 Breakfast  
Final Clean Up  
Scavenger Hunt/  
Field Experience  
Evaluation  
12:00 Lunch  
Departure



# Sample of Special Interest Programming

The two volume curriculum text for **Nature's Classroom**, *AND THIS OUR LIFE*, and its unpublished appendices contain 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

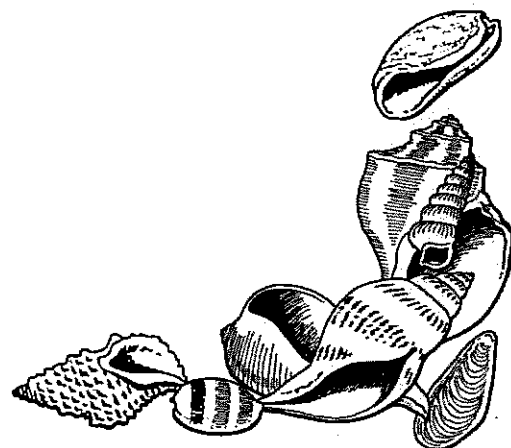
- SC Double Bubble (Chemistry of Soap)  
Just Plane Fun (Flight and Aerodynamics)  
Jelly-Belliology (Taxonomy)  
Incredible Edibles (Edible Plants)
- MA Geodome (Geodesic Dome Construction)  
Get Lost (Map and Compass, Orienting)
- HM Feed Your Face (Natural Cosmetics)
- SS The Oil Game (Sharing a Limited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

## SECOND CLASS

- SC Go with the Flow (Heart and Blood)  
Terrarium Construction (Cycles)  
Egg Drop (Package Design)  
Go Fly a Kite (Wind, Atmosphere)
- MA Countryside Measuring (Geometry)  
Up and Away (Hot Air Balloons)
- HM On the Air (Radio Broadcast Writing)
- SS Native American Games  
It's the Law (Criminal Justice)

## THIRD CLASS

- SC Crystals (Chemistry)  
Hot Air Balloons (Air)  
Pollution Solution  
Oh Rats! (Dissection)
- MA Polling (Graphs)  
Speed Boats (Stream Power)
- HM Woods Words (Poetry)
- SS Egg Babies (Responsibility)  
Dyeing Naturally (Dyes)



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**



<b>Chaperone List</b>	<b>Dates Attending</b>		<b>Contact Number(s):</b>
Mario Ciccariini	5/17	5/18	(203) 907-5813
Katelyn Feige	5/17	5/18	(203) 521-5013
Pam Queen	5/17	5/18	(203) 305-3475
Karen Marrone		5/18 (Day)	(203) 214-3761
Cindy Klabonski	5/17	5/18 (Day)	(203) 994-3523
Allison Hill		5/18 (Day)	(203) 560-9540
John Netto	5/17	5/18	(230) 305-8822

