



ACADEMIC COURSES

Archery - The history of archery, terms, and proper technique are the focus of the class. Students will practice proper technique and accuracy.

Fishing - This class will focus on the skills and techniques of fishing as well as safety. The class will include visual identification of fish along with weighing and measuring the catch. Most of the class time will be spent fishing.

Nature of Energy - The identification of the types of energy and the practical application of energy is the focus of this class. Using such tools as the Van de Graff generator, solar oven, atom models, potato clock, and solar car, students will have hands on experience with the nature of energy.

Nature Hike - Walking along the banks of Lake Travis, students discover animal evidence as well as a number of trees, cacti, and flowers native to our area. Students will also learn to identify these based on specific characteristics.

Orienteering - Students are taught the parts of a compass and how to use it. Students will follow a series of coordinates to find treasures or complete challenges.

Physics Primer - The purpose of this class is to provide a fast-paced entertaining introduction to physics and the Scientific Method. Group experiments will demonstrate different aspects and application of physics using such tools as "magic tricks" of physics, and the gyroscope. The class will focus on Newton's Laws of Motion.

Pioneer Living - A student favorite, pioneer living is a lesson in the history of Mudd, Texas. Our outdoor classroom is located on the site of the former settlement. Students will learn about old wagon trails, tools of survival, and Dutch Oven cooking. Students will mix and measure ingredients into a Dutch Oven, cook their creation over burning coals, and enjoy the dessert they created at the end of the class.

Soil Forensics - Students will discover what types of soils grow the best plants by testing for different levels of PH, nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium.

The Secret Life of Trees - Students will study the inside of a tree to determine age, weather conditions, and even human involvement. The class will focus on photosynthesis and survival of the tree as well as how trees impact our daily lives. At the end of the class, students will make nametags out of tree cookies.

Weather/Climate - This class is a study of various aspects of weather and climate including experiments to demonstrate such things as atmospheric pressure and humidity. Students will gain an understanding of how ocean currents impact weather and climates around the world.

Worm Composting - Students learn the role of worms as decomposers. The students will be given the opportunity to examine up close the qualities of a worm. Students will document how worms react to sun light and water as well as observe the effect "worm tea" has on plants.

ADVENTURE COURSES

All Aboard - Students must relinquish their personal space in order to all work together to achieve their goal of being "ALL ABOARD."

Bomb Diffuser - Students will be challenged to focus on the goal, share ideas, effectively communicate, as well as respect other's ideas and differences. They will also discover that they are an important part of the whole and that their actions impact will those around them.

Cave - Students must rely on their senses to move around the cave blindfolded in search of the right way out of the cave. They are challenged to look out for others as well as themselves.

Climbing Wall - Students will work to reach the top by climbing a forty foot tower! They will be held by harnesses and a belay line. Safety first!

Entrapment - Students learn effective communication skills used in problem solving. This element promotes the importance of effective communication among individuals within the group.

Maypole - Students must work as a team in order to untangle the ropes. This gets tricky when they are instructed to never let go of their rope.

Meat Grinder - Students must come together to form a plan to successfully get their team through the meat grinder. They must trust one another, support, and help guide one another through the grinder.

Mohawk Walk - Students will strategize as a team to successfully complete the challenge of working their way through a series of cables without touching the ground. An awareness of their need of support and help from time to time will become evident.

Mountain Tops - This element is very challenging and rewarding for the students. Mountain Top success requires the group to communicate and problem solve, demonstrate leadership, make good decisions, and follow specific directions. Upon completing the challenge, students will have a heightened sense of self worth and achievement in themselves and others.

Nitro Crossing - Students will learn to deal with individual differences as well as sudden changes in plans. This element will also teach the importance of effective communication.

Porthole - Students will achieve a higher level of trust and support from the group. Through accomplishing the goal there will also be a heightened sense of accomplishment, excitement, and motivation.

Spider Web - Students will support one another both physically and emotionally as a team to actively strategize, plan, and put their ideas into action. Trust and respect for one another will again be reinforced.

Swinging Log - Students will have to focus on the objective, balance their body, and concentrate to reach the goal. Students will also develop a trust, respect, and concern for one another.

T.P. Shuffle - Students begin to laugh, have fun, and feel comfortable accepting help from others as they follow the guidelines for this challenge.

Triangle Traverse - Students will learn to rely on each other for safety as they move cautiously across the cables with a partner.

Whale Watch - Students will be challenged to work together as a team, cooperatively, respect other's ideas, and keep it balanced.