



Journey's School of Teton Science Schools

Academic Excellence · Extraordinary Relationships · Place-based Education · Global Citizenship

1 May, 2011

Dear Parents,

Spring is finally here and we are very excited for the upcoming Rite of Passage Journey. We will be camping in the Gros Ventre Mountains from Tuesday, May 24th-Friday, May 27th. We would like to provide you with an idea of what will be happening over the course of the week. Additionally, you will find a packing list for the equipment your child will need, as well as special instructions for your role on this journey. If you have any questions please contact Tom or Margot.

Due to spotty cell phone coverage at our journey site, we will be calling Journey's School each day to check in and receive messages. If you need to get in touch with your student in an emergency situation, please call either the Activities Line (734-3775), Sam Kitchen (733-3729), or Nate McClennen (413-5654).

Schedule for Rite of Passage Journey

Staff: Margot Angstrom, Tom Marshall, Kevin Taylor

Monday, May 23:

On Journey's School campus all day
Preparation for journey
Water sanitation and human waste disposal discussion
Primitive skills (i.e. fire building, cooking, shelter site selection) practice
Readings and Reflections

Tuesday, May 24:

Meet at Journey's School- 8:15am
Depart for Gros Ventre mountains
Risk management overview of site
Fire starting practice
Small group camp setup and shelter building
Group dinner
Rites of Passage discussion
Sleeping in small groups at shelter sites

Wednesday, May 25:

Group breakfast
Lessons/ plans- spirit animal visualization with Margot
Instructions for next 1.5 days (hang food, put out fire, bear safety reminder)
Cooking & sleeping in small groups at shelter sites

Thursday, May 26:

Solo and fast
Reconvene late afternoon
Celebration dinner
Sharing of experiences



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Friday, May 27:

Group breakfast

Field Lunch

Break camp and return to Journeys School

Clean and unpack, begin preparing Capstone Presentation

Pick up at regular dismissal time (3:30) from Journeys School

Packing List for Rite of Passage Journey

- Backpack or duffel bag LINED WITH A GARBAGE BAG
- Sturdy shoes or light boots – we won't be hiking much, but living outside and needing foot protection
- 2-3 pairs of socks
- 1 tee shirt
- 1-2 long sleeved shirts
- 1 sweater or fleece
- 1 warm coat
- 1 raincoat
- 1-2 pair of durable pants
- 1 set long underwear top and bottom
- 1 pair rain pants
- Warm winter hat and gloves
- Sleeping bag & pad
- 1-2 bandannas
- 2-3 pencils
- Headlamp or flashlight
- Plate, cup, utensils
- 2 water bottles
- Brimmed hat
- Sunscreen & sunglasses
- Toiletries
- Small container of hand sanitizer
- Small day pack
- Journals made in Capstone class

What NOT to bring:

1. *Weapons of any kind.* This includes knives (including pocket knives)
2. *Non-prescription medications.* Such medication will be dispensed by Journeys School faculty as necessary. In addition, no prescription medication should be brought or used unless noted on the participant medical form.
3. *Watches, cellular phones, iPods, etc.* Electronics of any kind are not allowed.
4. *Tobacco products, illegal drugs, alcohol.* They are not allowed.
5. *Extra Food.* Any food can attract unwanted small animals.

While the students are very excited about this journey, they have also expressed some nervous feelings. We recognize that the prospect of spending a long period of time in the wilderness might be stressful. Know that the students are preparing extensively and that we will be there every step of the way to support them through this experience. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us anytime.

Sincerely,

Margot

Tom