

Session Title	Curriculum – What’s your key class?
Date/time	Saturday, January 27, 2007
Name of participants:	Becca Gjertson, Facilitator Cynthia Harold, Crows Neck Environmental Center; Jen Martin, Smokey Mountain Institute; Greg Fisher, Alabama 4-H Center; Becky Tolzman, Montana Outdoor Science School; Gregg Switzer, Montana Outdoor Science School; Jessica Brown, Shaw Nature Center; Josephine Jacobsmeyer, Shaw Nature Center; Cole, Judy Montgomery, Delaware Nature Society; Jim Parry, YMCA Colin County Adventure Camp
Key questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take Home 	<p>Do you give a menu of classes or package classes together?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do they want to get out of their trip? Helps to focus on what classes would be applicable. • Set 3 core classes that all schools participating in program experience and then allow groups to have 3 electives that they can choose. Also, allows focus in staff training, you can focus in on those three core classes that everyone will be teaching. <p>What classes are working well or popular?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CNEC: Cooperative Course with environmental themes, initial program that most groups participate in, sets tone and expectations of residential experience, Canoeing, Aquatic Ecology, Herpetology, Orienteering, Outdoor Survival Skills • CSYMCA: Marine Science, Boating, Canoeing, Compass or Orienteering, Living Machine (waste water treatment facility), Reptiles, Co-Op Class • MOSS: Ways of the West (Lewis and Clark), Science and Literacy, Organic Farm program, Geology Camps “Rock On,” Rock Climbing, Nature Ramblers (little kids, based on teachable moments, structured free time • YMCACC: Prairie, Collaboration Course, Boating, Canoeing, Archery, Town Planning Class • DNS: Pond Ecology, Stream Ecology, Geology, Zoo on Wheels, Harry Potter based science program • SMI: Geology Hike to the Falls, Steam Ecology, Orienteering, All-Day 8-mile Hike, Little Creatures (Field, Forest, and Wetland habitat and organism comparison) • AL4-H: Lake Ecology, Herpetology, Canoeing, Pioneer Village, Climbing Wall, Entomology • SNC: Pond Ecology, Wetland, Forest, Creek, Compass, GPS, Earthwalk (discovery, fun class), Maple Syrup Class

	<p>How to balance observation/free time and curriculum?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water color painting • Journaling, students make them while at the center • Nature drawing and poetry class, Hike to chapel, give topics and let them go to it • Create A Critter (reinforces outdoor experiences) • Nature Photography, 1 camera per 3 kids, incorporate quotes or haiku with picture • Large outdoor brain teasers (like metal ones at Cracker Barrel) that groups have to complete together • Specimen of the day with questions that students must write down and answer by end of day (ex. Maps, skulls, pelts, etc.) • Word of the day, entryway of dining room <p>How to make a class flow?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content, hands-on, always connect back to previous activities <p>Evening Programs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SNC: Night Hike, Astronomy • CNEC: Outpost, capture the flag, trust came, must get several points from cabins to lodge. Students must strategize on how to be successful • MOSS: Animal Adaptations, Sensory Awareness activities • YMCACC: Line Dance, Clogging, Square Dancing <p>How do you rate: fun, get outside, education?</p>
Take home messages:	