

DOCUMENTARY EXPLORERS PROGRAM INFORMATION

Welcome to film school, outdoor biologist style. This unique program, offered in partnership with NW Documentary Arts and Media, is an opportunity for students to make a connection between scientific research and a public audience. The crew from NW Documentary is there to advance your filming skills as you work with peers to follow the entire filmmaking process – planning, researching, story development, filming, interviewing, sound and editing. This camp combines science exploration, research, day hiking and kayaking amid awesome redwood trees with a trip to the best tides on the Pacific Coast. Films will be presented on the last day at OMSI's Brown Bag Lunch, a special showing for the people who helped the films and the program.

OMSI is fortunate to be able to make use of Wolf Creek Education Center in Redwood National and State Park. Located 50 miles south of the Oregon border and three miles from the Pacific Ocean, Wolf Creek Lodge has a modern kitchen, dining and meeting area and natural history learning center. Cabins sleep 16 and are close to the shower house and restrooms. The bunks are wooden, and a foam or inflatable pad will make them more comfortable. The site also has an amphitheater and four miles of loop trails that access forest, meadow and stream ecosystems. An old growth redwood grove, active trout and salmon spawning stream and direct access to Prairie Creek Redwood State Park makes this an exciting site for forest and coastal ecosystem explorations

COURSE SYLLABUS

This course includes a minimum of 60 hours of lecture/seminar discussions, and a minimum of 60 hours of field investigation/laboratory time. Students successfully completing the course will receive a certificate of credit that may be given to their school or service organization for possible credit.

Objectives:

- Learn science by doing science
- Learn community living skills, including cooperation, respect and trust.
- Increase ability to observe the natural world
- Increase ability to observe the natural world through the eyes of a film maker
- Demonstrate basic filming and editing skills
- Using the Redwood ecosystem as a guide understand the general concepts of forest ecology, aquatic biology, wildlife biology, and coastal geologic processes

Activities: Hands on learning in the field

- Explore Redwoods National Park forests
- Investigate fauna and flora of the Redwood forest and coastal area
- Investigate the geology of the Pacific Coast

Concepts: Principles to be introduced

- Wildlife – Adaptations, survival challenges, predator/prey relationships.
- Plants – Adaptations, survival challenges, nutrient cycles
- Marine Biology--Tides, currents, zonation, species identification
- Temperate Rainforest Ecology – Weather patterns, bio mass, adaptations

SAMPLE DAILY SCHEDULE*

7:00 a.m.	General camp wake-up
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	Activity Block 1
11:30 a.m.	Lunch
12:30 p.m.	Rest & relaxation
1:30 p.m.	Activity Block 2
3:30 p.m.	Activity Block 3
5:00 p.m.	Recreation and free time
6:00 p.m.	Dinner
7:15 p.m.	Evening activities
8:30 p.m.	Return to cabins, prepare for bed

* Programs that are partly or entirely field-based will follow a unique schedule each day, depending on the activities planned. Drive times between field sites and campgrounds will include stops for short hikes and games, meals, and bathroom breaks.

TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION

Cell phones are not allowed on any OMSI Science Camp program. Cell phones are too easily lost or damaged. Students have an excellent support system at camp including their fellow students, the counselors, the instructional staff, and the lead staff. We will ensure that any necessary communication between parents/guardians and students can take place through the main phone at each site. Instructional staff carries cell phones during transportation and on off-site programs for emergency purposes only. An important part of the camp experience is for each student to gain independence, develop greater resilience, and enjoy the unique opportunities offered by OMSI Science Camps without technological distractions. We are grateful for the trust parents and guardians put in our staff to care for each student, and we appreciate the time taken in discussing this important issue with your student before his or her program begins.

Digital cameras are allowed, but remember that, at camp, things can easily be lost or damaged. We recommend single use cameras or film cameras. Please keep in mind cell phones with cameras will not be allowed.

For the safety of your child and OMSI Science Camps staff, we strongly discourage our staff from having contact with your child after camp since we cannot supervise it. Making new friends is one of many positive outcomes of OMSI Science Camps programs, and students who want to stay in touch with each other may exchange phone numbers, addresses, or e-mails. Please understand that any communication between your child and another student or a staff member after the camp session is over is the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to oversee.

If your child would like to contact a staff member, then email a letter to: pmsc@omsi.edu.

DOCUMENTRY EXPLORERS EQUIPMENT LIST

Sleeping Gear:

- sleeping bag
- insulated sleeping pad
- pajamas
- pillow with pillowcase (optional)

Field Equipment:

- 2 water bottles (1 quart/liter each)
- flashlight or headlamp
- daypack
- sack lunch for the first day**

Clothing:

- sturdy, well-fitting and broken in shoes. (hiking boots preferred)
- shoes that can get wet. (e.g. sandals, or old shoes)
- 3 pairs long pants
- 1 or 2 pairs of shorts
- 5 T-shirts
- 3 long-sleeved (for layering)
- sweater or sweatshirt (it will get cold at night)
- adequate underwear & socks
- swimsuit & towel
- rain gear (jacket w/hood & pants, or poncho)**

Personal Gear:

- toiletries: soap and container, toothbrush/toothpaste, comb/brush
- wash cloth and a bathing towel
- sunscreen
- lip balm with sun screen
- personal hygiene items

Optional:

- camera
- binoculars
- compass
- lightweight books (field guide, natural history, legends, etc.)

ALL CLOTHES AND EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE MARKED WITH THE PARTICIPANT'S FULL NAME. OMSI IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST ITEMS.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING SNACKS OR CANDY
(rodents enjoy searching cabins for food).

NO ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE BROUGHT (CELL PHONES, MP3 PLAYERS, RADIOS, BLOW DRYERS, COMPUTER GAMES, ETC.)