

## SCHOOL CAMPS

A resident outdoor educational experience should enrich, vitalize and complement the regular school curriculum. While resident outdoor education is essentially centered around firsthand experiences in natural science, the learning opportunities go far beyond this. Learning some of the functions of community living and cooperation away from home; growing in human understanding of each other and adults in a more relaxed atmosphere; improving attitudes toward learning, allowing the student to become involved in problem-solving, purposeful planning and successful execution of the plan; and learning to appreciate more the complexity, inter-relatedness and beauty of our natural environment share equal importance.

Resident outdoor education should offer an extension of the classroom, providing activities which cannot be conducted as well at school. The curriculum possibilities of this program are almost endless.

Classes should be kept small and should offer a wide variety of experiences in which students are encouraged to express themselves and their personal feelings; and to explore, to find examples and to use all senses to observe the differences and beauties of their discoveries.

A resident outdoor education program should give children a reason to refer back to their experiences and build on them, not only through the remainder of the school year, but for years to come...for a lifetime.

This experience shall be for a period of not less than three days and two nights, nor more than five days and four nights; however, the program should not be less than a four-day and three-night experience when feasible.

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