Bears - Summer Program

ENTERING GRADES 8-9 INFORMATION & EQUIPMENT LIST

Join us for ten days of adventure in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, learning about the natural world around us! Participants will step into the shoes of ecologists, geologists, hydrologists, wildlife biologists, and conservation leaders, as they spend four days frontcountry exploring Grand Teton National Park lodging at the historic Kelly Campus and four days backcountry backpacking* in scenic Grand Teton National Park. On foot, and by canoe, students will make lasting friendships and memories, while practicing science in our breathtaking ecosystem.

Please note: This program requires students to carry a ~40 lbs pack for approximately 15 miles total over multiple days on uneven terrain.

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AIR TRAVELERS

☐ If you will need our Jackson Hole Airport shuttle service, we will provide complimentary pick-up and drop-off at the Jackson Hole airport for planes landing and departing within the above scheduled time windows. If your plane does not land or take off within our time frame, a $150 fee will be assessed between 11 am to 6 pm, each way if applicable. There will be no arrival pick up prior to 11 am and anytime after 6 pm.

☐ Please check with your air carrier in regards to unaccompanied minor fees and processes. They differ for each airline.

☐ Plan for additional travel costs of luggage and travel insurance; bring EXACT CHANGE, a pre-paid debit card, or pre-pay these fees before departure. Note that students traveling as unaccompanied minors will not be able to check-in or pay for baggage fees the night before.

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TRAVEL DETAILS

☐ It is important that you arrive and depart at the specified times. The first few hours of the course are a time when friendships are formed, detailed introductions to life at Kelly Campus are given and the program's tone and focus are clarified.

☐ Housing is not available on the days immediately preceding and following this course.

☐ Consider additional travel costs of luggage and travel insurance.

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PREPARING:

☐ Spending Money: Estimate $30 - $75 for an occasional opportunity to purchase postcards, souvenirs, etc.

☐ Food: Our chefs work hard to make good, plentiful and nutritious meals. Coffee and tea are not available. Snacks are available in our dining lodge. Snacks in residence lodges are not allowed due to wildlife considerations.

☐ Visits: Town trips and/or time off with friends will not be possible. Immediate family members are welcome to visit—please have them call ahead to make sure you will be available.

☐ Communication from you: To increase your time in nature and in community, you will not have access to personal cell phones during the week. (See electronics policy for more details). You can write letters and postcards throughout the week; we have postcards and stamps available for purchase.
EQUIPMENT LIST

Please bring the items listed below as these items are required for your safety and comfort. We will be camping, canoeing, and hiking during the course. Participants must be prepared to be outside during all types of weather. Nighttime temperatures can drop to 30 degrees F. Your comfort and safety will depend a great deal on having all of the required equipment. Please note, base layers and pants must be wool or synthetic, NOT COTTON. Teton Science Schools has a large supply of gear to borrow if needed; see notes below.

Upper Clothing Layers
- T-shirts, 5
- Casual, comfortable shirt, 2-3
- Long underwear shirt (synthetic or wool)
- Lightweight fleece or wool shirt
- Wool sweater or fleece jacket*
- Lightweight jacket*
- Lightweight raincoat*
- Gloves or mittens*

Bottom Clothing Layers
- Shorts, 2 pairs
- Underwear (enough for the week, you will not have access to a washer/dryer)
- Comfortable jeans or sturdy pants, 1-2 pairs (for the service project)
- Hiking pants (synthetic)
- Warm pants (wool or fleece)
- Long underwear bottoms (synthetic or wool)
- Lightweight rain pants*

Footware
- Hiking boots or trail shoes that can get muddy*
- Camp shoes - sneakers, crocs etc for campus (close-toed)
- Hiking socks, 5 pairs (wool or synthetic blend)
- Cotton athletic socks, 2-3 pairs

Miscellaneous Items
- Day-size backpack*
- Warm, sleeping bag*
- Towel, washcloth, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, chapstick, etc. (TSS can provide tampons and pads if/ when needed)
- Pillowcase and twin fitted sheet (for cabin bunks)
- Sunscreen, rated SPF 30 or higher
- Lightweight flashlight-headlamp style preferred (with extra batteries)
- Sunglasses*
- 3-5 Pencils/Pens*
- 2 Reusable 1-quart water bottles*
- Sun hat*
- Warm hat* (fleece or wool)

Optional Personal Items
- Closed-toed water shoes (for canoeing; crocs, keens, etc. work well)
- Reading materials
- Small stuff-sack (for toiletries)
- Water-resistant watch
- Camera (cell phones will be collected after arrival)
- Colored pencils & other art supplies*
- Personal journal
- Camp pillow

Backpacking Items
- Warm, lightweight sleeping bag, rated 20F*
- Thermarest camping sleeping pad or closed cell foam pad*
- Internal frame backpack, 3500-5000 cubic inches*
- Durable & lightweight bowl, cup, & spoon*
- Bandana
- Stuff sack for packing clothes, 2-3
- Large, heavy-duty plastic garbage bag

Please DO NOT bring
- Hair dryers & styling irons
- Pocket knives & multi-tools
- Leathermans

Electronics Policy
Cell phones and other electronic devices (e-readers, tablets, iPads, laptops etc) may be used during your travel to and from the program, but will be collected upon arrival and returned to you upon completion. When you arrive you will have the opportunity to communicate to family at home that you’ve arrived safely, and then we will collect all electronic devices.

* Indicates items that Teton Science Schools can provide if you don’t already have them, no need to buy new items just for this trip. Please reach out if you plan to borrow any TSS gear.