

OZARK
NATURAL
SCIENCE
CENTER

2017-2018

Residential School Program

Parent Packet

"Enhancing the understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of the Ozark Natural environment"

10/19/17

Dear Parent,

Thank you for participating in a school supported program at The Ozark Natural Science Center (ONSC). For nearly 30 years, we have enjoyed sharing our Ozark big backyard with over 60,000 visiting children, just like your child will soon be! Together, we have hiked our scenic trails, gazed at a star-filled sky, and laughed around the campfire all while providing a great educational experience that helps children to better achieve in school.

ONSC is more than just a field trip. While here, your child will:

- Apply hands-on science skills that will be used back in the classroom
- Explore, discover, and learn in a safe outdoor environment
- Build independence skills
- Strengthen friendships
- Create lifelong memories

For many of you, this will be your child's first night away from home; for others, your child may be used to sleepovers. Given that we see so many children with so many different overnight experiences, we go the extra mile to make sure your child feels safe and secure while here.



Make friends



Learn science with friends and professional staff

Our safety policies include:

- Children will never be alone with another child or adult. Most of the time is spent in a teacher created field group that is full of classmates.
- ONSC staff is trained and prepared to handle any emergency that may happen; although, most situations have only required a Band-Aid.
- All adults, including ONSC staff, parent chaperones, and teachers will undergo background checks. Only properly screened adults are permitted.
- Trail hikes will not exceed student capabilities. Your child will only hike about a mile at a time.

When your child returns home:

After the program, there will be lots to share! Here are a few conversation starters:

- How many animals did you see?
- How was the food?
- What was the night hike like?
- Would you like to explore in the woods again?
- How was the lodge? Was it comfortable?

We look forward to welcoming your child at ONSC!



Sleep in cozy lodges that have private bathrooms and showers.



Explore beautiful sights



Be engaged in interactive classes



Enjoy kid-friendly food

Preparing Your Child for ONSC

The time has finally come to prepare for this great adventure. Here are 3 things you can do to help make sure this is the best experience for your child.

1. Be excited with your child
2. Complete the Student Participation Form and return it to your child's teacher
3. Follow the packing list below

ONSC Packing Checklist

One complete change of clothing for each day your child will be at ONSC, including:

- Long pants or jeans (no shorts or capris)
- T-shirts
- Long socks (above the ankle)
- 2 pair of used, comfortable, close-toed shoes/boots (1 pair may get wet)
- Sleepwear
- Underwear
- Weather appropriate jacket (sweatshirts aren't enough during winter)
- Sleeping bag or twin sheets & blanket
- Pillow
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Soap, shampoo, deodorant & other toiletries
- Towel and washcloth
- Brush or comb
- Plastic or cloth bag for dirty clothes
- (Optional) Money for the store. Your child will turn this in for safe-keeping upon arrival at ONSC.

Please pack the following for your child's use on the trail:

- Extra layer, such as a sweatshirt or jacket
- Reusable water bottle (32 oz. capacity is recommended; avoid large bottles)
- 2 or more pencils
- Raingear (jacket or poncho)
- Gloves or mittens during cold weather
- (Optional) disposable camera

A backpack will be provided for your child to use while hiking at ONSC

If Your Child Has:

Medications

If your child needs medications while at ONSC, indicate this on the Student Participant Form. Also:

1. Send medications in the original container
2. Provide detailed dosage instructions
3. Make sure your child's name is clearly visible
4. Give the medication to your child's teacher or school nurse PRIOR to ONSC

**Note, all medical information is kept confidential and locked up until needed. Your child's school district policy for student medications will apply at ONSC.*

and/or

Dietary Needs or Restrictions

ONSC can meet many dietary needs and restrictions. Please indicate all needs on the Student Participant Form. If you have any questions you can contact ONSC's Food Service Manager at least 1 week prior to your child's visit.

Loretta Crow

Email: loretta@onsc.us

Phone: (479) 202-8340

For any additional help please feel free to reach out:

website: www.onsc.us

Phone Number: (479) 202-8340

(After-hour calls will be routed to our Executive Director)

Participant Name	School	Classroom Teacher	
Mailing Address	City	State	Zip
Date of birth / age	Gender	Current Height	Current weight

Participant medical history with any of the following

- ADD/ADHD
 Asthma
 Autism
 Cancer
 Diabetes
 Heart abnormalities
 High or low blood pressure
 Seizures
 Stroke

Allergies (check all applicable) -
 Food
 Pollen/Hay Fever
 Latex
 Medication(s)
 Metals/Minerals
 Plants/Trees
 Insect bite/sting
 Other _____ (please specify any specific details related to allergies, including trigger and type of reaction) - _____

Medications - (please list ALL medication(s) including inhalers, Epi-pens, over-the-counter medication, etc. participant takes regularly)

Allergy or medical condition	Medication name / Strength (mg/ml)	Dosage instructions	Date began

In case of minor headache, may your child have - (Please choose at least one)

- Tylenol (acetaminophen)
 Advil (ibuprofen)
 Call parent first
 None

Local emergency contacts - (in addition to parent / legal guardian, those listed also have permission to pick-up youth participants)

Parent / Legal Guardian	Telephone #	Email
	Telephone #	Email
Other	Telephone #	Relationship
Other	Telephone #	Relationship

Permission to participate - Please note participant or parent/guardian signature required before acceptance into any ONSC programs.

Media Agreement

YES, I grant permission for ONSC to use for public relations purposes, any photos or videos taken of the participant, any artwork, writing or statements made by the participant during programs at ONSC.

- NO, I do not grant media use permission

Participation Agreement

I assume any and all of the inherent risks and any other risks incidental to the nature of these activities which are not specifically foreseeable. I will hold ONSC harmless from any and all liability, actions, causes of action, debts and claims and demands of every kind and nature whatsoever, whether for bodily injury, property damage or loss otherwise which may arise from mine or my child's participation. By signing this waiver, I release ONSC and its staff from any negligence incurred. I/My child enters into this activity voluntarily, and I take full responsibility for the decision for myself/him/her to participate or not to participate.

Date	Participant name (printed)	Participant / adult signature
		 Parent / legal guardian signature required for participants under 18

Most ONSC residential school programs include a t-shirt for all student participants. Please select student size -

Adult or Non-Program T-Shirts and other merchandise may be purchased in our business office or online at <http://www.onsc.us/shop-store.php>

- Youth Large
 Adult Small
 Adult Medium
 Adult Large
 Adult X-Large
 Adult XX-Large