



OUTDOOR SCHOOL LESSONS AND ACTIVITIES

CAMO CRITTERS: Students will be nature engineers as they design and build a camouflage creature. Students will use beginning orienteering skills to hide and later find camo critters.

HOW MANY BEARS?: Students will become “bears” to look for one or more components of habitat during this game. Students will define a limiting factor and describe how limiting factors affect animal populations.

OREGON OAKS: Students will learn how to identify the Oregon white oak. They will use tape measure, tangent gauge and math skills to determine tree's height, diameter and age.

POND INVESTIGATIONS: Students will predict what they might find and then use scientific equipment to investigate shore, water surface, open water and bottom of pond.

HUNGRY DEER: Students will examine a deer skull replica to learn about dentition and herbivorous eating. Students will become “deer” who collect food. They will learn about concept of disturbance and how it affects survival of herbivores.

TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE: Under the guidance of a tribal craftsman, students will harvest plants for basketry and create simple baskets while learning about indigenous uses of plants for food, medicine, clothing, shelter and tools.

SOLO TIME: Students will use quiet, reflective time on their own to draw or write in journal about their experiences in nature.

DAY-TO-NIGHT ACTIVITY: Using an inflatable globe, students will understand that the earth's rotation in relation to the sun causes day and night. Students will make sundials to identify patterns in length and direction of shadows.

NIGHT HIKE: Teachers will lead small groups of students on a night hike to develop sensory awareness and observational skills.

TREE COOKIES: Students will learn about tree growth and determining a tree's age by counting growth rings.

MOON PHASES: Students will use models to demonstrate lunar orbit and phases of moon visible from earth.

CONSTELLATIONS AND STARGAZING: Students will listen to a Native American story and learn about circumpolar constellations. They will make a constellation viewer to project big dipper and little dipper on the wall with a flashlight. Stargazing outside, weather permitting.