

Outdoor and Environmental Education Programs

Fall 2009 Workshops

EE-06-Confidence Course Instructor's Workshop (CPD Course)

September 26, 2009

8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

September 29, October 6, and 13, 2009 4:00–7:00 p.m.

This course is designed to provide participants with the knowledge and skills necessary for conducting confidence course activities at all of the outdoor education sites. It is designed to allow participants to be involved in small group activities that demonstrate the proper procedures, processing, and safety requirements for the appropriate and successful use of the confidence course. In addition, group interaction, communication, and cooperation are emphasized, as well as overall team building and problem-solving skills. Completion of this course is required for any staff intending to utilize the confidence course with adults or children. This course meets Saturday, September 26, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Tuesdays, September 29, October 6, and October 13, 2009 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This course will not be released on PDO until August 24, 2009 after 8:30 a.m.

Outdoor Education-Food Web (Predator/Prey)

61729 September 15, 2009

4:00–7:00 p.m.

Voluntary workshop for teachers who are interested in teaching the predator/prey simulation lesson that is used during the residential outdoor education experience for sixth grade students. The simulation supports the "populations and diversity" unit in the sixth grade science curriculum and provides students with an engaging and thought-provoking glimpse into how food webs work and function. Teachers who complete this workshop will be able to conduct the simulation during their students' sixth grade residential experience. The workshop will focus on organizing the experience for maximum educational value and safety.

Disclaimer: Recommended for teachers of sixth grade residential outdoor education.

Outdoor Education-Confidence Course Re-Certification

61728 August 27, 2009

3:30–6:30 p.m.

In order to maintain the ability to use the confidence course for instruction, staff members need to complete a three-hour re-certification course every three years. Instructors certified in, or prior to, September 2006 are due for re-certification. This voluntary course is for MCPS Outdoor Education certification only.

Disclaimer: Only available to those who have taken EE-06 Confidence Course training

Outdoor Education-GPS Aided Tree Identification Workshop

61732 September 30, 2009

4:00–7:00 p.m.

The Outdoor Education Team is offering a voluntary workshop for teachers who are interested in teaching a lesson that can be used during the residential outdoor education experience for sixth grade students. Participants will learn the basics of operating the Garmin eTrex GPS units and how to use the units to locate specific trees in Rock Creek Park. The workshop will also develop teachers' background knowledge, ability to use GPS technology, and vocabulary necessary to identify tree species. Once specific trees are located, participants will then use a dichotomous key and field guides to identify individual trees. Teachers who complete this workshop will be able to conduct the lesson with students during the sixth grade residential experience.

Disclaimer: Only for teachers of sixth grade residential outdoor education

Outdoor Education-Orienteering (Map and Compass) Workshop

61733 September 17, 2009

4:00–7:00 p.m.

Voluntary workshop for teachers who are interested in teaching the orienteering activity that is used during the residential outdoor education experience for sixth grade students. Each outdoor education site has an orienteering course designed to reinforce map and compass skills, problem solving, and mathematical application skills. The traditional approach to orienteering includes working with students on map and compass skills prior to outdoor education to help them understand how a compass works. Students also practice map reading and interpretation skills. Students then have a chance to apply these skills to the orienteering activity at the outdoor education site. Teachers who complete this workshop will be able to conduct the simulation during their students' sixth grade residential experience. The workshop will focus on organizing the experience for maximum educational value and safety.

Disclaimer: Only for teachers of sixth grade residential outdoor education.

Outdoor Education-Watershed (Stream Study) Workshop

61731 September 8, 2009

4:00–7:00 p.m.

Voluntary workshop for teachers who are interested in conducting a stream study with their students. Although the workshop is intended for teachers who will be attending sixth-grade residential outdoor education, other interested teachers will be welcomed if space permits. The workshop will focus on techniques for conducting a macroinvertebrate survey, chemical analysis, and stream buffer analysis of a local stream. Teachers will use traditional materials and techniques to conduct the above studies. Teachers also will be introduced to the new Stream Study Database, a computer database that schools can use to record and analyze data collected during stream study at outdoor education. Schools will have access to the database from the Outdoor Education website to compare data collected over time.

Disclaimer: Teachers of sixth grade residential outdoor education will have priority.

Register for all courses on PDO. All courses except EE-06-Confidence Course Instructors Workshop are available on PDO now. EE-06-Confidence Course Instructors Workshop will be available August 24, 2009 after 8:30 a.m.