**Fall Semester Syllabus – 11 weeks (October-January)**

**Fall I (6 weeks: October/November)**

**Fall Unit Learning Objectives:**

· Encourage curiosity about the natural world through introduction to plant/tree identification

· Alleviate apprehension about camping through familiarity with tents, tools, and materials

· Introduce concepts of ecosystems and interconnected environments

**Program Goals:**

* **Teambuilding (see activities in RAMP binder)**
* **Outdoor Knowledge and Skills Building**
* **Problem Solving Skills Building**
* **Community Service and Social Responsibility**

**DAY 1**

**Icebreaker**

**Team Building Activities, Getting to Know You, What is RAMP?**

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 2**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 1: Outdoor Exploration and Leaf Pressing**

Students explore the green space near school and collect fallen leaves, make observations about the trees in the area. Once inside, students can decorate two sheets of cardstock with leaf rubbings or pressed leaves. Teacher will laminate cardstock to create journal covers for students.

*Materials: Cardstock, crayons, glue, art supplies*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 3**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 2: Book Binding (Create a Journal)**

Watch a how-to video about book binding for kids and show students a finished product of the laminated cardstock bound journal. Have students make a table of contents with headings and page numbers according to future lessons. Tree IC, tree circumference, scavenger hunt, predator/prey, etc. Community service—leave 10 pages

*Materials: Loose leaf, string or rubber bands, hole punch, chopsticks/skewers*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 4**

**Icebreaker**

**INTRO TO COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT**

What is community service and social responsibility?

What are other students doing?

Intro to different ideas

*Materials: Check out* <http://mygreenapple.org/about> *for project ideas. Think about registering your project to become part of the movement.*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 5**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 3: Tree Identification and Measuring Your Tree**

Students go outside to take observations of trees in their neighborhood, notes must be detailed so they can research (using iPads) and try to identify the trees. Each student chooses a tree to measure its circumference and height.

*Materials: field guide (optional), journals, pencils*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 6**

**Icebreaker**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE CONTINUED**

Voting on choice project, and resource/community mapping.

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 7**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 4: Camping Skills 101 Day 1**

Introduce students to the anatomy of a fire (tinder, kindling, fuel, oxygen), LNT activity (see attached lesson and materials list)

*Materials: aluminum foil, lint (or other tinder), kindling, wood log*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 8**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 5: Camping Skills 101 Day 2**

Building a fire, roast marshmallows, tent set up

*Materials: WI tents, fire pits*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 9**

**Icebreaker**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE CONTINUED**

Beginning Action Plan

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 10**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 6: Ecosystem and resource depletion through Eagle/Rabbit game) or Oh Deer**

Students take on the role of a predator (eagle) or prey (rabbit) in this tag-like activity. 2 students are assigned to be eagles and they must tag the rabbits, rabbits become eagles when they are tagged. Game shows how resources are depleted through predation. This game can be expanded to include more depth on the topic.

*Materials: handkerchiefs for distinguishing eagles and rabbits, powerpoint slides*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 11**

**Icebreaker**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE PHASE 1 WRAP-UP**

Continued Action Plan, debriefing/evaluation, preparing for next phase

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 12**

**MOVIE DAY (*Ferngully, Wall-E, Ice Age, Planet Earth,* etc)**

Popcorn as a reward, part of classroom management plan

**Fall Semester - 11 Weeks (October-January)**

**Winter I (5 weeks December/January)**

**Winter I Unit Learning Objectives:**

* Understand animal adaptations and basics of evolutionary processes
* Explore the water cycle and its relationship within the ecosystem
* Develop skills and knowledge for winter safety in the outdoors

**Program Goals:**

* **Teambuilding**
* **Outdoor Knowledge and Skills Building**
* **Problem Solving Skills Building**
* **Community Service and Social Responsibility**

**DAY 13**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 1: Animal Adaptations/Real or Fictitious?**

Discuss how animals and humans prepare for winter. Show powerpoint slides and ask students to decide whether an organism is real or fictitious based on its adaptations.

*Materials: Powerpoint slides, paper, pencil*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 14**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 2: Create-a-Creature**

After discussing the adaptations of animals, students will have the opportunity to create their own animal and justify its adaptations to its environment. Encourage students to research two animals that share the same biome and combine them (ex. liger or griffin).

*Materials: Art supplies, Create-A-Creature worksheet*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 15**

**Icebreaker**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE PHASE 2**

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 16**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 3: Water Quality I (Incredible Journey)**

Student will become a water molecule traveling around the globe. Each place the molecule travels (cloud, river, lake, plant, soil, animal) comes with a colored bead that students will make into a bracelet to remember their journey. In addition to a review of the water cycle, students will learn how organisms in an ecosystem rely on water for sustained life.

*Materials: Incredible Journey Kit*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 17**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 4: Water Quality II (Water Inspirations)**

Learn how water has inspired great works of art and literature through history. Explore the ways art can convey emotion.

*Materials: Powerpoint slides, art supplies*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 18**

**Icebreaker**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE PHASE 2 CONTINUED**

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 19**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 5: Winter Camping Skills/Let’s Go Snowshoeing**

To prepare for the winter event, students will be introduced to layering for warmth and snowshoeing. Depending on the group, it may also be a good idea to talk about the effects of hypothermia

*Materials: Powerpoint slides, DNR Let’s Go Snowshoeing article, snowshoes for the group can be borrowed from Wilderness Inquiry*.

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 20**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 6: Northern Canada Plane Crash Survival**

This classic lesson has students use their innate survival skills to work together to decide how to survive after a hypothetical plane crash in inclimate weather.

*Materials: Powerpoint slides, Survival lesson guide from Boy Scouts of America*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 21**

**Icebreaker**

**Lesson 7: Double Take or Power of Observation**

This lesson encourages students to spend some time observing their natural surroundings. The powerpoint includes pictures with a hidden image from Minnesota Conservation Volunteer magazine. Each picture was taken by a MCV photographer and only upon later inspection was the hidden image discovered.

*Materials: Powerpoint slides*

**Journaling/Debriefing/Reflection**

**DAY 22**

**Icebreaker**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE PHASE 2 WRAP-UP and CELEBRATION**