



Outdoor Club

Program Summary

Bear Creek Community Charter School's Outdoor Club is comprised of 7th and 8th grade students who enjoy exploring local natural areas and learning about hiking basics such as: safety, preparation, mapping skills, importance of hydration and nutrition and identification of local flora and fauna. Mrs. Cienciva and Ms. Longo are the advisors of the Outdoor Club.

This club provides an opportunity for students to socialize with others in middle school who may not be in their grade, classes or social group. This integrated group assists in creating a sense of community within the middle school. Professional staff, administration and their families are invited to assist in supervising the club's outings. This provides school staff and students a chance to exercise and appreciate nature as a cohesive group.

This club meets four to five times a year mainly on the weekends to discover local state parks, preserves and natural areas. The Bear Creek Preserve, Nescopeck State Park, Francis Slocum State Park, Francis E. Walter Dam and Hickory Run State Park are some of our destinations. Over 325 acres of our school campuses forested wetlands and mixed temperate forests are explored.

Outdoor Club members that have attended three or more outings are eligible to participate in our annual camping trip. We utilize the school's camping area and engage in many activities. A few of our favorites are cooking over the fire, kayaking, making s'mores, learning basic camping skills, playing manhunt and identifying nocturnal animals and insects we encounter on night hikes.

We believe the more experiences you offer students and staff to engage in outdoors, the more likely they will become stewards of the environment and create more communal bonds among staff and students.

Grade Level: 7th and 8th Grade

Implementation Timeline: September through June.

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