

VOICES FROM THE FIELD

JUNE 22-26, 2020

CHAPERONE INFORMATION



ISLANDWOODTM 

OVERVIEW

Voices from the Field is a program designed by Washington's Title I Part C Migrant Education Program in partnership with IslandWood, a Washington-based environmental learning center. During the weeklong program on IslandWood's Bainbridge Island campus, students explore science, critical thinking, teambuilding, and investigation skills in a unique outdoor setting.

Chaperones are responsible for supervising students while in IslandWood's lodges, during meals, and in transition times. More importantly, chaperones serve as the connection between the students' home communities and the IslandWood experience. They are valuable resources for IslandWood's instructors, and can help extend the experience back at home.

In this packet you'll see the general schedule of the program, some expectations we have for Chaperones, and more information to give you a broad idea of your role within the program. As the program nears, IslandWood staff will be in contact with more information to help you organize your students, and feel comfortable working with us during the program. Until then, if you have any questions about your time specifically at IslandWood, feel free to contact Mary Meier, Community Education Manager at marym@islandwood.org or at 206.855.4361.

Thanks for all you do. It's going to be a great week!



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

MONDAY	ACTIVITY	NOTES
3:00 PM	Arrival & Check-in	Plan on getting the Bainbridge Island-Seattle Ferry. IslandWood will be in touch to help with ferry logistics closer to the program.
3:00-4:00 PM	Unload & Lodge Orientation	Students & Chaperones are grouped with their School District in Lodges. Chaperones do not share rooms with students.
4:00-5:00 PM	General Orientation	
5:00-6:00 PM	Lodge Time	
6:00-7:00 PM	Dinner	
7:00-9:00 PM	Evening Program	Students will be broken up here into their Field Groups for the week, and meet their IslandWood Instructor. Field Groups are mixed among School Districts. Chaperones are assigned to 1 Field Group for the week.
9:30 PM	Rest/Retire for Evening	Chaperones are responsible for students while in the Lodges and overnight. IslandWood has an on-campus staff for overnight needs and emergencies.
TUESDAY-THURSDAY	ACTIVITY	
7:30-8:30 AM	Breakfast	
8:30-9:00 AM	Get Ready for Day	
9:00-9:30 AM	Morning Gathering	
9:30 AM-4:00 PM	Field Study w/Lunch	Students and Chaperones are in their mixed groups. Field Study can take place throughout campus.
4:30-6:00 PM	Lodge Time	
6:00-7:00 PM	Dinner	
7:00-9:00 PM	Evening Program	
9:00 PM	Rest/Retire for Evening	
FRIDAY	ACTIVITY	
7:30-8:30 AM	Breakfast	
8:30-9:30 AM	Get Ready for Day & Pack Up	
9:30 AM-12:30 PM	Field Study with Lunch	
12:30-1:30 PM	Closing Friendship Circle	
1:30 PM	Departure	Chaperones are responsible for all transportation to and from IslandWood.



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW 1

Our curriculum for Voices from the Field is based off of IslandWood's School Overnight Program. In this program, students base a week around creating an investigable question about the natural world, then go about creating a method to answer that question, and finally answering it using the scientific method. Through this process, we focus on critical thinking, teamwork, and pertinent academic skills with the goal of empowering students. The experience for every Field Group is unique, as it is driven by the students' interests and needs. Our Instructors are current graduate students enrolled in University of Washington's College of Education, many with direct classroom experience. This year, we are taking our curriculum a bit further to tie specifically with the Next Generation Science Standards' behaviors and dispositions tied to STEM. The focus of the whole program is on application, rather than content knowledge. In short, students will learn about soil composition and bird calls, but also gain skills in how they could uncover knowledge for themselves. A few of the lessons and activities include:

- Arts Integration through rhythm, poetry, or visual mediums
- Project-based investigations based around soil composition, water quality, or forest biodiversity
- Teambuilding and communication explorations on our Teams Course
- Writing as a means of communicating a scientific notion
- Navigation and map making
- Hands-on explorations of a space



CURRICULUM OVERVIEW 2

To give more context, here are the main curricular pillars of the School Overnight Program:

Embracing Adventure: Safe physical, emotional, and academic “adventures” enable students to discover their capabilities and to strengthen their self-awareness.

Practicing Pro-Environmental Behaviors: Experiencing and questioning the values of different behavior choices empowers students to become stewards at home.

Living and Learning in Community: Students develop a concrete understanding of relationships in communities. They examine their place in a community through shared experiences and collaboration.

Engaging with Place: Student experiences in natural and built environments raise awareness of, and appreciation for, nature all around them. Exploring "place" also gives a deeper contextual understanding of scientific and social concepts. Through investigations of the environment around them, students develop questions, evaluate possible solutions, and enhance their critical thinking skills.



WHAT TO BRING, WHAT NOT TO BRING

WHAT STUDENTS & CHAPERONES SHOULD BRING:

Sneakers or hiking shoes	Extra pair of sturdy walking shoes and socks
Warm jacket	Sweater and/or sweatshirt
T-shirts or other light shirts	Daily change of underwear
4 pair of long pants or shorts	Pajamas
Slippers for the Lodges (no shoe policy)	Plastic bag for dirty clothes
Rain jacket & Rain pants	Sleeping bag or comforter
Pillow	Bath towel
Books and writing materials	Travel Mug

WHAT NOT TO BRING:

- Sandals or open-toed shoes
- Knives, other sharp items, weapons
- Matches or fireworks
- Food or candy of any kind
- Jewelry or valuables
- Cell phones (students only)
- Alcohol or drugs
- Aerosol insect sprays or sunscreen sprays

WHAT WILL BE PROVIDED FOR STUDENTS & CHAPERONES:

Rain poncho	Toothbrush and Toothpaste
Knapsack	Pencil
Water bottle (students only)	Body Wash
Deodorant	Lotion
Sunscreen	Bug repellent



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 1

How do we get to IslandWood? How do we navigate the ferry system?

IslandWood will be in touch with detailed instructions on how to get to our campus a few weeks before your arrival. The Bainbridge Island ferry is a commuter vessel, and runs about every hour. Unlike some other ferries, like to the San Juan Islands, you do not need to make a reservation for a vehicle. The ride is about 35 minutes, and IslandWood is about a 10 minute drive from the ferry terminal.

Will I be in charge of my students completely overnight? What about homesickness? What about medical needs?

You are in charge of your students from 4:30-6:00 PM in the afternoon, and then from 9:00 PM-7:30 AM each night. There will be about 3-4 Districts in each Lodge, so you and your fellow Chaperones will form a team to oversee students. We also ask that you are the main contact for parents of your students. There is an IslandWood staff member on call for you 24 hours a day for emergencies, and to provide support for managing students.

What if my students or I have dietary needs or allergies?

We ask for dietary needs and allergies on their registration form. Our kitchen is well-equipped to handle most special needs of kids and adults.

Do Instructors speak Spanish?

Some do, and some do not. All of them are well-versed in teaching methods that incorporate other ways of communication. We do our best to group students who are more comfortable with Spanish with Instructors who are proficient.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 2

Will I get any free time? Will I sleep?

Yes, you will for sure. We have a lot of adult support during the day, so we will be working out a schedule for you to give you a break from your responsibilities. During the Field Day you are mostly a participant in programming, with the IslandWood Instructor overseeing the management of students. For sleep, it can be tough the first night or two as students become acclimated, but we promise to support you in any way we can.

How “wild” is IslandWood? Is there running water? WiFi? Cougars?

Bainbridge Island is effectively a small, fairly affluent suburb of Seattle. There are all the things that a normal town has-grocery stores, bakeries, drug stores, etc. IslandWood’s campus is 255 acres, but the buildings are gathered together on site with well-lit paths. There’s electricity and running water and WiFi, but not very good cell reception. And no cougars.

Will I get to observe all of my students in the field?

Students will be grouped together in 1-2 Field Groups, based on age. You will be assigned to one of those groups, and will definitely have a chance to see other groups’ learning experiences as well.

What if I have more questions? Who should I contact.

For anything you need concerning your experience at IslandWood, contact:

Mary Meier, Community Education Manager, at marym@islandwood.org or at 206.855.4361.

