

# DUNDEE MIDDLE SCHOOL

## 8th Grade Camp .....An Experience of a Lifetime

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In the following packet you will find information about the outdoor education experience that Dundee Middle School offers to all eighth grade students.

Our camp this year will be on **May 31st – June 2nd**. We hope that this packet helps answer several of the questions you have.

To reserve a spot for your son or daughter, please return the enclosed reservation form and a \$75 deposit by January 17th to the middle school office. Additionally, students will also have the opportunity to participate in fundraisers to help offset the cost of this trip.

Total cost: **\$195.00**

Deposit of **\$75.00** due by January 17th

**Paid in full by April 13th**

We hope your son or daughter joins us for a great culminating experience at Dundee Middle School.

*“Outdoor education is not a separate discipline like science or math. Rather it is a learning “climate” that offers young people the chance to identify and resolve real-life problems, to acquire skills with which to enjoy a lifetime of creative living, to develop a concern about man and his natural environment, and to get back in touch with those aspects of living where our roots were once firm and deep.”*

*Smith, Carleson, Masters and Davidson, Outdoor Education*

### Contact People

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# Program

“Reliving our Roots – An 1800 Experience” begins right after getting off the bus. We all have a long hike, in which we carry everything we brought to four different “communities” or living areas. There the “citizens” are introduced to their “family” for the week. These co-ed groups of six to eight students and adults live and work together for the three days within the four different areas in which we reside. Cooking, cleaning, obstacle course and competitions are done together. We soon find out that pulling together makes life much easier. On several occasions, we get the entire group together, so students will be able to see friends even if they are separated by communities.

The following is a list of activities planned for the campers. You can see we are very busy and little time is available for idleness.

Town Meetings: These get-togethers are designed to iron out problems.

Canoe Paddling: With life jackets as a must and close adult supervision, even non-or poor swimmers can participate.

COPE Low Ropes: This is an obstacle course designed for group cooperation and development that is climaxed by “The Wall”, a real challenge that CAN be met by all if we work together.

Tower Climb: Climb a 30 foot Tower! You can choose from the easy side, the hard side or the insanely difficult side. Then you get to repel back down.

Archery: Test your skill on a real archery range with certified instructors. Safety is a key!

Group Campfire: Here is a chance to hear some great stories and create some lifelong memories.

Night Hike: We learn the sounds of the night and the ease of mobility if we become adjusted to the light; perhaps something may “spark” our interests on this dark adventure.

Human Foosball: Compete against other classmates in a human foosball game.

Skits: Create a skit for your classmates and perform in a wonderful outdoor amphitheater.

**All will sleep well when we return home!**

## Outdoor Appreciation and Skills

Another objective is for students to have a deeper appreciation for their environment and a better knowledge of the skills needed in the out-of doors. Building no-scar fires and proper disposal of garbage are taught, but perhaps the greatest gift we give the students is the opportunity to be outdoors where they may witness Canadian geese and goslings, deer that inhabit the wild areas of camp or even hear the strange thumping or beating of a courting partridge.

## Historical Appreciation

An objective of this experience is to allow the students relive, as much as practical, three days in the early 1800's in order to reinforce the things they have learned about early Michigan history. In 1837, when Michigan became a state, cooking over open-fires, canoe transportation, and less than modern conditions were necessities rather than recreation. Students will experience these, as well as learning about getting along with others and having compassion. All of these activities provide a perfect way to conclude your child's experience at Dundee Middle School.

## Social Skills and Individual Growth

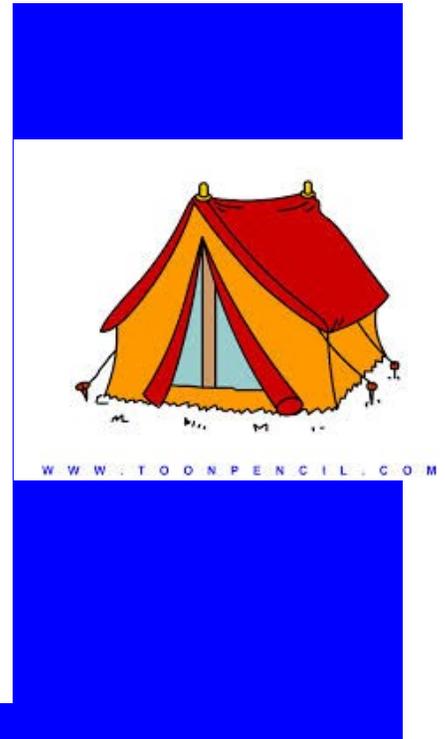
All of our activities promote social skills and individual growth. We participate in an obstacle/cooperation course that demonstrates the need for working together to complete rather difficult physical challenges. Group cooking, dish washing and other chores build cohesiveness among campers. A gather on the final night with skits and other activities will be a celebration of how much they have grown and how much they can continue to grow. Many individuals find they are able to accomplish things that they had previously felt they were unable to do. Quiet moments around campfires give insights about classmates we have talked to barely in the years we have been together.

## Housing

Students will be staying at three different campsites on the property of Pioneer Camp. Campsites have platform tents with two cots for sleeping. Boys and girls will be separated with leaders in between and strict rules.

There will be **2** Dundee teachers and **2 - 3** college/high school graduates in each area.

We are outside and the wild animals will join if you bring food. Please make sure to following the packing list and listen to your leaders so you don't have visitors.



## Clothing

Included in this packet is a suggested clothing and necessity list. Please note that rain gear is a must, as are changes of shoes and socks, as we will go, rain or shine. Also, note that cell phones, CD players, radios, hair dryers, and extra food are not allowed. There is no electrici-

## Health and First Aid

All staff members have had first aid and CPR training. Also included with the registration form is a short health form, asking you to give us insurance information and notice of any medical problems we should be aware of. Please fill this out and return it with the deposit and registration form by January 17th.

## Food and Cooking

As mentioned earlier, the students cook with the camp provided supplies for the meals. With the help of the cafeteria and bulk buying, we are able to provide good food in ample amounts for low costs. If you have any dietary problems we should be aware of, please let us know. We may have diabetic and food-allergic campers and fussy eaters come with us and LOVE it. Menus are available upon request.

# Clothing and Equipment

## Clothing -Bring old but clean clothes

PJ or Sweatpants

Four pairs of socks (at least)

Underwear (at least four)

Shorts

Two or three pairs of pants -at least one pair being jeans

Three or four shirts

One sweatshirt

Warm jacket

Raincoat or poncho

2 pairs of shoes

## Bedding

Sleeping Bag

Pillow

## Toilet Articles

Small container of liquid soap (can be used for both soap and shampoo)

Towel and washcloth

Comb/Brush

Toothpaste/Toothbrush

Deodorant

## Equipment

Flashlight

Mosquito repellent

Sunscreen

At least 2 large plastic garbage bags

## Optional

Inexpensive or disposable camera

Sunglasses

# Eligibility

All eighth grade middle school students are eligible and encouraged to participate in our camping experience. Occasionally, a few students inquire about guidelines that could specifically eliminate someone from this unique experience.

The entire teaching staff works very hard to promote the camp as a culmination of four years of middle school life. Activities promote comradeship and a different view of student-teacher relationships. It is for this reason that all students are encouraged to participate.

If students desire to not take part, or show by their behavior that they are not trustworthy, the following system was developed and implemented in the second semester of the eighth grade. The camp staff reserves the right to exclude any student who they feel will be a detriment to the success of camp.

Beginning in January, there will be a disqualification system for any student that does not maintain good behavior for the rest of the year. A point system will be specified to the students so they will know well in advance what is expected of them to earn this field trip. If your child accumulates too many points, he/she will not be allowed on this field trip. We are proud of the students that we teach at Dundee Middle School. Know that we would hate to not include any student on a field trip but we absolutely cannot take a student that is a behavior liability that could run the risk of ruining the field trip for this year and the following years to come.

# Financial Information

The cost of camp this year is **\$195** with a deposit of **\$75** due by January **17th**. The remaining balance of **\$120** will be due April **13th**. We will offer two fundraisers to help alleviate the financial burden. The Little Caesar Pizza Kit sale will be held in October where your son or daughter can earn **\$5** off of camp for each pizza kit sold. Depending on interest we might run another similar type fundraiser later in the year. Specifics will be passed out at a later date closer to the sale.

# Dundee 8th Grade Camp Registration

I hereby give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the outdoor education experience on May 31st —June 2nd, and I also give permission for my child to travel by bus to and from the camp on the aforementioned days.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Emergency Contacts: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Insurance: \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Policy Number: \_\_\_\_\_

If it would be necessary for my child to return home from camp because of disciplinary reasons, no money will be refunded.

I understand that a deposit of \$75.00 is so that reservations may be made with the camp and will submit the money to the middle school office by January 17th, 2017

Please make checks payable to: **Dundee Middle School**

Are there any health problems of which we should be aware?

\_\_\_ Bed Wetting      \_\_\_ Diabetes      \_\_\_ Allergies

\_\_\_ Special Diet      \_\_\_ Asthma      \_\_\_ Special Medications

\_\_\_ Heart Condition      \_\_\_ Other (Please Explain Below)

\_\_\_ A.E.D.      \_\_\_ C.P.A.P.

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I hereby give permission for the school authority to provide proper medical services if any medical emergency arises.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_