**OUTDOOR ADVENTURES**

**Wildlife Management**

Outdoor Adventures is a fun and exciting co-ed physical education course. Students are taught life-long skills by using integrated curriculum of science, math, writing, critical thinking skills, and computer technology. The focus is on outdoor activities such as: archery, orienteering, survival skills, first aid/CPR, trip planning, angling, tackle crafts, hiking, backpacking, camping, outdoor cooking, conservation/environmental issues and certifications through the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) and the American Heart Association.

On campus activities include: archery, angling, CPR/first aid, survival skills, trip planning, tackle crafts, and orienteering. Off campus activities are listed on a separate page and will be updated periodically. We will be offering camping, fishing, rope and skills trail courses.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School** is very fortunate to be able to offer this course. The Outdoors Tomorrow Foundation (OTF), the charitable non-profit 504 (c)(3) organization under IRS regulations, proudly sponsors this outdoor adventure program in over 320 public schools. In 2010, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department gave the Outdoor Adventures education program the “Proud Partner” status. The OTF and TPWD’s goal is to get the youth, along with a parent, involved in outdoor activities. They are committed to each school having a quality program as well.

**CERTIFICATIONS**

The State of Texas has mandatory hunting and boating laws that require the student to successfully complete a course in these disciplines should they desire to engage in that activity. The fee for Hunter Education is $15.00 and the fee for Boater Education is $20.00. At present, there is no fee for Angler Education. The TPWD furnishes the textbooks free of charge.

As Certified Instructor for the TPWD, the State of Texas gives us the power/authority to deny any student certification if they exhibit a negative attitude. This policy is well above any local school or school district policies. Certification is an option due to the small fees. All students whether they choose to become certified or not, will receive the same curriculum.

**At NO time will firearms be at the school.** At school, we do not teach how to load, unload or fire a firearm. At school, the students will only complete book work, which includes worksheets, quizzes and the state written examination.

In addition to the certifications from the TPWD, students will also have the opportunity to become certified in CPR through the American Heart Association’s Friends and Family program. The fee is $25.00. This certification is also optional.

As a parent, you have the right to request an alternative assignment for your child concerning any particular unit of instruction.

**CLASS ACTIVITY FEE**

There are several activities that will require additional funds in order to participate. A $10.00 activity fee will be collected from each student. This fee will pay for food and supplies for our outdoor cooking unit and a bus for fishing off campus. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School is very fortunate to have a pond located on campus. One of our goals will be to maintain and promote angler activity at this pond. Also, each student will have a chance to eat their own cooking in our Dutch-Ovens. Scholarships for this fee are available but on an as needed basis. If a student can’t pay this fee due to circumstances beyond their control, they need to see me privately.

**OFF CAMPUS TRIPS**

**All off campus trips are optional.** A student’s grade is not effected in anyway if they do not participate in off campus excursions. The trips are designed to apply the skills and knowledge that are taught in the classroom and to increase quality family time.

Trip Sponsorships: If you are financially unable to go on any given trip, please contact me privately and I will see if we can arrange funding for you. Please do not let this be the reason you do not participate in outings. Confidentiality is assured.

**One parent must accompany their student on any trip. If a parent can not attend the trip, then an adult who will be their guardian may attend. It is the parent or guardian’s responsibility to monitor the student at all times and maintain proper and safe behavior.**

**SAFETY**

**Safety of all students at all times is my number one priority.** This applies both on and off campus. To date, there has never been a student injured while under my supervision and I intend to keep it that way. A very strict set of safety rules will apply and will be enforced during this course. I expect everybody to comply at all times. All student handbook rules apply to on and off campus activities. Please see SAFETY Rules at the end of this packet.

**PARENTS**

One of the major goals of this program is to provide opportunities for quality family time. Research clearly indicates in families that are actively engaged with their children, the children perform better at school both academically and behaviorally. Parents are a major key to the success of this program. I hope you choose to become highly involved.

**DAMAGED EQUIPMENT**

Each student will be responsible for the equipment that they use in class. Students will inspect it prior to leaving the classroom. The equipment should be in safe working condition. If there is any problem with any equipment, the student should immediately inform me.

**If the equipment is damaged while the student is using it or in possession of it, then the student will have to pay to replace the piece of equipment. This applies to whether the cause was intentional or unintentional.**

**SUPPLIES**

Pen, pencil, paper, notebook and pocket dividers.

**GRADING**

Grades are based upon daily assignments, unit test, participation and appropriate attitude.

Grades will never be based upon the ability to perform a skill.

25% Daily Work

25% Participation

40% Tests

10% Six-weeks Test

All missed assignments will be graded with the same point values and based on the AHS handbook policies for make up work.

**CLASS RULES**

1. Follow all Outdoor Education Safety rules at all times
2. Be respectful
3. Be prepared
4. Be on time
5. Have fun

**DISCIPLINE**

1st Offense - verbal warning.

2nd Offense - conference with the teacher.

3rd Offense - trip to office and parent/teacher conference

Zero tolerance for Safety/Ethical violations. Any offense that is disrespectful to the teacher, students or content materials will not be tolerated. Any offense against safety procedures will cause a loss of grade, dismissal from the activities and possibly dismissal from the program. All Argyle High School Handbook rules will apply to all on campus and off campus activities.

**DONATIONS**

Time to clean out your garage or storage shed!!!! If you have any supplies or equipment that you would like to donate to our program, I would love to have them. I will not accept any item until is has been cleared through me. No guns, firearms, weapons, knives, broad heads, arrows, propane fuel, etc. Listed below are just a few items of interest but definitely not limited to:

Posters/Magazines

Fishing gear and tackle

Personal Floatation Devices

Decoys/Game calls

Camping gear/Tents

Hunter Orange items

Camouflage

Rope - various sizes

Large eye bolts

Fishing line

Anchors

Dutch ovens

Backpacks for hiking

I must emphasize, you must have permission prior to bringing the items to school for donation.

**General Safety Rules**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Think Safety First
 | 7. Fire and Open Flames: Keep hair and all clothing away from flames/heat source. No open toed shoes. |
| 1. Don’t Know? Ask!
 | 8. Projectile Caution: (Archery, Casting, Tackle, etc.) |
| 1. Know Emergency Responses
 | 9. Eye Safety: During certain activities such as casting, always wear eye protection. |
| 1. Know What You are Working With

 | 10. Sharp Object Safety (arrows, hooks, etc.) |
| 1. Follow All Safety Procedures.

 | 11. NO firearms, ammo knives, broad heads, etc. will EVER be in the classroom at ANY TIME! |
| 1. Report Dangerous Activities or Situations

 | ALWAYS BE SAFE! |

**Communications**

**Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Due to the nature of this class, it is imperative that SAFETY is our number one priority. Please see SAFETY Rules. Horseplay cannot and will not be tolerated. The course is highly structured with expectations. All rules are designed to insure SAFETY at all times.

In addition to being safe, the classroom lessons are equally valuable to the students as I try to teach life long outdoor skills. This requires that your student pay attention, do their work and to remain on task.

I expect each student to show respect to fellow classmates, equipment and wildlife at the school pond. I will also expect each student to follow all procedures outlined in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **School** student handbook.

Depending upon the nature of an infraction of the rules, you may or may not be contacted. The purpose of the below form is to allow you to know what is going on in the Outdoor Education / Adventure class.

Return the below part to the Outdoor Adventure teacher, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Parent/Teacher Communication Form

Please feel free to contact me via email to expedite any matters that need addressing.

Parent Name Email Address Phone Number

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Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_