



Outdoor Explorers

Children's After School Nature Program for Ages 9-12



The NJ Section of the Palisades Interstate Park is pleased to offer an after-school nature program for children ages 9 to 12. The program will be held on Thursdays from May 6 to June 3 from 3:45 to 5:45 PM, and will meet at the historic Kearney House at Alpine Boat Basin & Picnic Area (accessible from PIP Exit 2). During the five classes children will learn about forest and river ecology, geology, history and outdoor survival through a series of short hikes and explorations. This program emphasizes hands-on activities such as hiking, beach combing, and compass reading. Children should wear sturdy footwear, clothing suitable for outdoor activities, and bring their own water bottles. In case of rain, classes will be held indoors.

The cost for the program is \$75.00 per child, which includes five classes and material fees. Children must be dropped off and picked up at Alpine Boat Basin & Picnic Area (except for May 27, see below). Please be on time, as the group will sometimes leave the meeting place at the start of the program.

Schedule

Thursday, May 6: "Explore the Forest"

We will hike north on the Shore Trail to discover different trees, fragrant plants, and the habitats of animals and insects.

Thursday, May 13: "The Sea Glass Beach"

We will hike south on the Shore Trail, learning about how the Palisades were formed 200 million years ago, and collect rocks, shells, and sea glass at a small river beach.

Thursday, May 20: "River Seining"

Messy! We will draw nets near the shoreline to see what creatures live in the Hudson River.

Thursday, May 27: "The Park in the Past"

This class meets on top of the Palisades by Park Headquarters. We will hike to the large ruins of a hundred-year-old mansion built on top of the Palisades.

Thursday, June 3: "Campfire"

We will gather wood and then start our campfire using a bow drill. S'mores will follow.

Contact:

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“Outdoor Explorers” Registration Form

*Please fill out this registration form completely for each child you are registering.
Include check (\$75 per child) payable to Palisades Interstate Park Commission.
Participants will receive confirmation that they are in the program upon receipt of
payment. Fees are refundable up to one week before first class.*

Child Name/Age _____

School Name/Grade _____

Parent or Guardian Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ **Work Phone** _____

Cell Phone _____ **Email** _____

Alternative Emergency Contact _____

**Does your child have any known allergies or medical conditions?
(If yes, please list)**

Who will usually be designated for pick-up/drop-off?

**Contact information & driver's license number for this person (if
different from parents)**

The above information is true to the best of my knowledge. I have read the attached information and give permission for my child to participate in the After School Nature Program under the supervision of PIPC employees Christina Fehre and assistant. I understand that an adult must be responsible for dropping off and picking up the child each Thursday, on time, at the Alpine Boat Basin & Picnic Area.

Parent Signature _____ **Date** _____