

**FREE
CLASSES!**

The Outdoor Campus-West
South Dakota Department of
Game, Fish and Parks

Group Programs



Summer 2014

Registration Information



Group Registration Information

Groups can schedule their own naturalist-led program by choosing from the programs in this brochure and calling 394-1753 for open dates and staff availability. Please be sure to read the information below regarding group requirements!

Program Registration Opens: May 8 for June, July and August

Groups will not be scheduled before this date. Call 394-1753 for information and scheduling.

Group size: A minimum group size of 10 is preferred; maximum group size is 30. Some programs may have smaller class size.

Other programs: Groups of 9 or smaller are encouraged to register for programs found in our community programs brochure.

Cost: All youth programs are free! Thank a hunter or angler for supporting our education efforts!

How many programs? Groups may schedule only one program per month to insure equal program availability to all groups.

Confirmation letter: After scheduling, we will send the group leader a confirmation letter with instructions and a waiver. Please be sure to read this information thoroughly!

Waiver: All individuals signed up for classes must have a waiver signed by a parent/guardian in order to participate. We will send the waiver form with the confirmation letter.

Chaperones: We require at least one adult chaperone for each youth group, and one adult for each youth angler age 7 and under. All adults age 16 and older chaperoning fishing programs are encouraged to have a valid SD fishing license.

Special needs: Please inform us of any special needs, mobility concerns or health problems (including allergies) when scheduling.

Special Requests

If your group has a special program request, contact Keith Wintersteen. He will try his best to accommodate your needs for programs. keith.wintersteen@state.sd.us; (605) 394-1753

Group Programs

(Choose from this list)

Ages are estimates – programs can be adapted to meet the needs of your group.

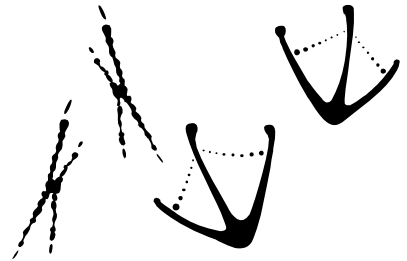
Tracks!

Learn how to identify common animal tracks and stamp an identification key to take home with you. Hike the trail to find and identify tracks.

Ages: 3 - 4 years

Time: 1 hour

Maximum Class Size: 30



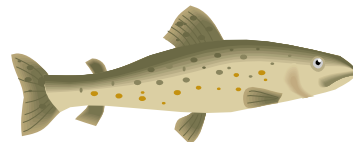
South Dakota Fish

Hands on activities to help you learn all about the fish of South Dakota.

Ages: 3 - 4 years

Time: 1 hour

Maximum Class Size: 30



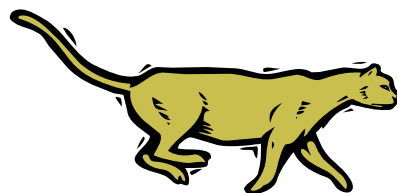
I'm Not Lion

Test your mountain lion IQ. Learn about this fascinating Black Hills feline and where it fits in the food chain.

Ages: 5 - 7 years

Time: 1 hour

Maximum Class Size: 30



Camping With Kids

Learn valuable tips and techniques to make camping with kids of all ages fun. Participants **MUST** wear closed-toes shoes (e.g. tennis shoes).

Ages: 1-100 years

Time: 1-1.5 hours

Maximum class size: 16



A Creek Runs Through It

Learn about the vital role waterways play in an ecosystem. We'll explore a stream, study its path and learn about the creatures that live on, in and under the water.

Ages: 8 years to adult

Time: 1 to 1.5 hours

Maximum class size: 30



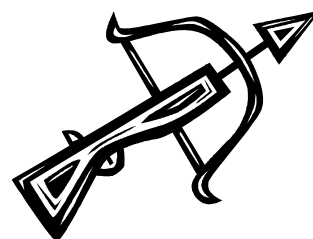
Bowfishing

Learn the basic skills and equipment needed to harvest South Dakota's common rough fish with a bow and arrow. Bowfishing gear will be provided.

Ages: 16 years - Adult

Time: 3 hours

Maximum class size: 6



Cartridge Reloading

Learn basic rifle and pistol cartridge reloading. Topics covered will include reloading safety, gear to get you started, the rifle and handgun cartridge reloading process and how to read & use reloading manuals. All equipment will be provided. No live ammunition will be produced during the class.

Ages: 16 years to adult

Time: 2 hours

Maximum class size: 8



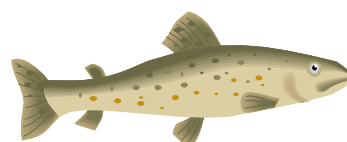
Family Catch, Clean, Cook and Eat a Trout!

Families will learn how to catch, clean and cook a trout. Fishing, fish cleaning and cooking gear will be provided. You bring the appetite. This program is open to adults supervised by at least one child.

Ages: 4 to adult

Time: 1.5 hours

Maximum class size: 16



A Night in the Wild

Our naturalists and trained volunteers will teach you basic survival skills to help you enjoy that unplanned overnight stay in the wilds of the Black Hills. Learn basic shelter construction, camp fire building techniques and other fun survival skills.

Ages: 16 years to adult

Time: 2 hours

Maximum class size: 12



Paddling

Learn the basics of flat-water paddling in canoes and kayaks. Course includes basic safety, paddling strokes, and hands-on practice at our pond. Wear shoes and clothes that can get wet!

Ages: 8 years to Adult

Time: 1-1.5 hours

Maximum Class Size: 16



Fly Fishing Basics

Get a hands-on introduction to fly fishing equipment, knots and casting. Practice casting on our lawn, then do the real thing at our pond! Bring your own hat and sunglasses to keep you safe! Valid SD fishing licenses are encouraged for participants age 16 and older. This includes all adults and chaperones.

Ages: 12 years to adult

Time: 1-1.5 hours

Maximum class size: 4



Handgun Safety for Women

This course is designed to safely introduce women to handguns. Topics covered will include handgun action types as well as safely loading, unloading and storing handguns.

Ages: 18 years and up

Time: 2 hours

Maximum class size: 10



Lure and Tackle Making

Students will learn how to make their own lures and spinners. All equipment is provided. Students keep the gear they make after testing it in our fishing pond. All fish caught must be released.

Ages: 10 to adult

Time: 2 hours

Maximum class size: 10



Orienteering

Orienteering is a fun activity for all ages. Younger participants can hone map reading skills on the beginning map courses. Older participants can learn how to use the map and compass together to navigate in the backcountry, in orienteering meets or in adventure races.

Ages: 8 years to Adult

Time: 2 hours

Maximum Class Size: 12



Introduction to Archery

Experience archery at The Outdoor Campus-West! We will learn about safety and archery equipment, then use Genesis Bows to try your skills with bulls eye and 3D targets.

Ages: 10 years to Adult

Time: 1 —1.5 hours

Maximum class size: 8



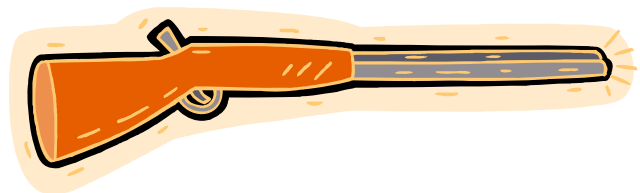
BB Gun Basics

Join us on The Outdoor Campus-West BB gun range as we learn basic safety, shooting positions, and techniques and firearms safety. Improve your accuracy with every shot while learning the basic shooting positions.

Ages: 8 years to Adult

Time: 1.5 hours

Maximum class size: 10



Special Requests

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keith.wintersteen@state.sd.us; (605) 394-1753

Other Options at The Outdoor Campus-West

Self Tours for Groups

Groups may visit our habitat displays, aquarium and grounds on their own. This option is popular with groups who are not able to schedule a program led by our staff.

- **You must call and schedule your group in advance!** This prevents conflicts with other groups and programs at The Outdoor Campus-West.
- Plan 45 minutes to 1 hour for visits to The Outdoor Campus-West habitat displays and aquarium.
- Take time to walk the trails! We have short trails, long trails and trails in between! See all kinds of South Dakota habitats including short grass prairie, ponds, creeks, pine and deciduous forests, western riparian areas and many kinds of wildlife!

Borrow These Teaching Tools

We have crates of teaching materials you can borrow for up to two weeks by leaving or sending a security deposit of \$75. We are not able to take credit cards. When the crate is returned and after a satisfactory inventory of its contents, we will destroy or return your check. These are the crates we lend:

Cougar Crate
Elk Trunk

Critter Crates
Fishing Kit

Swift Fox Box
Bat Trunk

To reserve these crates, contact staff at 605.394.2310 or tocwest@state.sd.us.





Contact Information

Keith Wintersteen

Group Program Coordinator

The Outdoor Campus-West

4130 Adventure Trail

Rapid City, SD 57702

(605) 394-1753

Email: tocwest@state.sd.us