We are excited to offer the first ever Outdoor and Environmental Education Virtual Camp Experience by Camp Seymour for the spring of 2021!

For a \$500 virtual program and curriculum fee, your school will receive a private landing page with all the content and resources to host your virtual camp experience. Your school can do your camp week any time you want to between now and the end of this school year. The content includes:

- **SELF-GUIDED LESSONS** that get kids outside doing hands-on investigations like they would at camp. Each lesson will have a video and a worksheet. These can be done at home individually or in the school yard. Much of the content here is tied to the Russell Family Foundation Grant, so while many of the activities are optional, we ask if you're receiving this curriculum at no cost, you make this section mandatory.
- A CAMPFIRE section, with a video of classic camp songs, skits, and fun performed by Camp Seymour staff.
- An ELECTIVES section with a heavy Marine Science focus as well as some camp classes and other adaptations of Camp Seymour inspired content
- A **TEACHER RESOURCES** section that will include PowerPoints, write-up, and visuals to guide you in facilitating team building and other group activities. These will be set up so you can lead them either virtually or in the school yard / gym with covid-safe adaptations of classic camp activities.
- A place for students and teachers to SHARE WITH US your virtual camp experience. We want to see pictures, read reflective stories, and see student art related to your camp week. Might make a great homework project?

I'm striving for collaboration and flexibility with this program as well as realistic expectations of what it is and what it isn't. We have given you the general framework and content of a virtual $4^{th} - 6^{th}$ grade camp, but I'm hoping each school will "make it their own" by adding live instruction and activities to make the virtual camp experience as special as possible for your own communities.

Here are some FAQ's:

- 1. What kinds of programs or activities will the kids be engaged in? Camp will provide pre-recorded videos and pdf's of activities. They are meant to simulate the camp experience as much as possible, but please keep expectations realistic as there is no substitute for the real thing. I'm hopeful each school will add their own twist as well to meet their goals for the camp experience based on their situation.
- 2. How long will each day of camp be? It's up to you depending on how much you want to take advantage of or add. The main self-guided lessons will take students a minimum of 30 minutes each to complete. We do encourage them however to take their time and try and engage with nature while doing the activities, so hopefully some students will take longer.
- 3. How much involvement from teachers will be needed?

 It depends on how much additional effort each school wants to put into it. The basic framework for a virtual 4th 6th grade camp experience will be there, but again I'm hoping each school will build on this framework.
- 4. Will students be required to have any additional items/access provided to them?

 Not really. I tried to make this as simple as possible. No supplies are required to do the activities. Students will need a printed copy of each of the 5 self-guided lesson worksheets. We

are including an Owl Pellet dissection class as an elective. You would need to purchase your own owl pellets if you choose to do that class.

5. How much parental support will be required? Minimal. Same as remote learning. Students are primed to ask adults before going outside to conduct their investigations in their green spaces. We let the students know that whatever green space they have is the right space for our activities, but they should always make sure it is safe and they have asked permission.

Please don't hesitate to contact me directly with questions or to sign up.

Scott Gjertson | Senior Outdoor and Environmental Education Director

YMCA OF PIERCE AND KITSAP COUNTIES

YMCA CAMP SEYMOUR | 9725 Cramer Rd NW, Gig Harbor WA 98329

P 253-460-8890

campseymour.org | facebook | twitter

The Y is for youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility.