



Dear Riverstone Grade 6 Parents,

What an amazing journey your 6th grader will be embarking on this year, and it all gets launched with a trip to Craters of the Moon National Monument, Harriman State Park, and Yellowstone National Park.

This year's Grade 6 fall trip will begin on Tuesday, September 12 and return to Riverstone on Friday, September 15. The trip will continue to build on a foundation of outdoor experiences that many students had in elementary school. They will become more comfortable being away from home and exploring the outdoors with their peers. The trip will serve as an opportunity for students to get to know new teachers and new members of their class as they begin a great year in the Middle Year Programme.

Fall is an amazing time of year in Yellowstone, the ecosystem is amazing, with many opportunities to explore. The teachers have a great itinerary planned for the students, from observing the feeding of grizzly bears to listening to the quiet sounds around the Henry's Fork River. Each night will culminate with a hearty shared meal, recapping the day's events with each other and becoming excited for what the next day holds.

While on the trip, students will be staying at Harriman State Park near Island Park, Idaho. Their sleeping arrangements will be in dorm style rooms at the Railroad Ranch Bunkhouse, which has a kitchen and bathroom facilities. Each day a different location will be utilized for the curriculum the teachers have outlined, and a chartered bus from Caldwell Transportation will be used for movement between areas.

Please read through the following pages carefully as it contains information for you and your student to be prepared for the grade 6 trip. Although this is a lodge-based trip, students will still need appropriate gear and clothing for sleeping in a bunkhouse and hiking everyday. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact Derek Wright, Outdoor Education Coordinator, dwright@riverstoneschool.org.

Please fill out the permission and health update form attached to this document and return to Derek Wright no later than August 29th, 2017

Sincerely,

Derek Wright
Outdoor Education Coordinator



Grade 6 Yellowstone Camping Trip

Schedule of Activities

Tuesday, September 12	8:30 AM – Meet at Riverstone International School to Depart for Harriman State Park <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stop at Craters of the Moon National Monument for Ranger led hike• Hike at Harriman State Park
Wednesday, September 13	Harriman State Park and Mesa Falls <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morning River hike• Travel to Mesa Falls for lunch and hike to lower falls• Harriman State Park hiking
Thursday, September 14	Yellowstone National Park <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center• Ranger Led Programs• Mud Pots Boardwalk Hike• Old Faithful
Friday, September 15	Return to Riverstone by 3:30 PM

What to Bring

Clothing

- wicking base layers (synthetic or wool)
 - upper-body base layer
 - lower-body base layer
- insulating layers (down, fleece, or wool)
 - upper-body insulating layer (2)
 - lower-body insulating layer
- outer layers
 - waterproof rain pants and rain jacket (with a hood)
 - quick drying long pants
- t-shirts (2-3, synthetic or wool)
- shorts (1-2)
- underwear
- wool or synthetic socks
- sturdy lace-up shoes for hiking
- sandals
- gloves or mittens
- wool or fleece hat
- brimmed hat for sun protection
- swim suit and towel



Equipment

- day pack (for hiking with food, water, extra layers such as rain gear)
- duffel bag
- sleeping bag
- 1-liter water bottle
- sunglasses
- headlamp (make sure batteries work, and bring extra)
- personal toiletries (toothbrush/paste, sunscreen, lip balm, lotion, personal medications)

Other

- \$15 for Thursday dinner in West Yellowstone**

Optional

- camera
- binoculars
- field guide
- book
- playing cards

*Avoid Cotton Fabrics: When it gets wet, cotton is a very poor insulator and can significantly accelerate the onset of hypothermia. Additionally, wicking base layers, which transport moisture away from the body, can help the body stay cool in hot weather.

Locations:

Craters of the Moon National Monument
Harriman State Park
Mesa Falls State Park
Yellowstone National Park
Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center



Return to Derek Wright

PERMISSION SLIP FOR RIVERSTONE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Destination: Yellowstone National Park, Craters of the Moon NM, Harriman State Park

Purpose: Grade 6 Fall Trip

Departure: Tuesday, September 12: 8:30 AM

Return: Friday, September 15: 3:30 PM

Mode of Transportation: Caldwell Transportation Bus

Special Instructions/Equipment: Avoid Cotton! \$15 for Thursday dinner in West Yellowstone

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

Student: _____

Updated Health Information:

Current health issues:

My child is currently taking the following medication(s). Please indicate dosage and administration schedule:

I have had the opportunity to contact Riverstone International School with questions and/or concerns related to this activity and hereby give consent for my son/daughter to participate in the Yellowstone – Grade 6 Fall Trip and I confirm, understand and agree that participation in the activity and the School's transportation of my son/daughter thereto are each subject to the release of liability executed in connection with his/her enrollment at Riverstone International School the terms of which are incorporated by reference.

Parent or Legal Guardian: _____

Date: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

**LIABILITY RELEASE & EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RESPONSIBILITY
GRIZZLY & WOLF DISCOVERY CENTER KEEPER KIDS PROGRAM**

Please read the entire form carefully before signing.

**PARENTAL PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRIZZLY & WOLF DISCOVERY CENTER KEEPER
KIDS PROGRAM**

I am the parent or legal guardian of:

(participant's full name) please print - _____ *(age)* _____,

(participant's full name) please print - _____ *(age)* _____,

(participant's full name) please print - _____ *(age)* _____, and I have read and

understand this LIABILITY RELEASE & EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RESPONSIBILITY of the GRIZZLY & WOLF DISCOVERY CENTER'S KEEPER KID PROGRAM. By signing this agreement, I agree to release, acquit, and forever discharge the Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center (GWDC) and its instrumentalities, their employees, agents, officers, directors, representatives, and any other person or entity in interest with them, from any and all liability whatsoever, including all claims, demands or causes of action of any kind and nature which I, my minor child, my heirs, executors, or assigns, may have or ever claim to have which may occur or arise by reason of my child's participation in the GWDC's Keeper Kids Program.

The Keeper Kids Program is an interactive activity for children between the ages of 5 and 12 years old where your child will walk throughout the bear habitat hiding a variety of fruits, vegetables and kibble in log piles, under rocks and in the pond. I understand that participating in the Keeper Kids Program may involve hazards including, but not limited to, lightning, slippery and uneven or unstable ground surfaces, trees, branches, rocks, bear fecal matter, allergens, insects, ponds, a stream and other children.

I hereby state that I know of no medical symptoms, conditions, illnesses, allergy, or other ailments associated with my child which would be aggravated, worsened, or in any way adversely affected by their participation in the Keeper Kids Program.

I understand that my child will be exposed to not only natural elements but to potentially hazardous activities. I understand all of this may cause accidental injury to my child and others, illness, or in extreme cases permanent trauma/disability and death.

In consideration of the privilege of participating in the Keeper Kids Program, I assume all risks in connection with said activities, for any harm, injury or damage that may befall to my child while participating in the Keeper Kids Program.

I agree that my child will follow the directions of all GWDC personnel. I understand "GWDC" personnel include officers, employees, contractors, volunteers, and agents. I acknowledge that failure to follow any direction, order, regulation, or ground rule may result in the termination of my child's involvement in the Keeper Kids Program.

I further understand and agree that the actions and conduct of my child resulting in any damage, loss, or destruction of GWDC property is my responsibility, and I agree to pay or settle every claim to the appropriate person or agency for any such damage, loss or destruction.

Date _____

Date and Time of Participation _____ **AM/PM**

(Circle One)

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Printed Name of Parent or Legal Guardian