

Kaleidoscope

Box 506

Andover, MA 01810

Dear Parents,

Your child is going to experience a high energy week in Adventures In Science. The schedule included with this letter indicates that we will explore a new environment filled with the mysteries of nature each day. Time spent the classroom will be devoted to discussions, books, or projects that further enhance our experiences. The classroom itself will also be a living environment of in-house creatures and natural artifacts.



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Please help us to make this a wonderful experience for your child by remembering the following things:

- 1) Please provide a lunch every day for your child, as this is a full-day course.
- 2) Please dress your child appropriately according to the weather and special instructions on the daily schedule.
- 3) Please let us know in writing about any allergies your child may have to certain foods or insect bites or whether he or she is highly susceptible to poison ivy. Check for ticks, particularly on legs and hair, upon your child's return.
- 4) Please apply insect repellent or sunblock before your child leaves for the day. (Recommended each day.)
- 5) All parents must sign up to drive on a field trip, as this is a necessity for us to have access to new environments. I am asking parents to sign up for driving in advance. Please call me at home in the next few weeks at (978) 475-0915. When you call, try to have two possible days in mind, in case your first choice is filled. If you have little flexibility, make sure to call early to reserve your spot. Please remember there are **no siblings** on trips!
- 6) Children should probably go to bed early at night so they can deal physically with the activity level of the course.
- 7) If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at home anytime at **(978) 475-0915**.

I'm very excited about sharing my enthusiasm for nature with your child.

Till then,

Christa Ritter

ADVENTURES IN SCIENCE (SESSION II)

PLEASE NOTE: All classes meet from 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM.

MONDAY, JULY 13

Meet the classroom personnel

Exploration of the area behind Pike School. We will engage in scientific investigations and conduct a mini beast search. Dress children in sneakers, hat, pants or shorts, and high socks.

TUESDAY, JULY 14

Trip to an active beaver pond at Baker's Meadow in Andover. We will hike around the pond where children will identify components of the beaver's habitat, such as felled trees, dams, and lodges. We will also examine the habitat in the nearby meadow. Dress children in sneakers, hat, pants or shorts, and high socks. Trip departs at 10:00 AM and returns at 1:00 PM.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

Trip to Wingaersheek Beach in Gloucester, MA. We will be exploring tidal pools in the rock areas of the beach. Children should wear old sneakers or good climbing shoes(that can get wet!) as the rocks have much barnacle growth on them. Sandals or water shoes are not appropriate or safe. Please provide a complete change of clothing as well as a second pair of shoes and socks. It helps to pack a plastic bag to transport the wet, sandy clothes and shoes home. Also, please provide a towel, sweatshirt, hat, sunblock, a collecting bucket, and extra drinks. All articles should be labeled with the child's name. Due to the length of the ride on this trip, children may bring a small game or toy along if desired.

Trip departs at 9:00 AM and returns at approximately 2:00 PM. Please arrive on time so that the group may depart promptly at 9:00 AM!

THURSDAY, JULY 16

Trip to America's Stonehenge in Salem, NH. The children will explore this 4000 year old archaeological site and surrounding nature trails. We will also visit with the alpacas and find gems in the dig pit. Trip departs at 9:45 AM and returns at 1:30 PM.

Please dress children in sneakers, hat, pants or shorts, and high socks.

FRIDAY, JULY 17

Trip to Brooksby Farm in Peabody, MA. We will pick raspberries and visit with the farm animals. Please send your child in with \$4.50 to cover the cost of their pickings and some animal feed. Trip departs at 10:00 and returns at 1:15. Please dress children in sneakers and a hat.

Please bring this permission form with you on **Monday**.

I give permission for my child, _____, to participate in all of the activities and field trips with the Adventures in Science class of Kaleidoscope 2009. I understand that transportation will be by private car and that seatbelts will be provided for each child.

(parent signature)

(date)