

Information for Parents and Guardians

Nature Discovery for Kids Rio Grande Nature Center State Park

Sponsored by the Friends of the Rio Grande Nature Center

We have an exciting program planned and are pleased that your child will be joining us. We will meet in the parking lot at the starting time. All children will be picked up in the parking lot at the end of the session. Please be prompt.

Please read the refund policy carefully. It is designed to be fair to everyone.

The number of students registered affects the kids on the waiting list, lesson plans, purchase of supplies and materials, bookkeeping, payments to the teachers and to the Friends of RGNC, whether a class is cancelled or expanded, and more.

Refund Policy

1. Refunds will be given if the participant notifies the RGNC five (5) days before class begins.
2. Transfers from one class to another need to be made five (5) days before class begins.
3. If a last minute cancellation has to be made, please find a child who can attend in your child's absence. No refunds can be given unless notified five (5) days before class. If the new child does not have a waiver on file, fill one out at the time of the class.
4. If enrollment is too low, the instructor will cancel five (5) days before the class begins and a refund will be given.
5. Refunds will be given by check. Please allow at least two weeks. No refunds can be given after the five day cut-off.

Recommendations:

1. Long pants will prevent scratches, scrapes and insect bites. Shorts may be cooler, though.
2. Sneakers or boots for hiking. Sandals are not appropriate.
3. Always wear clothes that can get dirty.
4. Sunscreen and insect repellent need to be applied before class.
5. A water container that can be easily carried.
6. Unless specified, no food. Exception: bring a brown-bag supper to the Friday night classes.



Remember:

1. Classes will be held regardless of weather.
2. Parents and/or siblings, unless registered, cannot attend class due to limited space and supplies.

Basic program:

Although each Nature Center program is different, instructors usually follow a common format. Typically a session will begin with a factual overview of the topic. This might be in the form of discussion, game, pictures, slides, short video, study of models or real animals.

The nature hike is a favorite of most students. Exploration and observation are exciting. Frequently there are trail activities and games, such as scavenger hunts, collecting insects, or other data. Some classes collect specimens, some have projects.

Then usually the children return to the Center, the outdoor classroom, or the beautiful observation room for follow up and review.

Important !!

Children must stay within sight of instructors at all times.

It is imperative that the children behave and obey instructors. Potential safety hazards will be discussed. Those whose conduct or influence creates safety or discipline problems will be asked to leave. They will not receive a refund.

Please don't bring electronic games, toys or other distractions.