

9/24/2018

Dear Families and Students,

I am really excited to announce that your student will be in my intersession *Path of the Jaguar*. This intersession will take place at Florida Canyon (just east of Madera Canyon) in the Santa Rita Mountains about 35 miles south of Tucson. The Santa Rita Mountains form part of the Sky Islands region and are amazingly biodiverse. We will spend Tuesday and Wednesday night at the University of Arizona's Florida Canyon Research station. We have all sorts of awesome activities lined up including a tracking workshop by the non-profit Sky Island Alliance, a birding workshop, wilderness first aid training and much more.

The research station is located at the mouth of Florida Canyon and has a bunk house, main house and communal kitchen. The research station provides beds and bottom sheets but students must bring a **sleeping bag (or sheet and blanket), pillow** and a **towel**. Students must also bring extra clothes, appropriate shoes for hiking, a water bottle, sunscreen, headlamp or flashlight and a backpack (small day pack like their school packs). I will send home a more detailed list of what your student needs for this intersession. We will be providing all the food and snacks but if your student has special dietary needs please let me know and we will make that happen. Also, if your student is taking any medication or supplements please let me know and we can coordinate that. I have extensive experience taking students of all ages into the wilderness and will do my best to keep them safe.

The schedule is as follow: **Monday** 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at PFFS-U, **Tuesday** arrive to school by 8:30 a.m. and depart for Florida Canyon as soon as possible and spend the night, **Wednesday** all day at Florida Canyon and spend the night, **Thursday** return to PFFS-U by 3:30 p.m. for normal pick up time, and **Friday** normal school day from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Our intersession program is an amazing part of our school and provides students with unique experiences outside of the classroom. I need your help to make *Path of the Jaguar* a success. I need **two parent chaperones** to spend the 3 days and two nights with us at the research station. We will be getting a shuttle to Florida Canyon on the activity bus but I need a few **parent drivers** for the Thursday shuttle back to PFFS-U. *Please let me know if you can be a chaperone or help with shuttles.* We would be very grateful! If you have any questions please contact me via email tpfister@paulofreireschool.org or by phone 520-820-1210.

Sincerely,

Tadeo