



## OUTDOOR SCHOOL STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Version 5.5 | Updated 13 November 2023

The guidance in this document is designed to accomplish one thing: create a safe, fun place to learn outdoors!

Dear Student,

Your safety and enjoyment during your upcoming outdoor school experience is our top priority.

All individuals participating in outdoor school are expected to adhere to the rules in this document. For the purposes of this document, “authorized adults” include school, camp facility, and Straub Outdoors staff members, and school-approved chaperones, overnight supervisors, and caregivers.

In some cases, permission from a Straub Outdoors staff member is required to engage in an activity. If you’re not sure who to ask for permission, check with a Straub Outdoors staff member or review this document. A copy of this Code of Conduct will be posted in each sleeping area and in the dining area at outdoor school.

Please go over the information on the following pages with a legal guardian prior to outdoor school and sign page 4. Students who do not sign this document, do not have a legal guardian sign this document, and/or fail to follow this outdoor school Code of Conduct may lose the opportunity to participate in outdoor school.

Please contact your classroom teacher or school administrator if you have questions. Thank you!

- The Straub Outdoors Education Team





## SUCCESSFUL STUDENT CONDUCT AT OUTDOOR SCHOOL

### At outdoor school, students are responsible for:

1. Following all directions given by school staff, chaperones, and Straub Outdoors staff (authorized adults) the first time they are given.
2. Staying with your designated cohort, Discovery Team, or cabin/sleeping group at all times—unless you have authorized adult permission to leave the group—and returning to the group promptly as defined by an authorized adult.
3. Staying within outdoor activity boundaries and away from off-limit areas as defined by Straub Outdoors staff.
4. Following the rules for all activities as they are explained by an authorized adult.
5. Leaving personal toys, books, electronics, jewelry, and other equipment—other than approved medical equipment—at home or in your cabin or sleeping area.
6. Leaving dirt, sawdust, stones, sticks, rocks, living plants, animals, and other found objects alone.
7. Handling natural science specimens carefully under the direction of the outdoor school staff.
8. Staying away from fences, gravel piles, crawl spaces under buildings, and other structures not intended as activity equipment.
9. Respecting other people’s space and keeping your hands and feet to yourself.
10. Being courteous and a good sport and speaking respectfully to others.
11. Stopping an activity immediately when an attention signal is given.
12. Immediately reporting bullying or other forms of disrespect or abuse to an authorized adult.
13. Not entering a restroom if it is being cleaned or is being used by an adult. (Use another restroom or wait until the cleaning is complete or the adult is finished.)
14. Leaving the restroom immediately after using the facilities and rejoining your cohort or cabin/sleeping group.
15. Immediately reporting any toilet, sink or other facility malfunctions to an authorized adult.
16. Washing your hands with soap and water each time before exiting restroom and before eating.
17. Following all health and safety rules explained by an authorized adult.
18. Communicating with an authorized adult if you feel uncomfortable or unwell.
19. Immediately lining up to leave one activity immediately when directed to do so.
20. Walking when indoors and when entering or exiting the outdoor school activity areas.
21. Reporting any student who is injured to a school or outdoor school staff member immediately.
22. Refraining from using drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, vape pens, and chew tobacco while at outdoor school and immediately reporting any student or adult you see using these while on the camp facility property to a Straub Outdoors staff member.



**The following behaviors are not acceptable at outdoor school:**

1. Ignoring rules and instructions explained by authorized adults or not following instructions the first time they are given.
2. Leaving indoor or outdoor activities or going into off-limit areas without permission from an authorized adult.
3. Leaving the camp facility property without authorized adult permission and without a designated parent/guardian or school staff member to accompany you.
4. Arriving late at outdoor school or departing early without Straub Outdoors' permission.
5. Picking up and/or throwing dirt, sand, stones, sticks, rocks, living plants and trees, animals, or other natural objects unless a Straub Outdoors staff member instructs you to do so.
6. Using field supplies or equipment inappropriately, handling natural science specimens or equipment carelessly or with disrespect, and/or damaging Straub Outdoors' materials, supplies, equipment, or other property.
7. Taking food or snacks from the camp kitchen or meal service area(s) without permission.
8. Wrestling, pushing, fighting, hair pulling, or threatening to harm others or their possessions.
9. Bullying, teasing, hazing, name calling, using gang signs, swearing, or sexually harassing others.
10. Bringing personal toys, books, jewelry, phones, or other electronic equipment—other than approved medical equipment—to the outdoor school activities or ignoring authorized adult instructions with respect to these items.
11. Bringing candy, snacks, drinks, or other food from home (not as part of a sack lunch) without Straub Outdoors' permission or consuming caffeinated beverages while at outdoor school.
12. Eating or gum chewing during outdoor school activities without Straub Outdoors' permission.
13. Walking near or under moving equipment or moving vehicles or crossing traffic without permission from an authorized adult.
14. Not following communicable disease prevention procedures consistently (like coughing or sneezing into your elbow) and/or proper hand washing and sanitization procedures.
15. Starting fires without permission or supervision, playing with fire, and handling flammable objects in an unsafe manner.
16. Eating wild plants such as mushrooms, berries, etc. without Straub Outdoors' permission.
17. Wading into water without adult permission, wading into water with rubber boots above the level communicated by the Straub Outdoors staff, or wading into water without rubber boots.
18. Engaging in horseplay, especially near moving water, in parking areas, or on roadways.
19. Startling, chasing, poking, harming, or scaring wildlife, including insects, fish, and other animals.
20. Separating from your cohort, team, or cabin group for any reason, including restroom breaks, without first asking permission from an authorized adult.
21. Engaging in distracting or disruptive behaviors during meals, snacks, field studies, and all other outdoor school activities.



**Students are expected to use supplies, materials, and equipment appropriately:**

1. Use recreational equipment for the purpose for which it is intended; do not damage equipment.
2. Balls may not be kicked or thrown at others outside of regular game rules.
3. Do not bring recreational equipment from home.
4. No tackling or grabbing is allowed during games; no leaving the game area without permission.
5. Any student who wants to participate in a team activity or game must be allowed to participate.
6. During group games, stop playing immediately when an authorized adult gives an attention signal.
7. Recreational activities or free time may not be substituted for scheduled learning activities.

**What will happen if you do not follow the rules in this Code of Conduct:**

Students who fail to follow the rules in this *Outdoor School Student Code of Conduct* may lose the opportunity to participate in outdoor school at Straub Outdoors' sole discretion after consulting with the school staff and/or school administrator. **Straub Outdoors reserves the right to expel any student who does not follow the rules outlined in this document.** Fortunately, this doesn't happen very often, and the Straub Outdoors staff members will be ready and available to help the school staff and chaperones support you and provide clear instructions and expectations so you can be successful. **Each student and their legal guardian are required to sign this *Student Code of Conduct* document below before the student can participate in outdoor school.** Students who do not sign the *Code of Conduct* or do not have their legal guardian sign will not be permitted to participate in outdoor school. Legal guardian: By signing this document, you are indicating your agreement with all of the provisions in this *Code of Conduct*. ***Please turn in your signed copy of this document to your child's classroom teacher*** and contact the school staff if you have questions or would like additional clarification.

*I understand that Straub Outdoors reserves the right to expel my child from outdoor school for failure to adhere to any of the rules outlined in this document as indicated by my signature below. I agree that following all of the stated rules and any instructions from authorized adults during outdoor school is important and necessary for the safety, learning, and enjoyment of my child and of all participants. If my child cannot or does not follow any or all of the rules in the Code of Conduct and is expelled from the Program, I agree to transport my child from the premises within two hours of expulsion and I agree hold Straub Outdoors and all affiliates harmless.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Guardian Printed Name