



## Teacher's Checklist for the Field Trip

- ✓ **What are the logistics?** Field trips last 3 hours in duration. Your group may arrive any time after 8:30 am but the education programs ends at 12:00 pm. Please park vehicles at the first parking lot when you enter Oregon Caves National Monument. Park Rangers will be waiting for your group. For their safety, keep your students on the bus until directed by Park Rangers. They will come aboard the bus and give students, teachers, and adult chaperones a brief orientation.
  - During the visit, your class will:
    - explore the cave (1 hour, 10 minutes)
    - eat lunch (20 minutes)
    - engage in a forest hike program (45 minutes)
    - participate in the field trip conclusion (20 minutes).
  
- ✓ **What about lunch?** Students will drop their lunches off at the Visitor Center and use the restrooms when they arrive. Please bring a school cooler if possible and we will store the lunches in it.
  
- ✓ **How many adults can come?** Please invite one chaperone per five to seven students. Group size is limited to sixteen people total. Additional chaperones cannot be accommodated. Please be selective with your chaperones. Cave tour programs are moderately strenuous and consist of over 400 stairs with walking uphill for 5-10 minute durations. The entire field trip program consists of walking at least 1.5 miles, 400 stairs, and uphill hiking.
  
- ✓ **How many people can be in a group?** Group size is limited to sixteen people total with no more than 2 adult chaperones. To expedite the activities on the Monument, please have your groups already determined before you visit.
  
- ✓ **Who can go?** The field trip experience is for the targeted grades. Siblings of students that are not in the class cannot be accommodated.

- ✓ **What should we wear?** Students are required to wear tennis or hiking shoes and to bring a warm jacket. The cave is 44°F (7°C) and forest hikes are taken rain or shine. Students may get dirty on the fieldtrip. Encourage them to wear old clothes.
  
- ✓ **What should stay home?** Flashlights, cameras, and electronics are not allowed during the field trip. Chaperones may bring their cameras, and take pictures in a designated area but otherwise, picture taking is not allowed while inside the cave.
  
- ✓ **What are the rules?** Please review the following with your students before they visit.
  - **Listen** when the Ranger talks.
  - **Always stay behind the leader** and stay with the group.
  - **Avoid injuries:** do not throw sticks, rocks, snow, etc., at any time.
  - **All natural features are protected:** do not collect rocks, flowers, feathers, etc. Take only memories; leave only footprints.
  - **Do not feed the wildlife** such as birds, chipmunks, etc. Human food can make wildlife sick and cause them to forget to find their own food. They can bite you, and feeding them results in their becoming pests for other people.
  
- ✓ **Can we visit the gift shop?** The field trip does not include time for visiting the gift shop nor recommend it. If your school has allotted extra time after the field trip activities are completed, your students may visit the gift shop. There must be at least one adult accompanying each group of four children, with a maximum of 8 students at a time in the gift shop.
  
- ✓ **What do I do next?** Send your completed registration form with your lesson plan to the Monument either by email, fax, or mail. Then, copy and distribute “Chaperone Check List” to your chaperones. The education coordinator will contact you and confirm your visit to Oregon Caves.