

Straub *Exploratio*Nature Summer Camp 2010

Grades 6/7/8, July 26-30, 2010

Grab your backpack, lunch and your CURIOSITY to experience a week of ecosystem exploration and stewardship of Northwest Oregon!

Monday, July 26

Watershed Education: Geren Island/ Fisherman's Bend, between Mill City and Mehama



Salem drinking water is rated in the top 10 of the nation. Learn all about where and how our water "works," and learn how we can protect it on our trip to the Santiam River's Geren Island. We will also walk Fisherman's Bend Nature Trail for an introduction to Oregon's native plant and animal species. The day ends with O.S.U. Extension students leading students in a stewardship project to restore natural habitat.

Tuesday, July 27

Opal Creek Ancient Forest, near Gates



Experience a 35,000 acre intact watershed that is one of the last remnants of the forests that used to cover the entire Western Cascades. Come hike through it with us, and learn about ancient forest ecology, watersheds, and the many types of habitats located within this ancient forest (and who lives in them)! There will be lots of hands-on activities, and we're sure to see some of the forest's wildlife inhabitants!

Wednesday, July 28

Temperate Rainforest: Silver Falls State Park, near Silverton



Wednesday's adventures include instruction in how to stay safe and Leave No Trace in Oregon's forests, followed by a guided venture into the rainforest where more than eighty inches of rain falls per year! We will explore the plants and wildlife that thrive in this rich, wet environment. Day campers will also get to work with map & compass and learn to track the forest's animals. The day ends with a trek back through thousands of years of geology.

Thursday, July 29

Oregon Coast Ecosystems: Hatfield Science Center, Newport



We will load promptly at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday to head for Newport to learn all about the wonders of Oregon's marine ecosystems. Learn with hands on exhibits, talks and fun videos. As time allows we will walk the Upper Cascade Head Trail where wild cascades pour off cliffs into the ocean. The trails to wildflower meadows here also have views of craggy islands, the Salmon River estuary, and a cove of barking sea lions.

Friday, July 30

Wildlife and People: Turtle Ridge Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, South Salem



By special arrangement we will be visiting with the wildlife and the devoted volunteers that provide treatment and care of sick, injured and orphaned wildlife and return them to their natural habitat. We will meet raccoons, an American kestrel, a possum, fawns and so much more! We will spend time learning about how we can help prevent wildlife from becoming injured, and launch a service project to take back your school.