

Lagoon Quest - Letter to Parents and Permission Form

Dear Parents of 4th Grade Students,

Your child will soon be experiencing an educational study trip to the Indian River Lagoon (IRL). In most cases, Brevard Public School buses will transport the students to and from a local park along the lagoon. This lagoon experience, sponsored by Brevard Public Schools and Brevard Zoo, will allow students and teachers to explore and experience the diversity and importance of our backyard treasure. This study trip and the supporting classroom lessons will inspire 4th grade students, their teachers, and their families to become lifelong stewards of this rich natural resource. After completing 3 of the 6 Family Activities, your child will receive a free family admission certificate to visit the Brevard Zoo during specified times as VIPs to spend the day exploring wildlife and wild places.

Be assured that the Brevard Zoo has safely run this program for over ten years. The Zoo staff is First Aid and CPR trained and safety procedures are firmly established.

At the lagoon, students will:

- Gather for a briefing on the day's objectives and safety procedures
- Seine net in small supervised groups by wading for 30-45 minutes
- Identify and collect small juvenile organisms
- Perform water quality tests
- Eat lunch and dry off/change
- Investigate human impact through activities including a scavenger hunt and Enviroscape
- Discuss observations, collected data, and their conclusions

To insure that this study trip is a positive and safe learning experience for all those involved, some very important guidelines must be followed by the students. Please discuss the Lagoon Quest Guidelines with your child and make sure they are prepared for this important study trip.

Please complete and return the permission form on the next page to your child's teacher.

Lagoon Quest Guidelines

Students will:

- Stay with their adult chaperone at all times (1 adult per 6 students)
- Remain in water less than waist deep at all times
- Remain within 10 feet of their adult chaperone while wading in the water
- Be courteous and active listeners and follow directions
- Pay attention to all safety procedures
- Wear sneakers or closed foot water shoes and do the "stingray shuffle" to protect their feet

Students need to bring the following items on the Lagoon Study Trip:

- Lunch in a sturdy container that will withstand the elements
- Plenty of fluids to drink
- Sun screen
- An old pair of sneakers or closed foot watershoes
- A pair of shorts (everyone will get their legs wet)
- A towel, change of clothing, and shoes
- A plastic bag for wet towels and clothing
- It is recommended that insect repellent be applied on the children's clothing before they come to school.



The School Board of Brevard County, Florida

Lagoon Quest Study Trip - Parent Permission and Responsibility Statement of Off-Campus Activity

School Name

Date of Notice

Student's Name

Grade / Class

Activity / Event-**Lagoon Quest Study Trip - See the back of this form for Parent Letter describing event and guidelines.**

At _____

Address or Location of Event

On _____

Date(s) of Event

Teacher in Charge

Method of Transportation _____

(If other than bus or other district vehicle list the make and model of vehicle used as well as the name and age of driver.)

Conditions:

1. When the school does not provide transportation, the parent or guardian and student are responsible for transportation to and from the off-campus activity. If a parent or guardian provides transportation, the parent or guardian is responsible for the student's actions while he/she is enroute to and from the site.
2. The parent or guardian and student understand that the school district, its officers, agents or employees are not responsible for the student during the time he/she is traveling to or from the off-campus activity, unless the school is providing transportation.
3. The parent/guardian and student shall indemnify, release and hold the School Board of Brevard County harmless from any and all loss, damage, claim or action for any and all bodily injury, property damage or loss, discrimination and so forth during the entire course of the of the Off-Campus activity. This agreement includes an obligation to assume full responsibility and expense of investigation, litigation, judgment, and/or settlement of any complaint, claim or legal action.
4. Parent or guardian permission for the student to participate in the above activity/activities may be withdrawn by written notification to the principal or by a change in the student's schedule approved by the principal or designee.

* **Does your child have any special allergies or health problems or is on any special medication of which we should be aware?**

* **Please advise:** _____

* **Based on your child's water experience and level of comfort, does your child REQUIRE a personal flotation device**

(Lifejacket) while wading in the lagoon to seine net? YES _____ NO _____

Medical Emergencies:

I/We authorize the teacher or chaperone in charge of the field trip to seek medical treatment for my child.

I/We have read and understand the information above and accept the designated responsibilities. Permission for the student named above to participate in the off-campus activity is Granted Denied

Student's Signature (Optional for Elementary School) – Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (Required) – Date _____

Parents should direct questions concerning the activity to the School Office _____ or the following contact school personnel:

1. Name _____

2. Name _____

Telephone: Home _____

Telephone: Home _____

School _____

School _____