

Field Science Career Experience



Sponsored by Earth's Classroom

Description:

Earth's Classroom (EC) is happy to announce the 16th year of an experiential, 90-hour, field-science, FREE, certification program for high school students! This program has been funded by multiple grants and local sponsors.

The purpose is to provide a program exclusively with high school juniors and seniors who are interested in any science related field that deals with biology, chemistry, or physics. In this certification program EC instructors use the natural resources to show biology, chemistry, and physics in action in real-time. This program is called the Field Science Career Experience (FSCE). EC will be providing three to six-hour, after school, experiential courses, once a month for the 2023-2024 school year (September 2023—April 2024). The core instructors will be from EC, but the FSCE students will also gain knowledge from professionals such as those working for Missouri Department of Conservation and Department of Natural Resources. Each experiential course will be a different subject related to the field, so that students may see the diversity within the field and understand their personal passion.

By the end of the school year the FSCE participants will be instructed and guided to do an hour, solo presentation to an elementary class (April or May 2024) on a subject they felt most passionate about. Thus, not only will this project affect high school students, but *hundreds of elementary students* will be able to share the experience through the eyes and storytelling of the high school students. FSCE's capstone is a 3-day, 2-night Ecology Canoe/Camping Trip on Missouri's most bio-diverse river. (June 2024)

Objectives:

- To inspire young adults to pursue a career field in biology, chemistry, or physics.
- To assist young adults to have a better understanding and appreciation of our local natural resources.
- To provide an experiential educational opportunity not available in the formal school setting.
- To provide a 90- hour, field-science, certificate of achievement to all students who participated...a certificate very worthy on a resume or scholarship application!

The Field Science Career Experience Program:

- **High School Students of the 2023-2024 school year must have applications turned in by FRIDAY, September 1st, 2023!!**

- EC board members will choose the top students from the essay applicants and applicants will be notified by **phone or e-mail** of acceptance between **September 10th or 11th, 2023**.
- Starting on **Sunday, September 17th, 2023**, the following experiential courses will be available to the chosen applicants:

September—GEOLOGY: Welcome to the program and spend 5 hours wild caving in a geologic hidden gem, learning about the interrelationship between the chemistry and biology of this geologic ecosystem.

October---LIMNOLOGY: Learn unique natural history and identification skills related to the life of freshwater ecosystems.

November—MAMMOLOGY: Test observation skills through studying wild MO mammal skulls, bones, and furs.

December—NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT/FIRE ECOLOGY: Visit a native prairie habitat and forest that are managed with control burns to understand the biodiversity they provide and participate in an ecological controlled burn.

January— CULTURAL PRE-HISTORY: Spend time discussing over artifacts and known information about the Native Americans of our area and their interrelationship to the resources, including paleontology and archaeology.

February—SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGY: Visit a home that is architecturally designed with passive and active solar and built in a self-sustainable way.

March— ORNITHOLOGY: Learn unique natural history and identification skills (sight and sound) of our native birds with binoculars and spotting scopes.

April--- HERPETOLOGY: Learn unique natural history of our native reptiles and amphibians.

May---ELEMENTARY PRESENTATION: Present to an elementary classroom and interpret a subject you have the most interest in.

June---3-DAY, 2-NIGHT ECOLOGY CANOE TRIP: Discover how studies of all life are put together in a tight interrelationship as we travel and collect samples down the upper Meramec River (most biologically diverse river in Missouri).

Once all 27 hours of course work, 60 hours of ecological learning/canoe trip, and hour presentation is completed, a 90-hour Certificate of Achievement will be awarded. This certificate will carry the EC logo and sponsors' logos.

NOTE--- *A detailed, dated semester schedule will be provided and discussed at the first course on Sunday, September 17th. Again, all applicants will be notified September 10th or 11th if they qualify to participate for FREE. First course (Geology) will start, tentatively, on Sunday, September 17th, 2023! Tentatively, 5 of the courses will be set for weekday evenings, and 3 courses will be set for weekends (we work with the students for best possible dates.) The Ecology Canoe Trip will be set for either the first or second week of June, 2024; Monday-Wednesday.*

Field Science Career Experience
Application

For Junior and Senior High School Students during the 2023-2024 school year.

Please print in blue or black ink or type.

Please fill out all information with the space that is allowed on these 2 pages.

Name: Last _____ First _____

High School: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone #(s) _____

- What grade are you in for the 2023-2024 school year? 11th ___ or 12th ___
- Have you been accepted into the NRCE program before? Yes ___ No ___
- What high school classes have you taken that are related to the Field Science Career Experience? Examples: Biology, Ecology, Chemistry, Statistics, etc.

- What clubs do you participate in?

- What are your hobbies?

- Would you be able to commit to all 8 courses, the 3-day, 2-night Ecology Canoe Trip, AND the April/May presentation? If not, explain.

- Would you be able to provide your own transportation to all the courses/events, even if you to travel nearly 1-1/2 -2 hours? If not, explain.

- What is your comfort level with speaking in public? Give examples of how you have presented to an audience.

- What future career would you like to pursue and why?

- In your own words, in the space given, describe why Earth's Classroom's Board of Directors and Executive Directors should pick you for this exciting career experience.

REFERENCES: to be filled out by adult REFERENCES

As a reference you support this student in their efforts to be in the FSCE program and feel they would be an asset.

#1 Print name _____ contact info. E-mail or # _____

#2 Print name _____ contact info. E-mail or # _____

DUE Friday, September 1st, 2023! Mail to: Earth's Classroom, 3649 Pumpstation Rd. Rosebud, MO 63091 or fax at 208-279-4205. Scan to bjecroom@fidnet.com. Questions: 573-437-7628 or bjecroom@fidnet.com. To learn more about EC visit earthclassroom.org

Applicants will be notified Sept. 10th-11th, 2023 and 1st class starts Sept. 17th!!!!!!