A Park for Every Child

Vision: Every child in NC will visit a park for a lifetime memorable learning experience at least once during their public school journey.

Strategies for Every Kid in a NC State Park

- Connect with Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and teachers.
- Host summer teacher collaborative for upper elementary grades 4 and 5.
- Sites for summer 2019:
  1. Merchants Millpond with excursion to Jockey’s Ridge, June 26-27
  3. Lake James with excursion to South Mountains, August 6-8.

Summer Institute Goals

- Teachers help plan the experience working collaboratively with park staff.
- Connect with all levels of the LEA (administration, content specialists, principals, teachers) so that no one is left out of the loop.
- Offer resources and $100/day stipends to teachers and $100 after completing the field trip.
- Seek ways to sustain and improve the experience through evaluations.

NC State Parks Field Trip Goals:

- Focus on the park’s most important resources;
- Involve first-hand, hands-on observation of the resources;
- Correlate with Essential Standards for Science and Social Studies.

State Parks Field Trip Best Practices Include:

- Strong communication with teachers prior to field trip. Include schedule, map, clothing requirements, group organization and background information to help teachers and parks prepare students for learning;
- Engage teachers and chaperones as active participants during the field trip;
- A post visit activity (e.g. share what you learned with the field trip postcard);
- Teacher evaluation of the experience.