

## Project Learning Tree and Science Standards of Alaska

Denali National Park and Preserve

June 26 – 29 or July 26 - 29

### Workshop Description

Got zoom fatigue? Tired of screen time? Get offline and stay outside with this place-based educators workshop! Learn about the unique ecosystem of the boreal forest while experiencing phenomenon based learning activities from [Project Learning Tree](#). With Project Learning Tree's Alaska coordinator Molly Gillespie, we'll dive into a deeper understanding of the Science Standards of Alaska and learn how to use these hands-on environmental education activities to meet those standards with your students. After immersing yourself in outdoor teaching and learning techniques throughout the workshop, you'll go home with Project Learning Tree's brand new *Explore Your Environment: K-8 Activity Guide* to use with your students next year!

### Hiking Distances and Physical Fitness

Retreats are active learning experiences and take place off trail in Denali's wilderness. Hiking will be moderately strenuous over uneven tundra, forest, and river bar terrain covering distances of up to 5 miles round trip with as much as 1000 feet of elevation gain. We will likely encounter wet forest conditions and small stream crossings with water levels that are above hiking boots. **Participants must be in good physical condition.** If you are uncertain about your physical condition meeting retreat expectations, please contact us for more information.

### Times and Location

Participants meet at the long term/RV parking lot near the Denali Visitor Center (Mile 1 of the Park Road). Check-in starts at 6:30pm on the first day and the group will begin traveling to the field camp by 7:00pm. After two full days of instruction, the official workshop will conclude around dinner time on the third night. Educators are encouraged to spend the night and enjoy some free time that night and the following day. Participants will be asked to depart the Teklanika area by 5pm on the final day.

### Field Camp

This retreat is based out of the Murie Science and Learning Center Field Camp, located 29 miles inside Denali National Park along the Teklanika River. The Field Camp includes rustic tent cabins, outdoor picnic tables, a shared outdoor kitchen space, shared outhouses, and a small shared storage space. Each tent cabin has two sets of bunk beds with foam mattresses. The outdoor kitchen has a small propane stove and no refrigeration. **There is no electricity, plumbing, or any heated area, i.e., no hot water and no showers.** There is no cellular phone service in the Teklanika area.

**Food**

Participants should bring food for 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners, and snacks. We recommend bringing easy to prepare foods that require little or no cooking. Participants will also need to bring their own dishware, cooking ware, and eating utensils. A water spigot with potable water is available at the field camp.

**Questions?**

More detailed information about this course, including Covid mitigation, can be found by opening the other documents in the “course details” tab on the website.

For more information about Project Learning Tree in general, please visit [www.plt.org](http://www.plt.org).

If you have other questions, please contact the Murie Science and Learning Center by email [courses@alaskageographic.org](mailto:courses@alaskageographic.org) or by calling (907) 683-6432.