



**Murie Science and Learning Center
Professional Development
Field Journal**

Name _____

Course _____

Background Information:

You have selected to take this field course for professional development credit. This journal is designed to help you meet the requirements of the course and will be used in the grading process. Since the majority of the participants are not taking the course for credit, it is up to you to connect with any other teachers in the course to discuss education standards and how you will apply this course's content to your teaching. The course instructor will not be covering these topics.

Due Date:

Your completed field journal is due upon the course's conclusion in the field. Please hand it in to the Alaska Geographic field guide before the final drive back to the Murie Science and Learning Center. A copy of your journal can be made for you if you wish. Please ask the guide when turning it in. Journals will not be returned.

Instructions:

You will find three assignments on the following pages. Assignment one must be completed prior to the course. To complete assignment two, plan a study group with the other teachers on the course seeking professional development credit. Assignment three may be completed at any time during the course. Thoughtfully answer all questions on the following pages with complete sentences and in paragraph form.

Assignment 1: Pre-course assignment

1. Why did you decide to take this course? What are you hoping to gain from it?

1. Please identify the education standards that you feel will be applicable to your classroom in this course's subject area.
Alaska Science Standards can be found at:
<https://education.alaska.gov/akstandards/science/science-standards-for-alaska.pdf?v=1>.

Assignment 2: Teacher study group

Get together with the other participants taking this course for credit. A good time might be before, during or after dinner on the second night. Discuss the following questions, and then complete questions 1 and 2.

Questions for Discussion

Where do you teach? What grade level/s? What subjects? How long have you been a teacher?

Have you used content like this in your teachings before?

What part of this course have you found most useful so far? How can it be applied to your teachings?

Can this information be used in an outdoor setting at school?

What are your ideas for lesson plans? Can this be a unit? Do you have other ideas for how to share this information with students?

How will this experience help you meet education standards used at your school? (A blue binder with the Alaska Education standards is available for use in this discussion – ask your field guide.)

Please complete the following two questions

1. How will this experience help you meet the education standards that you identified in assignment one?

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2. How will this experience be reflected in your teaching this year? Please include at least one idea for a lesson plan.

Assignment 3: Reflection

1. Which part of this experience have you found to be most valuable to your profession as a teacher?
2. Please share any other thoughts on why you chose to take this course and the role it plays in your professional development.