

Explore your Environment with Alaska Project Learning Tree

Denali National Park and Preserve

May 30 – June 2, 2023

Course Description

Explore your environment in Denali National Park with Alaska Project Learning Tree! In this place-based workshop for formal and non-formal K-8 educators, we will learn about the unique ecosystem of Denali while experiencing inquiry-based learning activities from Project Learning Tree. Throughout the workshop, we'll explore the boreal forest and tundra, learning about the natural history and local environment while being immersed in outdoor teaching and learning techniques. A Denali National Park education specialist will also join the course to introduce you to resources and park programs available for your classroom. You'll go home with Project Learning Tree's recently updated, NGSS aligned, *Explore Your Environment: K-8 Activity Guide* ready to integrate the lessons with your students or programs.

Hiking Distances and Physical Fitness

Field courses are active learning experiences with portions taking 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 3 - 5 miles round trip with as much as 1,500 feet of elevation gain. We will likely encounter wet tundra / forest conditions and stream crossings with water levels that are above hiking boots. **Participants must be in good physical condition.** If you are uncertain about your physical ability for this course, please contact us for more information.

Times and Location

Participants meet at the Murie Science and Learning Center, located at mile 1 of the Denali Park Road. Check-in starts at 6:00pm on Tuesday and the course begins at 6:30. On Friday, the group will leave the field camp around 9:00am to return to the park entrance area.

Lodging and Meals

This course 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 and outhouses. Meals are simple and healthy.

Accreditation

The University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) offers one professional development credit (level 500) for an additional \$79 fee. You must register for the credit directly with UAA.

Questions?

More detailed information about this course can be found by opening the other documents in the "course details" tab on the website. If you have other questions, please contact the Murie Science & Learning Center by email courses@akgeo.org or phone (907) 683-6432.