

Explore your Environment with Alaska Project Learning Tree

Denali National Park and Preserve

June 5 - 7, 2024

Course Description

Project Learning Tree offers flexible and engaging lessons that incorporate STEM, language arts, and social studies, and encourage collaborative, inquiry-based learning that can be integrated into your existing curriculum. Students benefit in multiple ways from nature-based learning: decreased anxiety, reduced stress, improved behavior, and increased engagement, to name a few. And teachers do too! In this unique teacher workshop, we'll explore the boreal forest and tundra, learning about natural history while being immersed in outdoor teaching and learning techniques. We'll also learn daily mindful movement activities as another way to explore the natural world. You'll slow down, heighten your senses, and deepen your understanding of - and connection to - Denali's environment and the natural world. These activities can be used with your students to incorporate more kinesthetic and social-emotional learning into your classes. You'll leave this workshop with ideas, inspiration, and a breath of fresh air!

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 Wednesday. The course begins at 6:30pm and will return to the park entrance area around 4pm on Friday.

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. Please see our website for registration directions.

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.