



Join our network of public lands professionals and outdoor educators who share their expertise with students each spring and fall at Outdoor School in Portage Valley.

ALASKA OUTDOOR SCHOOL IS LOOKING FOR FIELD INSTRUCTORS!



FIELD INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS

For many students, Outdoor School is the best three days of the year! Our field instructors are a huge part of their positive experience.

- Explore alongside students and investigate the links & relationships between different elements of the local ecosystem.
- Expose students to new career pathways through discussion of your organization, field of study, and a “typical” day at work.
- Share your love of the outdoors and the ways you enjoy time outside.

FIELD INSTRUCTOR TIME COMMITMENT

Each Outdoor School session is Wednesday through Friday.

New Field Instructors have the option to arrive in Portage Valley on Tuesday afternoon to explore the Valley and meet with KMTA staff.

OPTION 1: INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENT

Lead 4 sessions (~2.5 hours each) of your field study topic for groups of 10-15 students. Students will rotate through each field study over the course of their 3-day program.

OPTION 2: TEAM COMMITMENT

Coordinate with your peers and colleagues to share a single field study topic (e.g. 1 person teaches on Wednesday & Thursday, another teaches on Friday).

NOTE: Field Instructors are welcome to participate in or lead other Outdoor School activities if interested (campfire, recreation time, meals, etc). Room and board are provided Tuesday - Friday for anyone who would like to stay in Portage Valley during Outdoor School.

SPRING 2024 PROGRAM DATES

April 8 - 10

April 16 - 18

April 24 - 26

May 1 - 3

May 8 - 10

WHAT DOES TEACHING A LESSON ENTAIL?

Lessons, or **Field Studies**, are hands-on, place-based explorations of Portage Valley. Field Study topics include:

GLORIOUS GLACIERS

CHUGACH FOREST EXPLORERS

AWESOME AQUATICS

PORTAGE AS PLACE

For your field study topic, you can choose one of the following:

OPTION 1: BRING YOUR OWN LESSON

Lesson plans should relate to our central theme of interconnectedness and be place-based (relevant to the environments of Portage Valley). Lesson plans should also include movement-based activities such as relay races, hiking, scavenger hunts, or other games that physically engage students in the field study topic. *We are happy to work with you to adapt existing curriculum to incorporate these elements.*

OPTION 2: SELECT FROM OUR LIBRARY

Alaska Outdoor School has existing lesson plans and materials for you to select from if you do not plan to bring your own materials and lesson plan.

WHAT IS ALASKA OUTDOOR SCHOOL?

Outdoor School is an immersive overnight program for fifth grade classes in Southcentral Alaska.

Outdoor School is Education Through Adventure!

The mission of Outdoor School is to cultivate lifelong stewardship of public lands in Alaska through standards-aligned, place-based outdoor education for Alaskan youth.

Over the course of the 2-night, 3-day program, students reap the mental and physical benefits of being outdoors and engage directly with the natural world to learn outdoor skills, natural and cultural history, science, recreation activities, career options, and social-emotional skills.



Alaska Outdoor School is a program of the Kenai Mountains - Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area (KMTA). Since our designation in 2009, we have invested \$1.5M in community projects while developing signature education programs and events that foster pride of place and an enduring stewardship ethic in our region.

To learn more about KMTA's mission and impact, please visit our website at www.kmtacorridor.org.

To sign up: contact Sarah Schuh, KMTA Education Programs Manager at sarahschuh@kmtacorridor.org