



UP Outdoors Information for Educators and Parents

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UPLAND PINE OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTER

INFO FOR EDUCATORS AND PARENTS

The Upland Pine Outdoor Adventure Center (UP Outdoors) at Gravatt Camp and Conference Center is an outdoor, adventure, and environmental education service for public, private, and homeschool students. By participating in UP Outdoors, students gain confidence through individual and group activities, develop an appreciation for the outdoors, and learn about how our environment plays a role in our everyday lives. Located in Aiken County, Camp Gravatt sits on nearly 300 acres of wooded forest, lakes, and wetlands, and can accommodate a wide variety of day, overnight, or multi-night school groups. We provide all teaching, activities, meals, and lodging during your stay, and our staff looks forward to serving you!

UP Outdoors facilities include multiple lakes, trails, outdoor classrooms, recreation areas, two dining halls, climate-controlled lodging and meeting spaces, and platform tents and cabins. UP Outdoors participants can also take advantage of our Team-Building Course (Low Ropes) and our industry-leading Challenge Course (High Ropes), along with our numerous recreational activities such as canoeing, archery, hiking, games, and more!

The UP Outdoors curriculum combines environmental, experiential, and adventure-based education programs to create meaningful, challenging, and rich learning experiences for students of all ages. Our standards-based curriculum provides hands-on experiences that get students actively engaged in their outdoor world while also challenging them to grow individually and as a group. Students will engage in fun activities that focus on forest and wetland ecology, water systems, biodiversity, conservation, astronomy, botany, and much more!

Up Outdoors offers experiences throughout the year for students and schools of all levels, ages, and sizes, and our professional and experienced staff will tailor our programming to meet your specific goals and needs. Give us a call today to see how UP Outdoors can help your students!



PLANNING YOUR TRIP

At Gravatt, we want your trip to be meaningful, educational, and fun! Our staff can help you plan a personalized itinerary that meets your specific needs, budget, and goals. To that end, here are a few things you'll want to consider ahead of your potential trip.

Duration/Arrival/Departure

You'll want to have an idea of how long you want your trip to be. We offer 1-, 2-, and 3-day experiences, and we can accommodate a variety of arrival, departure, and travel needs.

Budget

We can create experiences for every budget! Give our staff a call to discuss how we can maximize the funds available to you!

Group Size

Depending on your lodging needs, we can accommodate a variety of group sizes. We often host everything from individual classes/grade levels to entire schools. Talk with us about your group's size and needs!

Activities

Look through the modules and activities in this packet to get an idea of the wide variety of experiences we offer. Please note that we can tailor all experiences and schedules to your needs, and we are often able to accommodate activities of your own design (guest speakers, worship services, etc.).

Lodging/Dining

During your stay, you have multiple options to meet the needs of students and adults. We have rustic screened cabins and/or platform tents, various conditioned cabins, and hotel-like lodge and cottage rooms. We provide all meals during your stay, and we can accommodate all dietary needs and restrictions. Talk to our staff about how we can best accommodate you!

Secular/Religious Needs

Gravatt is affiliated with the Episcopal Church, but we routinely host public, private, religious, and secular schools throughout the year. We are sensitive and responsive to the diverse needs of our guests!

SAMPLE SCHEDULES

Our professional and experienced staff will tailor your schedule to your exact needs. Gravatt's size allows us to provide a wide range of programming while also creating a personalized experience for every group.

Below are some sample schedules that we use for various groups, and please note that these can be customized with alternate/additional activities based on your preferences, arrival times, and travel needs.

SAMPLE 2-DAY SCHEDULE

Day One

9:15 Arrival
9:30 Settle in and Orientation
10:15 Team Building Course
12:30 Lunch
1:15 UP Outdoors
3:45 Recreational Activities
6:00 Dinner
6:45 UP Outdoors
8:30 Campfire/Star Stories

Day Two

8:30 Breakfast
9:15 Challenge Course
12:30 Lunch
1:15 UP Outdoors
3:30 Depart

SAMPLE 1-DAY SCHEDULE

8:30 Arrival
9:00 Team Building Course
11:00 UP Outdoors
12:30 Lunch
1:15 UP Outdoors
2:30 Challenge Course
4:00 Swim/Depart

SAMPLE 3-DAY SCHEDULE

Day One

9:15 Arrival
9:30 Settle in and Orientation
10:15 UP Outdoors
12:30 Lunch
1:15 Swimming/Canoeing/Archery
3:45 Challenge Course
6:00 Dinner
6:45 UP Outdoors
8:30 Campfire/S'mores

Day Two

8:30 Breakfast
9:30 Mass/Chapel
10:45 UP Outdoors
12:30 Lunch
1:30 Team Building Course
3:45 UP Outdoors
6:00 Dinner
7:30 Night Hike

Day Three

8:30 Breakfast
9:00 Tie-Dye
10:00 Field Games
11:00 Group Debrief
12:30 Lunch

BETWEEN EVERY TWO PINES

“Between every two pines there is a doorway to a new world.” –John Muir

General Overview

This outdoor class experience will take your students into the great outdoors to discover a wide world of natural beauty! Together we will explore an Upland Longleaf Pine Forest, learn about the ecological processes of the native and critically endangered longleaf pine, and get hands-on time examining the bones of the creatures who call Gravatt home!

Activities

Students will learn about animal classification through an in-field discussion and actual bone examinations including skulls, furs, and antlers. A guided nature hike through Sparkleberry Woods will focus on the longleaf pine ecosystem, animal behavior, and the balance of the food web. Students will engage in multiple fun games and follow along a deer path while learning about natural resource conservation and how the cycle of matter contributes to our ecosystem.

Science and Engineering Practices, Core Ideas, Crosscutting Concepts

- Earth Materials and Systems
- Analyzing and Interpreting Data
- Systems and System Models
- Cycle of Matter/Energy Transfer in Ecosystems
- Natural Resources
- Energy in Chemical Processes and Everyday Life
- Organization for Matter and Energy Flow in Organisms



IT'S ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE!

General Overview

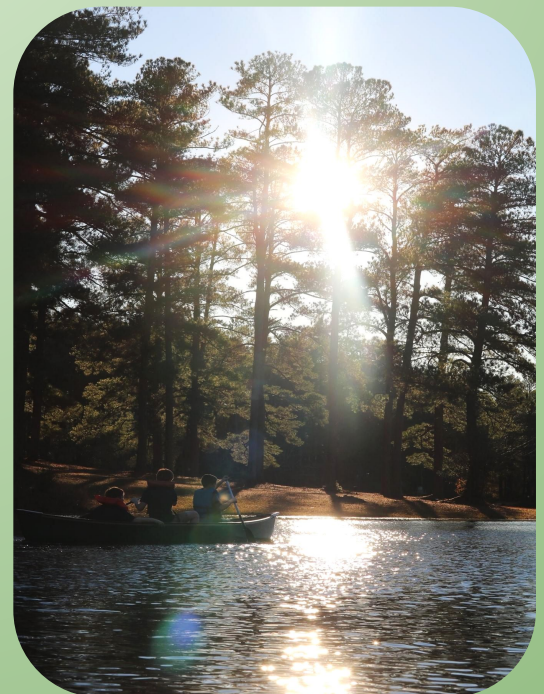
A little mud never hurt anyone! In this class we will trace the origins of water, learn about various hydrologic processes including the water cycle, discuss the effects of downstream pollution, and see the power of erosion first hand. Together we will explore our Atlantic White Cedar Bog and see how plants thrive in a nutrient poor, but water rich, environment.

Activities

Students will engage in multiple activities related to the water cycle and water's effect on the surrounding wetland ecosystem. Students will hike to the spring of Lake Henry, follow the stream downhill, and examine the causes and effects of erosion. Students will get to participate in a Water Cycle simulation activity and get muddy as they search, identify, and categorize various water insects. The effects of water pollution will also be discussed as they relate to both natural and human impacts.

Science and Engineering Practices, Core Ideas, Crosscutting Concepts

- Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
- Developing and Using Models
- Analyzing and Interpreting Data
- Human Impacts on Earth Systems
- The Roles of Water in Earth's Surface Processes
- Earth Materials and Systems
- Systems and System Models



WHOOO TURNED OFF THE LIGHTS?

General Overview

Discover the world of moonlight as we wander and discuss the critters who are specially adapted to the dark. In this nocturnal class we will learn the evolutionary advantages of owls, bats, and moths, oh my! Our full senses will be put to the test as we feel, taste, smell, and listen to the activity of nighttime forest life. After a few lessons and games, we will wind our class down with stories from the past about the constellations of the night sky.



Activities

Overnight groups love going on this Night Hike which includes discussions about how many animals have adapted and evolved to the darkness. Students will learn about the anatomy of the eye, and they will engage in using the rest of their senses, just as these animals do, to investigate how they navigate the nighttime forest ecosystem. Students will also engage in star gazing activities that focus on astronomy and constellation history.

Science and Engineering Practices, Core Ideas, Crosscutting Concepts

- The Universe and Its Stars
- Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
- Scale, Proportion, and Quantity
- Patterns

CAN'T TAKE THE HEAT? GET OUT OF THE FOREST!

General Overview

Fire is an essential part of forest health in our woods. We will wander the forest and discuss the effects of fire on the flora and fauna. Students will be able to see and compare the difference between burned and unburned stands of forest. We'll examine the soil quality in each forest section and see what we can deduce about carbon, our basic building block of life. We will take note of the different factors that affect prescribed fires, wind direction, humidity, temperature, moisture content, and fuel load.

Activities

Students will go on a guided nature hike and learn how Gravatt uses prescribed burns to promote the overall health of our forest ecosystem. Students will examine how proper forest management techniques support the various forms of life in the forest, and they will learn about carbon's role in our forest. Students will compare soil samples, develop their own prescribed burn plan, and understand the role that fire plays in promoting a healthy ecosystem.

Science and Engineering Practices, Core Ideas, Crosscutting Concepts

- Developing and Using Models
- Planning and Carrying Out Investigations
- Analyzing and Interpreting Data
- Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems
- Systems and System Models
- Interdependence of Science, Engineering, and Technology

TEAM-BUILDING COURSE

General Overview

Our Team-Building Course offers diverse and scalable group challenges that provide students with the opportunity to grow in their teamwork, trust, and communication skills. Challenges can be differentiated to meet the needs of each group and/or individual students.

Activities

Often referred to as Low Ropes, our Team-Building Course offers group activities like the Trust Fall, Whale Watch, and The Wall which all require groups to work together to overcome challenges. With over 20 different obstacles, the course offerings can be tailored to any group's individual needs.

Profile of the SC Graduate Competencies

- Lead Teams
- Navigate Conflict
- Express Ideas
- Design Solutions
- Build Networks
- Sustain Wellness



CHALLENGE COURSE

General Overview

Our Challenge Course is geared toward each individual in your group. Students will practice goal-setting skills while participating in the philosophy of “Challenge By Choice.” Students will participate in challenge course elements where they are belayed by a staff member on the ground as they navigate through our course in the trees. This course is designed to safely push students out of their comfort zone and challenge them to set goals and encourage one another—no matter what each individual’s goals may be.

Activities

Often referred to as High Ropes, our Challenge Course has numerous elements that require participants to set a goal, trust their belayer, and navigate challenges high above the ground. Elements include the Catwalk, Zipline, and our Climbing Tower.

Profile of the SC Graduate Competencies

Lead Teams

Navigate Conflict

Express Ideas

Design Solutions

Build Networks

Sustain Wellness



RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

General Overview

Gravatt has a variety of Recreational Activities in which your group may choose to participate during your stay. Our property is well-suited for rest and relaxation, and offers guests the opportunity to get away from the stress of everyday life. We offer a variety of activities that are scalable to meet the needs of a variety of ages and group sizes, and can be adapted to multiple seasons and weather situations.

Activities

We offer a variety of activities included, but not limited to:

- Canoeing
- Archery
- Hiking (Guided or Independent) on Multiple Trails
- Swimming on Lake Henry and/or Lake Sylvia (With a Water Slide and a Blob!)
- Campfire (with or without S'Mores!)
- Indoor and Outdoor Chapels
- Tie-Dye

Profile of the SC Graduate Competencies

- Build Networks
- Sustain Wellness
- Lead Teams
- Navigate Conflict
- Express Ideas

