



teton science schools
Educating for a Vibrant World

Dear Parents,

Welcome and greetings from Jackson Hole, Wyoming! We're excited that your child will be joining us at the Jackson Campus of Teton Science Schools. We look forward to sharing the natural world of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem with your child!

Enclosed is a packet of information that will assist you in preparing for your child's program. For more information, please contact your group's leader.

Kind Regards,

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Jackson Campus Coordinator
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Enclosed you will also find information on the following topics:

- Pillars of Field Education and Outreach
- Clothing & Equipment
- Gift Shop Price List
- Medical Form
- Risk Release Form (Challenge Course)
- Staying at the Jackson Campus
- Typical Schedule
- Other Programs at TSS
- Risk Release Form
- Standards of Behavior Agreement

Connecting people, nature and place through education, science and stewardship.

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Pillars of Field Education and Outreach

Teton Science Schools customizes field science experiences for students of all ages. We are committed to collaborating with school and group leaders to facilitate learning that integrates multiple disciplines, school standards and the Pillars of Field Education and Outreach. Our programs are designed to fit into a greater context of learning in home communities.

CONNECTION TO PLACE

What: Inspire curiosity, wonder and understanding for place.

How: Explore social, economic and ecological systems of place through interdisciplinary observation, study, expression and reflection.

Why: Motivate an awareness, appreciation and stewardship for local and global place.

FIELD SCIENCE PRACTICES

What: Understand natural systems and processes.

How: Apply the scientific process in conducting field research and critically examine ecological issues from multiple perspectives.

Why: Build scientific literacy to inform personal decision making in social, economic and ecological systems of place.

LEADERSHIP IN COMMUNITY

What: Engage individuals and self in the development of community.

How: Develop community skills and self-awareness through immersion and mentorship in authentic leadership roles.

Why: Gain a greater sense of self, work constructively with others and take initiative to influence place.

Staying at the Jackson Campus

Your child will be staying at our Jackson Campus, located about five miles from the town of Jackson, WY. Perfectly poised to benefit from Jackson Hole's unique setting and community, the nearly 900 acre Jackson Campus is comprised of creeks, ponds, aspen, conifer, grassland and sage habitats. The facility is designed for education, using Teton Science Schools' expertise and skills accumulated in more than 45 years of outdoor environmental education.



Residence Lodges

During your child's visit to Teton Science Schools, they will stay in one of our two lodges. Both lodges have three floors with participants staying on the 1st and 2nd floors; the 3rd floor reserved for TSS staff housing.



1st floor rooms have three bunk beds with a full-sized or twin bed, reading lamps, alarm clocks, a bookshelf, and shared baths. 2nd floor rooms have a full-sized bed, one or two twin bunk beds, and a private bath with toilet, sink and shower. 2nd floor rooms also contain a book shelf, chair, lamp and an alarm clock.



Our lodge rooms are simple and comfortable without the distractions of televisions or phones. The rooms do not come stocked with toiletries, so please pack these for your child.

Our beds are outfitted with pillows, but they do not come with linens. Most schools elect to bring their own linens to campus. If your group chooses this option, each participant must bring a towel, a pillowcase, a full sized flat sheet, and a sleeping bag or comforter.



All lodge residents may take advantage of the comfortable, central meeting room located on the 1st floor of the lodge. This room has a couch, a table and chairs, and is also stocked with board games and cards.

For more information and pictures of our lodges, visit our website: www.tetonscience.org and click on the Conferences & Special Events link.

Dining

Your child's group will enjoy delicious, healthy meals in our dining lodge, courtesy of our caring and hardworking kitchen staff. Upon entering the dining lodge, everyone is required to wash their hands



before finding a seat. Students must wait to be dismissed before going through the serving line. TSS typically provides breakfast and dinner in the dining lodge, while lunches are eaten in the field. Participants pack their lunches in the dining lodge, immediately following breakfast.



Our kitchen staff is happy to accommodate special dietary needs, provided they are made aware of them before your child arrives. Be sure to communicate with your child's group leader about any food allergies or dietary restrictions prior to their arrival on campus.

Hands-to-Work

Teton Science Schools does not have a cleaning staff. Instead, we practice a philosophy of "Hands-to-Work." All of our staff and guests pitch in to maintain, clean and prepare the beautiful facilities for the next community of learners. As part of our community, your child will be asked to help prepare the facilities for the next group. In the dining lodge, field groups will be assigned Meal Steward responsibilities, which include washing dishes, cleaning tables, and sweeping floors at the end of the meal. Some field groups will also be assigned the duty of cleaning lunch containers at the end of the field day. Participants are also responsible for cleaning their own rooms and shared spaces around campus before they depart and will be supervised and assisted by TSS staff.

Shared Campus

During your child's stay at the Jackson Campus, they may be sharing residence lodges and the dining hall with other schools, youth groups, adult education programs, conferences, or other guests of Teton Science Schools. They will have the opportunity to meet and spend time together during meals and community time. Chaperones and teachers will be supervising your child in the shared lodge, dining lodge and outdoor spaces to assure that all guests have a comfortable shared space. In order to respect all of our guests, quiet hours are enforced in the lodges from 9:00pm until 7:00am. Lights-out will be determined by your child's group leader and TSS program host.

Physical Considerations: What to Expect

For the most satisfying experience, please note that this program requires the following:

- Ability to walk without assistance at altitudes between 6,000 – 9,000 feet.
- Ability to climb sets of stairs without assistance. There are stairs in our residence lodges, but an elevator is available for luggage transport.
- Ability to hike at least two miles over uneven terrain
- Ability to keep pace with an active group of travelers and to be on time for all scheduled activities, some with early morning departures. Your child's group leader can work with their TSS program host to develop accommodations for students and chaperones with physical limitations during the pre-trip planning process.

Teton Science Schools' style of teaching is place-based and experience-oriented. Our indoor classroom time will be spent exploring through discussions, activities and lectures, covering a wide

variety of topics. Our outdoor classroom time will be spent investigating many areas of Jackson Hole, in vehicles and on foot.

Prohibited Activities

For the safety of all participants we require that all students under the age of 18 are always in eyeshot and earshot of an adult. The following activities are not allowed due to high inherent risk.

These include but are not limited to the following:

- Swimming
- Throwing snowballs, sticks, rocks or other objects at people
- Playing games in the roadways or parking lots
- Running on campus trails
- Access the Challenge Course without a trained TSS staff member

Mail at the Jackson Campus

Parents often send letters or postcards to their children at TSS that arrive after the school has departed. If you wish to send mail to your child while they are at TSS, please give the letter or postcard to your group leader ahead of time.

Clothing & Equipment

Our activities and classes are taught outdoors, in *all* weather conditions. Layering of clothes—shirt, fleece top, windbreaker or jacket—will keep your child comfortable as warm air is trapped between each layer and acts as an insulator. Layering allows your child to adjust to changes in physical activity and temperature by adding and removing layers. Synthetic materials such as Polartec™ fleece that do not retain water and help wick moisture away from your skin are a better choice than cotton or jeans. After a day in the outdoors, they may wish to have casual clothes and comfortable shoes to change into for dinners and socializing at the campus. Prior to arrival, please wash and dry all clothes and bedding on high.

At the minimum, pack the following for your child's stay with us:

- Comfortable clothing layers for a variety of weather conditions
- One refillable water bottles (very important at high altitudes)
- A sun hat, sunglasses, sun screen and lip balm
- Sturdy walking shoes or hiking boots for course times. Sandals are fine for indoor campus shoes, however only close-toed shoes for outdoor use.
- Waterproof coat and pants
- Toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, etc.)
- Towel
- Camera
- Full sized flat sheet with accompanying pillowcase
- Sleeping bag or comforter

If your child is coming between **JUNE - AUGUST** you may also want to pack:

- Sandals or water shoes for water activities
- Shorts
- Windproof jacket
- Insect Repellant

If your child is coming between **SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER** or **APRIL-MAY** you will also need to pack:

- Heavy coat
- Fleece layers
- Winter hat & gloves

If you child is coming between **NOVEMBER-MARCH** you will also need to pack:

- Cold Weather Hiking Boots
- Winter hat & waterproof gloves/mittens
- Snow pants
- Winter coat

For further information on Jackson Hole weather, please visit www.mountainweather.com.

Prohibited Items:

- Weapons of any kind. This includes guns, knives (including pocketknives), mace, etc.
- Alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Food, drinks, gum, or candy. Any food in lodges attracts unwanted small animals.
- Any electronics (including radios, mp3 players, electronic games, laptops, iPad/Kindle and cell phones) and non-prescription medication.
- All participants will be provided a pillow upon arrival and should not bring their own.

*If your child chooses to bring electronics for the bus/plane ride, it will be collected from them upon arrival at Teton Science Schools.

TSS-Provided Gear:

TSS will lend some daily gear to your child when they arrive on campus: a backpack, a foam sit-pad, and a water bottle. The backpack and sit-pad are returned at the end of the visit, while they will get to take their water bottle home with them. For schools visiting in the winter, TSS also loans out gaiters, snowshoes, and/or cross country ski gear for students.

TSS has a small amount of personal gear available to lend to participants who may have left items at home. The collection of loanable personal gear includes winter boots, snow pants, waterproof jackets, additional water bottles, fleece tops, hats, gloves, and sunglasses. Any gear loaned to participants will be collected and washed at the end of the program.

Typical Jackson Campus Schedule

Time	Activity
6:30 am	Wake-up
7:20 am	Meal Stewards report to Dining Lodge with Chaperone
7:30 - 8:00 am	Breakfast Pack lunch Adult meeting Dining Lodge clean-up
8:00 - 9:00 am	Gift Shop Prep for Field Day Tidy up the Residence Lodge
9:00 am	Meet in field groups
~12:00 pm	Lunch in the field
4:15 pm	Return from field, lunch clean-up
4:30 pm	Community time: relax, shower, recreational activities, reflective activities, other projects
5:20 pm	Meal Stewards report to Dining Lodge with Chaperone
5:30 - 6:15 pm	Dinner Dining Lodge clean-up
6:15 - 7:00 pm	Community time
~7:00 pm	Evening program Start time is dependent on season and age group
~8:45 pm	Return to Residence Lodge and prep for lights out
~9:45 pm	Lights-out
9:00 pm - 7:00 am	Quiet Hours

Gift Shop

Based on your school's arrangements, your child may have the opportunity to visit our campus gift shop. Below are some of our most popular items and a price list. Please note prices are subject to change.

Headbands.....	\$18.00
Beanies.....	\$24.00
Track & Scat Bandanas.....	\$8.25
Nalgene Waterbottles	\$12.50
Coffee Tumblers	\$16.50
T-Shirts	\$20.00
Hats.....	\$16-30.00
Stickers	\$0.40-0.55
Patches	\$3.00

Other Programs at Teton Science Schools

Embrace Your Place Video Contest

Teton Science Schools hosts an annual video contest called **Embrace Your Place**. To enter, your students will need to complete a project in their home community that relates to science, service, or sustainability. They then need to document their project in a short video and submit it for consideration. Prizes will be awarded for the best submissions, including certificates, TSS hats, and scholarships for future TSS programs. Learn more here: http://www.tetonscience.org/index.cfm?id=field_education_embrace_your_place.



Summer Science Adventures

School may be out for summer, but not at Teton Science Schools! We offer a variety of programs for students aged K-12 throughout the summer. These include:

- Nature Day Camp for K-9 students
- Backcountry Groups to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks for middle school students
- Day camps in Park City, Pocatello, and Idaho Falls.
- Intensive month-long courses in field ecology for high school students
- Family programs

Visit our website for a full list of Summer Science Adventures.



Conferences & Special Events

The Jackson Campus offers flexible meeting, dining and lodging space for intimate groups or large conferences up to 300 people. The setting is ideal for community events, professional retreats and workshops, conferences, board meetings, family reunions and weddings.

Visit our website for more information:
www.tetonscience.org.



Please fill out the front and back of each of the following forms and return them to the group leader. Include your program name and date (month, day, year) are written on the top of the medical form.

All information on this form must be complete, including signatures, prior to participation. Please note that TSS staff often make follow-up phone calls regarding medical information.

TSS Student Participant Forms:

- Student Medical Information
- Risk Release Agreement
- Risk Release Agreement(Challenge Course)
- Student Standards of Behavior Agreement

Please be considerate of the environment and print on both sides.