

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Ruth Floyd, Executive Director of Business Services

SUBJECT: Field Trip Opportunity Offered to Students (non-district sponsored)

DATE: March 5, 2024

TYPE: Action Required

John Swanson, math teacher at Stanwood High School, is requesting Board approval to offer a field trip opportunity to Stanwood High School students to participate in an educational trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands through WorldStrides tour company at the end of June 2025.

This is a non-district sponsored educational trip. Mr. Swanson, students, and employees that participate will not be representatives of the school district.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board approve Mr. Swanson's request to offer students the opportunity to participate in the WorldStrides tour to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands in 2025.

February 21st , 2024

To: Stanwood-Camano School District School Board

From: John Swanson, Stanwood High School

Dear Board Members,

I am requesting permission to solicit students for an upcoming trip. I would be leading the sixth STEM based trip from Stanwood High School next summer. This trip would be our second trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands and would occur at the end of June 2025. While there we would learn directly about volcanoes, various ecosystems, the giant tortoises, marine biology and a variety of other STEM topics. In addition to that, we would learn about the history and culture of Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands. I have always believed that travel impacts students' growth and learning, but I was shocked to see the statistics and how much of an impact travel really does have. This would be our sixth STEM based trip, the second to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, and my plan is to continue developing it into a tradition so that the experiences can be shared with many Stanwood students over the years.

While this would be my fifth international trip with students, I have taken them on many trips over the years. I have been leading the annual trip to the University of Washington for the past 15 or so years for Math Day. As a wrestling coach I have taken students to tournaments and camps for the past 19 years. This summer I am taking a group to Iceland (our third trip there) and in 2023 I took a group to Ecuador and the Galapagos. In the beginning I was a bit nervous to take students on long trips. However, my previous experiences and working with the tour company (World Strides), all my worries have been put to rest and I am just excited to go and to share this amazing experience with the students.

I would like to start this process by getting parents to an evening informational meeting about the trip.

Overview of Details

I have included some papers with information pertaining to our trip.

- I. A sample itinerary of the trip.
- II. The Next Generation Science Standards Alignment for the trip. This is an educational trip and it does align to our set science standards. Students even have the option to work to get science credit.
- III. Student Rules and Regulations Personal Behavior Contract and Emergency Medical Release. This is the behavior contract that the tour company uses.
- IV. Information about the tour company, World Strides. This company offers educational trips for many subjects both internationally and domestically. They are a full-service agency that will make our travel arrangements, lodging and meals, scheduled tours and transportation, will provide us with a course leader, and provides the insurance, emergency support, and educational materials. World Strides has been in business for over 50 years and was founded by a teacher who took his middle school class to Washington, DC and thought that there should be an easier way for teachers to make educational trips with their students. They have an exemplary record and an amazing reputation.
- V. Trip Finances and school district responsibility.
This trip is being financed by the students who are going, their families, and fundraising efforts. The students are responsible for any extra spending money that they want to bring with them and any other expenses incurred during the trip. The district will not be responsible for any of the finances for the trip. The travelers have medical coverage of their own and that provided through World Strides. We have our own travel arrangements to and from the airport. The trip is during the summer, so there will not be costs for class coverage or anything else that would be needed if it were during school.

Again, I am very excited about this trip, as are many students who have heard about the last trip. More than that, I am excited to work to make trips like this a part of the STEM educational experience that Stanwood High School can offer to our students.

Thank you for all the support that you offer to the students of our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Swanson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John Swanson

Teacher

Stanwood High School

DEPART DATE: XX/XX/XXXX

RETURN DATE: XX/XX/XXXX

TRIP PRICE: \$ X,XXX

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

YOUR DAY-BY-DAY ADVENTURE

DAY 1

Arrive in Quito, Ecuador. Hotel check-in

DAY 2

Breakfast

 Tour **Quito** with your Course Leader and see its top attractions including:

Compañía Church The Church was built in 1605 by the Jesuits, it is one of the most significant baroque structures of South America.

Panecillo Viewpoint The most important natural viewpoint in Quito.

Independence and Presidential Palace The center of the city showcasing art, history, and landscaping as well as a monument for those who called for independence from the Spanish Empire.

San Francisco Church A 16th-century Roman Catholic church, the largest historical architectural structure of colonial Latin America.

Lunch

Mitad del Mundo The middle of the world! Stand on the equator at zero degrees latitude. Experience interactive exhibits and learn about the unique scientific considerations at this location.

Dinner and return to hotel

DAY 3

Breakfast and hotel check-out

Flight from Quito to Santa Cruz Island in the Galapagos Islands Santa Cruz is the second largest island of the Galapagos.

Twin Craters Explore a pair of volcanic sinkholes call Los Gemelos. Their formation was caused by a large collapse of land rather than a volcanic eruption.

Highlands of the Island Travel into mist-covered forests and see many different ecological communities. Stop at a ranch and observe giant tortoises in their natural habitat.

Tour **Lava Tunnels** and engage with an activity on volcanic landforms and tectonic plates

Lunch

Darwin Research Center Founded in 1959, this educational research center works with the National Park Service on conservation and sustainability in the Galapagos Islands. Examine and learn about the climate, geography, and ecology of the area.

Dinner and hotel check-in

DAY 4

Breakfast and hotel check-out

Transfer to Isabela Island. Spend your morning touring the **wetlands** and investigating estuaries and endemic mangroves.

Visit the **Playa de Amor** and see flamingos eating at a local lake. Learn about Darwin's finches and participate in an adaptation activity.

Giant Tortoise Breeding Center Created to protect these amazing animals throughout their life cycle.

Lunch

Wall of Tears Visit One of the most important historical sites on the Galapagos Islands. Hand-built by the prisoners sent to the island back in the 1940's. Thousands of inmates were injured or lost their lives while building the structure.

Snorkel at Concha Perla Walk through mangroves to a shallow bay perfect for snorkeling, packed full fish, playful sea lions, and the Galapagos penguin.

Dinner and hotel check-in

DAY 5

Breakfast

Sierra Negra Volcano Excursion Full-day guided excursion through the Sierra Negra Volcano area. Hike the rim of the six-mile wide crater, then trek across the lava fields and fumaroles. Along the way, consider the unique ecological landscape and learn how to correctly identify the different types of volcanic rock.

Soccer Match with Locals Enjoy a friendly soccer game with locals.

Dinner

DAY 6

 Breakfast and hotel check-out. Transfer by boat to **Las Tintoreras**

Las Tintoreras Guided Excursion Come face to face with some of the Galapagos more interesting residents: marine iguanas, Galapagos penguins, sally lightfoot crabs, green sea turtles, resting white tip reef sharks, and more.

Snorkeling Adventure in the clear blue waters. Learn how to identify the many varieties of fish and study their marine habitats. Consider the threat of climate change to these important ecosystems.

Transfer to **Santa Cruz Island** by boat. Exploratory time along the **Boulevard of Puerto Ayora**

Dinner and hotel check-in

DAY 7

 Breakfast and hotel check-out. Transfer to **Balra Island** via **Itabaca Canal**

Flight to Quito. Explore Otavalo while participating in a fun scavenger hunt.

Farewell dinner in Otavalo with a Andean Musician show

Hotel check-in

DAY 8

Breakfast and hotel check-out

Otavalo Market Witness a wide range of colorful weavings, jewelry, clothes, wood & stone carvings, and more produced by the Otavaleños, an indigenous group of Latin America.

Peguche Waterfall Hike to this waterfall, considered a ceremonial site where locals carry out traditional rituals prior to the sun and harvest celebrations.

Nanda Manachi Instrumental House Learn about traditional, hand-crafted Andean instruments and listen to authentic music.

Take part in a **Pachamanca ceremony**, an ancestral Andean cuisine preparation where food is cooked underground for 2-3 hours.

Visit Cuicocha Volcanic Lake Created by volcanic dome, this crystal clear water has depths up to 200-meters.

Dinner and overnight flight home

The above represents a sample itinerary. Changes or substitutions may be made depending on your travel dates, arrival and departure times, national holidays, and events beyond WorldStrides' control at the discretion of WorldStrides as it deems necessary or desirable.

**AN ALL-
INCLUSIVE
EXPERIENCE**



ROUND TRIP
TRANSPORTATION



ADMISSIONS & FEES FOR
SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES



HOTEL
ACCOMMODATIONS



EXPERTLY TRAINED
COURSE LEADERS



THREE MEALS DAY
(UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED)



24-HOUR
EMERGENCY SUPPORT



TRANSPORTATION TO /
FROM ALL ACTIVITIES



ACADEMIC CREDIT

Educational Activities to Support Next Generation Science Standards **Galapagos**



On a WorldStrides science action adventure program, students experience science like they never have before as they visit some of the most educational and exciting destinations that Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands have to offer. WorldStrides' educational activities support, at minimum, various Next Generation Science standards for students at the 6-12 level. Most importantly, our hands-on approach focuses on developing students' understanding of inquiry-based science through investigation and experimentation. Please note that standards selected for grades 9-12 also incorporate standards selected for grades 6-8 in addition to application of greater depth and breadth of standards appropriate to a high school science curriculum. Program content for grades 6-8 may also draw from standards for grades 9-12, with appropriate adjustment for learning objectives and level.

Museo Del Banco Central

Explore the science of archaeology through interactive exhibits and displays.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-LS4-1 Analyze and interpret data for patterns in the fossil record that document the existence, diversity, extinction, and change of life forms throughout the history of life on Earth under the assumption that natural laws operate today as in the past.

MS-LS4-2 Apply scientific ideas to construct an explanation for the anatomical similarities and differences among modern organisms and between modern and fossil organisms to infer evolutionary relationships.

MS-ESS1-4 Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence from rock strata for how the geologic time scale is used to organize Earth's 4.6-billion-year-old history.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-ESS1-5 Evaluate evidence of the past and current movements of continental and oceanic crust and the theory of plate tectonics to explain the ages of crustal rocks.

HS-ESS1-6 Apply scientific reasoning and evidence from ancient Earth materials, meteorites, and other planetary surfaces to construct an account of Earth's formation and early history.

HS-ESS3-3 Create a computational simulation to illustrate the relationships among the management of natural resources, the sustainability of human populations, and biodiversity.



Mitad del Mundo

Stand at the middle of the world on the equator at zero degrees latitude. Experience interactive museum exhibits and learn about the unique scientific considerations at this location.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-PS2-3 Ask questions about data to determine the factors that affect the strength of electric and magnetic forces.

MS-PS3-2 Develop a model to describe that when the arrangement of objects interacting at a distance changes, different amounts of potential energy are stored in the system.

MS-ESS2-6 Develop and use a model to describe how unequal heating and rotation of the Earth cause patterns of atmospheric and oceanic circulation that determine regional climates.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-PS2-4 Use mathematical representations of Newton's Law of Gravitation and Coulomb's Law to describe and predict the gravitational and electrostatic forces between objects.

HS-PS3-2 Develop and use models to illustrate that energy at the macroscopic scale can be accounted for as a combination of energy associated with the motion of particles (objects) and energy associated with the relative positions of particles (objects).

HS-ESS2-4 Use a model to describe how variations in the flow of energy into and out of Earth's systems result in changes in climate.



Twin Craters

Explore a pair of volcanic sinkholes called Los Gemelos. Their formation was caused by a large collapse of land rather than a volcanic eruption.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-ESS2-2 Construct an explanation based on evidence for how geoscience processes have changed Earth's surface at varying time and spatial scales.

MS-ESS2-3 Analyze and interpret data on the distribution of fossils and rocks, continental shapes, and seafloor structures to provide evidence of the past plate motions.

MS-ESS3-1 Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how the uneven distributions of Earth's mineral, energy, and groundwater resources are the result of past and current geoscience processes.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-ESS2-2 Analyze geoscience data to make the claim that one change to Earth's surface can create feedbacks that cause changes to other Earth systems.

HS-ESS2-3 Develop a model based on evidence of Earth's interior to describe the cycling of matter by thermal convection.



Highlands of the Island

Travel into mist-covered forests and see different ecological communities. Stop at a ranch and observe giant tortoises in their natural habitat.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-LS1-4 Use argument based on empirical evidence and scientific reasoning to support an explanation for how characteristic animal behaviors and specialized plant structures affect the probability of successful reproduction of animals and plants respectively.

MS-LS1-6 Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for the role of photosynthesis in the cycling of matter and flow of energy into and out of organisms.

MS-LS2-1 Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence for the effects of resource availability on organisms and populations of organisms in an ecosystem.

MS-ESS3-3 Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing a human impact on the environment.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-LS2-1 Use mathematical and/or computational representations to support explanations of factors that affect carrying capacity of ecosystems at different scales.

HS-LS2-6 Evaluate claims, evidence, and reasoning that the complex interactions in ecosystems maintain relatively consistent numbers and types of organisms in stable conditions, but changing conditions may result in a new ecosystem.

HS-LS2-7 Design, evaluate, and refine a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.



Lava Tunnels

Tour lava tunnels and engage with an activity on volcanic landforms and tectonic plates.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-ESS2-2 Construct an explanation based on evidence for how geoscience processes have changed Earth's surface at varying time and spatial scales.

MS-ESS2-3 Analyze and interpret data on the distribution of fossils and rocks, continental shapes, and seafloor structures to provide evidence of the past plate motions.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-ESS1-6 Apply scientific reasoning and evidence from ancient Earth materials, meteorites, and other planetary surfaces to construct an account of Earth's formation and early history.

HS-ESS2-2 Analyze geoscience data to make the claim that one change to Earth's surface can create feedbacks that cause changes to other Earth systems.



Darwin Research Center

Founded in 1959, this educational research center works with the National Park Service on conservation and sustainability in the Galapagos Islands. Examine and learn about the climate, geography, and ecology of the area.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-LS1-4 Use argument based on empirical evidence and scientific reasoning to support an explanation for how characteristic animal behaviors and specialized plant structures affect the probability of successful reproduction of animals and plants respectively.

MS-LS1-5 Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how environmental and genetic factors influence the growth of organisms.

MS-LS2-1 Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence for the effects of resource availability on organisms and populations of organisms in an ecosystem.

MS-LS2-3 Develop a model to describe the cycling of matter and flow of energy among living and nonliving parts of an ecosystem.

MS-LS2-5 Evaluate competing design solutions for maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-LS2-1 Use mathematical and/or computational representations to support explanations of factors that affect carrying capacity of ecosystems at different scales.

HS-LS2-2 Use mathematical representations to support and revise explanations based on evidence about factors affecting biodiversity and populations in ecosystems of different scales.

HS-LS2-6 Evaluate claims, evidence, and reasoning that the complex interactions in ecosystems maintain relatively consistent numbers and types of organisms in stable conditions, but changing conditions may result in a new ecosystem.

HS-LS3-2 Make and defend a claim based on evidence that inheritable genetic variations may result from (1) new genetic combinations through meiosis, (2) viable errors occurring during replication, and/or (3) mutations caused by environmental factors.



Playa de Amor

Tour the wetlands and investigate estuaries and endemic mangroves. Visit the beach and see flamingos eating at a local lake. Learn about Darwin's finches and participate in an adaptation activity.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-LS2-1 Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence for the effects of resource availability on organisms and populations of organisms in an ecosystem.

MS-LS2-2 Construct an explanation that predicts patterns of interactions among organisms across multiple ecosystems.

MS-LS4-4 Construct an explanation based on evidence that describes how genetic variations of traits in a population increase some individuals' probability of surviving and reproducing in a specific environment.

MS-LS4-6 Use mathematical representations to support explanations of how natural selection may lead to increases and decreases of specific traits in populations over time.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-LS2-6 Evaluate claims, evidence, and reasoning that the complex interactions in ecosystems maintain relatively consistent numbers and types of organisms in stable conditions, but changing conditions may result in a new ecosystem.

HS-LS2-7 Design, evaluate, and refine a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.

HS-LS4-1 Communicate scientific information that common ancestry and biological evolution are supported by multiple lines of empirical evidence.

HS-LS4-2 Construct an explanation based on evidence that the process of evolution primarily results from four factors: (1) the potential for a species to increase in number, (2) the heritable genetic variation of individuals in a species due to mutation and sexual reproduction, (3) competition for limited resources, and (4) the proliferation of those organisms that are better able to survive and reproduce in the environment.

HS-ESS2-5 Plan and conduct an investigation of the properties of water and its effects on Earth materials and surface processes.



Giant Tortoise Breeding Center

This center was created to protect these amazing animals throughout their life cycles. Study species differentiation and complete an ecological relationships activity.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-LS4-2 Apply scientific ideas to construct an explanation for the anatomical similarities and differences among modern organisms and between modern and fossil organisms to infer evolutionary relationships.

MS-LS4-4 Construct an explanation based on evidence that describes how genetic variations of traits in a population increase some individuals' probability of surviving and reproducing in a specific environment.

MS-LS4-6 Use mathematical representations to support explanations of how natural selection may lead to increases and decreases of specific traits in populations over time.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-LS4-3 Apply concepts of statistics and probability to support explanations that organisms with an advantageous heritable trait tend to increase in proportion to organisms lacking this trait.

HS-LS4-4 Construct an explanation based on evidence for how natural selection leads to adaptation of populations.

HS-LS4-5 Evaluate the evidence supporting claims that changes in environmental conditions may result in (1) increases in the number of individuals of some species, (2) the emergence of new species over time, and (3) the extinction of other species.



Snorkel at Concha Perla

Walk through the mangroves to a shallow bay perfect for snorkeling – packed with schools of fish, playful sea lions, and the Galapagos penguin.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-LS1-5 Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how environmental and genetic factors influence the growth of organisms.

MS-LS2-1 Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence for the effects of resource availability on organisms and populations of organisms in an ecosystem.

MS-LS2-5 Evaluate competing design solutions for maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services.

MS-ESS3-3 Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing a human impact on the environment.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-LS2-7 Design, evaluate, and refine a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.

HS-ESS2-5 Plan and conduct an investigation of the properties of water and its effects on Earth materials and surface processes.



Sierra Negra Volcano Excursion

Enjoy a guided tour through this rich and unique landscape. Hike the rim of the six-mile wide crater, then trek across the lava fields and fumaroles. Along the way, consider this ecological landscape and learn how to correctly identify the different types of volcanic rock.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-ESS1-4 Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence from rock strata for how the geologic time scale is used to organize Earth's 4.6-billion-year-old history.

MS-ESS2-2 Construct an explanation based on evidence for how geoscience processes have changed Earth's surface at varying time and spatial scales.

MS-ESS2-3 Analyze and interpret data on the distribution of fossils and rocks, continental shapes, and seafloor structures to provide evidence of the past plate motions.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-ESS2-1 Develop a model to illustrate how Earth's internal and surface processes operate at different spatial and temporal scales to form continental and ocean-floor features.

HS-ESS2-3 Develop a model based on evidence of Earth's interior to describe the cycling of matter by thermal convection.

HS-ESS2-7 Construct an argument based on evidence about the simultaneous coevolution of Earth's systems and life on Earth.



Las Tintoreras Guided Excursion

Come face to face with some of the more interesting residents of the Galapagos. Discover marine iguanas, Galapagos penguins, sally lightfoot crabs, green sea turtles, resting white tip reef sharks, and more.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-LS1-4 Use argument based on empirical evidence and scientific reasoning to support an explanation for how characteristic animal behaviors and specialized plant structures affect the probability of successful reproduction of animals and plants respectively.

MS-LS4-2 Apply scientific ideas to construct an explanation for the anatomical similarities and differences among modern organisms and between modern and fossil organisms to infer evolutionary relationships.

MS-LS4-4 Construct an explanation based on evidence that describes how genetic variations of traits in a population increase some individuals' probability of surviving and reproducing in a specific environment.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-LS4-1 Communicate scientific information that common ancestry and biological evolution are supported by multiple lines of empirical evidence.

HS-LS4-2 Construct an explanation based on evidence that the process of evolution primarily results from four factors: (1) the potential for a species to increase in number, (2) the heritable genetic variation of individuals in a species due to mutation and sexual reproduction, (3) competition for limited resources, and (4) the proliferation of those organisms that are better able to survive and reproduce in the environment.

HS-LS4-4 Construct an explanation based on evidence for how natural selection leads to adaptation of populations.

HS-LS4-5 Evaluate the evidence supporting claims that changes in environmental conditions may result in (1) increases in the number of individuals of some species, (2) the emergence of new species over time, and (3) the extinction of other species.



Snorkeling Adventure

Enjoy the crystal clear blue waters of the Galapagos. Learn how to identify the many varieties of fish and study their marine habitats. Consider the threat of climate change to these important ecosystems.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-LS1-5 Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how environmental and genetic factors influence the growth of organisms.

MS-LS2-1 Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence for the effects of resource availability on organisms and populations of organisms in an ecosystem.

MS-LS2-5 Evaluate competing design solutions for maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services.

MS-ESS3-3 Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing a human impact on the environment.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-LS2-7 Design, evaluate, and refine a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.

HS-ESS2-5 Plan and conduct an investigation of the properties of water and its effects on Earth materials and surface processes.



Peguche Waterfall

Hike to this waterfall, which is considered a traditional ceremonial site where locals carry out rituals prior to the sun and harvest celebrations.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-ESS2-1 Develop a model to describe the cycling of Earth's materials and the flow of energy that drives this process.

MS-ESS2-4 Develop a model to describe the cycling of water through Earth's systems driven by energy from the sun and the force of gravity.

MS-ESS3-1 Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how the uneven distributions of Earth's mineral, energy, and groundwater resources are the result of past and current geoscience processes.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-ESS2-5 Plan and conduct an investigation of the properties of water and its effects on Earth materials and surface processes.

HS-ESS3-4 Evaluate or refine a technological solution that reduces impacts of human activities on natural systems.



Cuicocha Volcanic Lake

Created by a volcanic dome, this crystal clear water has depths of up to 200 meters.

Standards / Grades 6-8

MS-LS1-5 Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how environmental and genetic factors influence the growth of organisms.

MS-LS2-1 Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence for the effects of resource availability on organisms and populations of organisms in an ecosystem.

MS-LS2-3 Develop a model to describe the cycling of matter and flow of energy among living and nonliving parts of an ecosystem.

MS-ESS2-2 Construct an explanation based on evidence for how geoscience processes have changed Earth's surface at varying time and spatial scales.

MS-ESS2-3 Analyze and interpret data on the distribution of fossils and rocks, continental shapes, and seafloor structures to provide evidence of the past plate motions.

Standards / Grades 9-12

HS-LS2-1 Use mathematical and/or computational representations to support explanations of factors that affect carrying capacity of ecosystems at different scales.

HS-LS2-2 Use mathematical representations to support and revise explanations based on evidence about factors affecting biodiversity and populations in ecosystems of different scales.

HS-ESS2-3 Develop a model based on evidence of Earth's interior to describe the cycling of matter by thermal convection.

Student Rules and Regulations Personal Behavior Contract

The WorldStrides tour you have elected to attend offers many unique opportunities and experiences. Beyond the educational benefits, the tour offers opportunities to form new friendships and to meet the challenges of independence.

We at WorldStrides promote a tour atmosphere where chaperones and students support one another with genuine respect. As a student participant, it is your responsibility to help make the tour a positive and enjoyable experience for yourself, fellow students, and chaperones. All participants are expected to demonstrate high standards of conduct and to accept personal responsibility and consequences for their actions. You are expected to exhibit honesty, courteousness and consideration toward others. This includes those in your group, as well as anyone else with whom you may come in contact, such as Motorcoach Drivers, guides and restaurant and hotel staff.

Our goal at WorldStrides is to make this trip an educational, safe, and enjoyable experience for everyone. We require your cooperation and commitment to the following behavior standards to help us meet this goal.

We expect the student/participant to obey the following rules of behavior:

- ❖ The student is to follow the directions and the rules and regulations established by the chaperones both prior to and during the tour.
- ❖ The student shall not be involved in any way with smoking, alcohol, illegal drugs, vandalism, theft, or any other type of behavior that is judged by the chaperones to be detrimental to the health, well-being, safety, or reputation of him/herself or anyone else in the group including the chaperones or WorldStrides.
- ❖ The student shall comply with all rules and regulations of the various governmental and vendor agencies (such as airlines, hotels, motorcoach companies, etc.).
- ❖ The student shall remain with the group at all times unless, and only if and when, the chaperones specifically allow you free time.
- ❖ The student shall follow the directions of the Program Leader, chaperones, and WorldStrides staff.
- ❖ The use of hotel facilities carries with it the responsibility of leaving them in the same conditions in which they were found. The student is responsible for any damage.
- ❖ Quiet hours at the hotel will be observed from 10:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. At 10:30 p.m. students must be in their own rooms. Students must remain quietly in their rooms until awakened by chaperones.
- ❖ The student may never leave the hotel unless accompanied by a chaperone.
- ❖ The student must sleep in his/her assigned hotel room each night.
- ❖ Good common sense, respect and consideration for others and their property should be practiced daily.

If the student should violate any of these rules, he/she may be sent home at the sole discretion of the chaperones. In such cases, the parent/guardian will be contacted and the student sent home at the parent's expense.

Student Contract

I have read, and I understand the behavior rules and regulations of WorldStrides. I agree to comply with all of these rules and regulations.

Student signature _____ Date _____

Parent Contract

I have read, and I understand and support the rules and regulations of the WorldStrides tour. I represent that my child or ward has read the rules and regulations and has agreed to comply with all of them. It is understood that the signature on this behavior contract of one parent or guardian implies the consent of the other.

Parent signature _____ Date _____

PLEASE DO NOT SEND TO WORLDSTRIDES. RETURN TO YOUR PROGRAM LEADER.



WorldStrides®

Emergency Medical Release

THIS FORM SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO YOUR TEACHER

Participant's Name _____ Birthdate _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Father's Name _____ Home Phone (____) _____ Bus Phone (____) _____

Cell Phone (____) _____

Mother's Name _____ Home Phone (____) _____ Bus Phone (____) _____

Cell Phone (____) _____

Allergies _____ Last Tetanus _____

Other medical conditions _____

Medication being used (include dosage/frequency) _____

Present state of health _____

Family Physician _____ Phone (____) _____

Medical/Hospital Insurance Company _____ Phone (____) _____

Policy Holder's Name _____ Policy Number _____

AUTHORIZATION FOR TREATMENT OF MINOR

I, the undersigned, understand and acknowledge that every effort will be made to contact the parents in case of an emergency, and, if possible, before any medical treatment is administered. In the event of an emergency or if the parents cannot be notified, I hereby give permission to the Program Leader or the WorldStrides staff to secure proper treatment for my child. If necessary, this includes selection of physicians and medical treatment facility who are then authorized to perform such medical treatments as deemed necessary to protect the health of my child. I further give my permission for WorldStrides staff to have access to medical records relating to any treatment contemplated or received by my child and to provide such information, as necessary, to health insurance carriers.

WorldStrides cannot be responsible for accommodating any food allergies, requirements or restrictions and is not responsible for any problems associated with the same. All issues with regard to food and drink, including allergies, requirements and restrictions are the sole responsibility of the participant.

In the event of any emergencies during the trip, the undersigned hereby grants authority to be exercised at the discretion of the Program Leader or chaperone to dispense over-the-counter medication.

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Please return this form to ~ no later than ~ .
PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM TO WORLDSTRIDES.

A Partner You Can Rely On

In 2021 alone, we've supported tens of thousands of travelers around the world. For more than 50 years, WorldStrides has been the trusted educational travel partner of more than 9 million teachers and students, and our industry-leading commitment to health and safety speaks for itself. Expecting the unexpected is where we excel.

Tackling the new normal

Traveling today looks different than it did a few years ago, and that's why working with a trusted organization is more important than ever. Our team is relentlessly committed to providing fun, educational experiences that never sacrifice peace of mind. All aspects of every program are reviewed, from the initial planning stages to the on-tour experience, and the health and safety of our participants is our top priority every step of the way.

Evolving standards

Our team is continually evaluating and updating our protocols based on current CDC guidance and the recommendations of our Doctors on Call Team from the George Washington University Department of Emergency Medicine. Led by Dr. Neal Sikka, who also serves as WorldStrides' Medical Director, our Doctors on Call Team is an interdisciplinary group with access to George Washington University experts from public health, infectious disease, and laboratory services (testing).

A Proven Track Record

60,336

Number of 2021 travelers through September 27

0.03%

Percentage of travelers with confirmed positive cases on program

0.11%

Percentage of travelers testing positive during pre-travel screening



Check out additional traveler photos and testimonials here:
[worldstrides.com/travel-gallery](https://www.worldstrides.com/travel-gallery)

We're with you every step of the way

Pre-Tour

All participants are required to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test in order to travel. If their test is positive, we work with them on options for future travel. A Safety Briefing is conducted for all participants to share travel tips and best practices for staying healthy, and our Top Travel Safety Tips help students learn about safety in a series of short, fun videos.

On-Tour

In addition to supplying basics like masks and hand sanitizer, we've refined every piece of the itinerary from hotel selection and meals to motorcoach protocols and flexible rooming options. If a student experiences symptoms, we safely separate them from the rest of the group and arrange testing. If the test result is positive, we are there every step of the way.

Post-Tour

Our team goes above and beyond by offering support for any group with participants who become ill during the 14 days after returning home. In the event a participant tests positive, our team supports teachers in contact tracing and notifications as needed.

"I had one of the greatest times of my life. I learned a lot and had a fun time with my friends. I would highly recommend taking the opportunity to participate in this trip experience if you have the chance."

-Nicholas, Student, Traveled May 2021

"The trip was highly anticipated... They [the students] had missed out on so much already! This trip was everything! One that will never be forgotten."

-Kelly, Parent, June 2021

"I was comforted to know that WorldStrides kept on top of all COVID protocols... When our school leader sent group photos, I could tell they were on a trip of a lifetime with memories made forever."

-Claudia, Parent, June 2021



SUPPORTING EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL

A Guide for School Administration

SPRING 2020

Our History & Mission

Our History

In 1964, a middle school social studies teacher from Chicago discovered the incredible educational experience of traveling to Washington, D.C., with his students. He was so encouraged by the powerful effects travel had on his students' eagerness and ability to learn, that he left teaching in 1967 to found Lakeland Tours. His vision to make educational travel easy, fun, and safe for teachers and students came to fruition as Lakeland Tours grew and became the leader in educational student travel.

Who We Are Today

For over 50 years, WorldStrides has set itself apart as the premier student travel organization in the nation. From 1998 to 2000, Lakeland Tours joined forces with other leaders in the educational student travel field—American Student Travel, Bowl Games of America, Educational Field Studies, Heritage Festivals, and Wider Horizons—to form WorldStrides, an organization that provides the highest quality educational travel programs available in the country. Since then, WorldStrides has continued to expand its program offerings by bringing Classic Festivals, the Field Studies Center of New York, the Accent Travel Group, TravelMBA, New Century Tours, Casterbridge Tours, NETC, WorldPass, Explorica, ISA, TEAN, Envision, and others into the WorldStrides family. When you choose WorldStrides, you can feel confident that you've made the best choice for your students.

Our Mission

All WorldStrides programs are united under our mission, "Igniting personal growth for students through travel at every stage of development." We strive to extend education into the worldwide classroom for students of all ages and to provide the best opportunity for learning through seeing, experiencing, and interacting.

Financial Strength

WorldStrides is backed by the financial strength of Eurazio, a worldwide leader in global investment. In addition, WorldStrides' stability and commitment to excellence are also shown through our membership in the United States Tour Operators Association (USTOA) Travelers Assistance Program, which provides the best consumer protection plan in the industry.

Accreditation

WorldStrides satisfies the same educational standards as public and private schools across the country, and is accredited by regional accrediting bodies across the United States:

- › AdvancED (parent organization for the Northwest Accreditation Commission, the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement)
- › Western Association of Schools and Colleges
- › Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools

WorldStrides also maintains university partner relationship with the University of California San Diego. It's this relationship that allows us to offer students in grades 9 to 12 free college preparatory credit.

Our History & Mission CONT.

Professional Affiliations

WorldStrides maintains various professional partnerships to guarantee our reputation of quality, including:

EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- › Center for Civic Education
- › Colonial Williamsburg
- › Monticello
- › Mount Vernon
- › United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
- › Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)
- › National Wildlife Federation Academic Associations

ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS

- › National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)
- › Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE)
- › National Science Teachers Association (NSTA)
- › International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO)
- › National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)

- › National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASPP)
- › International Association for K-12 Online Learning (INACOL)

APPROVED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDERS

- › Georgia Department of Education
- › Illinois State Board of Education
- › Michigan Institute for Educational Management
- › New Jersey Department of Education
- › Pennsylvania Department of Education
- › Texas State Board of Education
- › Washington State Board of Education (Approved provider for the FLAG Foundation)

TRAVEL ASSOCIATIONS

- › United States Tour Operators Association (USTOA)
- › Student and Youth Travel Association of North America (SYTA)
- › National Tour Association (NTA)
- › Washington, D.C. Convention and Visitors Association
- › American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA)
- › International Airlines Travel Agent Network (IATAN)
- › Airlines Reporting Corporation

The WorldStrides Team

Your group's leader will have a passionate and professional team of travel experts who will work closely with your group from the time you decide to lead a WorldStrides program until your group returns home safely. Our primary goal is to provide a safe and secure travel experience. Without a focus on safety, our programs could not exist. We strive to inspire students and enrich their lives by taking them beyond classroom walls and providing a unique, experiential educational program. WorldStrides has a staff of more than 1,800 professionals, many of whom are former educators, and all of whom are dedicated to making sure every aspect of your program is a success.

Our Customers Say It Best...

"Thank you for employing individuals like [my Account Manager] so that teachers like me have the confidence to take young adults safely across the country and back! Thank you again for the fine program you offer." Ronda, Teacher, CA

"It is [your] steadfastness to duty, attention to detail, and friendly, courteous, and solicitous demeanor that keeps me coming back year after year with WorldStrides." Michael, Teacher, LA

"I'm impressed with Stephen [my Course Leader] because he doesn't just give the students information, he makes it fun." Mrs. Newman, Parent, IN

"As a U.S. History teacher, I was singularly impressed with our tour guide. She enriched the experience with her exemplary demeanor, character, and professionalism. When coupled with the high degree of skill and motivation in sharing our nation's capital with a group of eighth-grade students, you have a one-in-a-million tour guide." Dave, Teacher, CA

At a Glance

For a group like yours, it is critical that your travel provider has the resources and experience necessary to smoothly and efficiently coordinate a youth group in the areas that you will visit. We are confident that our over 50 years as a student travel specialist provides us with this level of experience.

Educational travel requires special skills that go far beyond making simple hotel and airline reservations. When emergencies arise, this experience is important. We also realize that price is important, and our prices consistently provide the highest value for your students' money.

Not all companies are the same, have the same priorities, or provide the same experience. WorldStrides sets the bar high. In terms of safety, education, and passion for student travel, our team has consistently beaten all other competitors. WorldStrides is the standard by which every other company measures themselves.

Experience with Youth Groups

Number of years in student travel business	✓ 50+
Number of participants during this period	✓ 9 million+
Number of participants per year	✓ 450,000
Number of educators that partner with us each year	✓ 50,000+
Number of full-time staff dedicated to youth group travel programs	✓ 1,800+

Be sure your organization has the experience you deserve.

Qualifications to Coordinate Your Program

Does the organization have a 24/7 Tour Central (local support) office?	✓ Yes
Does the organization employ and train its own Course Leaders?	✓ Yes
Will a staff member stay at the hotel with the group?	✓ Yes
Does the organization provide detailed training for its staff on how to best work with students?	✓ Yes

Your group is at risk without appropriate contingency plans.

Educational Focus

Does the organization employ a full-time curriculum and academics team?	✓ Yes
Does the organization offer students the opportunity to earn high school and even college credit?	✓ Yes
Does the organization offer teachers the opportunity to earn professional development?	✓ Yes
Is the organization accredited by regional accrediting bodies across the United States?	✓ Yes
Who issues accreditation for the organization?	
> Western Association of Schools and Colleges	✓ WASC
> Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools	✓ MSA
> AdvancED (parent organization for the Northwest Accreditation Commission, North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and Council on Accreditation and School Improvement)	✓ AdvancED (NWAC, NCACASI, SACS, and CASI)

At a Glance CONT.

Insurance and Consumer Protection

Does the organization maintain liability insurance?

Yes

Does this coverage apply to the Program Leader (teacher)?

Yes

What are the limits of this policy?

\$55 million

What is the cost for supplemental medical and dental insurance?

\$0

Who pays if an emergency mandates an itinerary change?

WorldStrides

Does the organization maintain USTOA consumer protection?

Yes

Amount of deposits covered by consumer protection

\$1 million

Insurance and consumer protection are there to keep you safe.

Educational Travel Programs vs. School Field Trips

Because WorldStrides programs are typically non-school-sponsored, they do not follow the traditional model of a school field trip. When you let your administration know about your plans to travel, it may be helpful for you to highlight the points outlined below. These points will ensure that they don't confuse your program with a school field trip that would require a more official approval process.

NON-SCHOOL-SPONSORED STATUS

Unlike a school field trip, a WorldStrides educational travel program is not sponsored by the school and does not require the school or school district to allocate funds.

PROGRAMS DON'T OCCUR DURING SCHOOL TIME

Just like a part-time job or a camp or youth sport/activity that a student chooses to participate in, a WorldStrides program does not result in lost class time for students or the need for a substitute instructor when a teacher leads a program.

VOLUNTARY STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Since the trip is not paid for by the school and does not take place during school time, neither the school nor the students are obligated to participate. Similar to summer camp, this program is available for all students, but only some will decide to go.

Summer camps, supplemental enrichment programs, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and even the Little League are all non-school-sponsored programs that are embraced by the community and promoted in schools. Most administrators are very supportive of WorldStrides educational travel programs. Below is a simple approach many of our Program Leaders have found easy and successful.

A Simple Approach to Presenting Your Program

1. Present the information packet that was sent to you by your WorldStrides representative. This shows your administrator the quality of our programs and the strengths that have made WorldStrides the nation's leader in student travel. The packet will also answer any questions they may have about our unmatched safety record and extensive liability coverage. In fact, WorldStrides can name you and your school as co-insured, protecting you with the power of the most comprehensive insurance policy in the student travel industry.
2. Explain which accredited program you have chosen and the educational value of the experience. Include the dates you plan to travel, so your administration understands that the trip won't happen during school time and will not result in missed classes for you or your students. Since the trip is not paid for by the school and is non-school-sponsored, students are never obligated to attend.
3. Offer to connect administrators with WorldStrides references so they can hear firsthand from teachers and administrators in your area who have enriched students' lives through travel with WorldStrides programs. If your

	SCHOOL FIELD TRIP	WORLDSTRIDES PROGRAM
WHEN THE TRIP OCCURS	During school time	During summer or school holidays
HOW THE TRIP IS FUNDED	With school or school district money	By individual parents and students
WHO ATTENDS	All students	Only students who choose to go
HOW FUNDS ARE COLLECTED	Teachers and school administration collect money from students	Billing and payment collection is done completely outside of school by WorldStrides
HOW PARENTS' QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS ARE HANDLED	Calls flow through the school secretary and school office	Calls are directed to the teacher after school hours or are answered by WorldStrides' customer service department

Value: Programs

All-inclusive Price | WorldStrides Offers Inclusive Travel Packages for Our Programs

- > Teachers travel free with the first 15 students (ratio can be customized)
- > For each additional 15 students who travel, teachers can bring along another adult
- > Round-trip transportation to destination city
- > Deluxe motorcoach transportation at your destination
- > Quality hotel accommodations
- > Free high school credit for middle and high school students
- > College preparatory credit for traveling high school students
- > Professional development for educators
- > Specially trained Course Leaders
- > Educational tools to support your program before you leave, on your trip, and after you return
- > Professional Night Chaperones, in addition to hotel security, when traveling on select programs
- > All reservations and logistical planning
- > Tour Central offices to assist 24 hours a day
- > 3 hearty meals (unless otherwise stated in your trip materials)
- > Comprehensive accident, illness, and accident-related dental insurance for all participants
- > 24-hour Doctors on Call program to provide in-hotel or phone consultations for participants
- > All admissions and fees (fees for checked luggage are the responsibility of each traveler)

Quality Customer Service | WorldStrides Provides All Customer Service

- > A personal Account Manager to assist you in planning your program every step of the way
- > An Account Support Representative to assist you in the rare case that your Account Manager is unavailable
- > Customer Service Department to handle all parent inquiries
- > A personal Financial Services Representative to handle all accounting and invoicing services for your group and assist in allocating fundraising monies
- > Online resources for educators and parents at www.worldstrides.com

Fundraising and Financial Assistance

Your group's personal Financial Services Representative will assist you in any fundraising that you or your school decide to do. WorldStrides offers nearly \$2.5 million in FLAG financial assistance annually, as well as the unique Gift of Education program, which has helped thousands of students raise millions of dollars over the years. You can access our fundraising website at worldstridesfundraising.com for ideas, tips on grant writing, a list of outside companies that participate in fundraising efforts, and forms to help you keep track of the money you raise.

We Take Care of the Billing

WorldStrides directly handles all financial responsibility. We set up an individual payment plan for each participant and bill each family directly. If requirements with the group differ, other payment plans can be arranged. In the event that a parent is having difficulties with a final payment, please encourage them to call our customer service department. We may be able to make special payment arrangements on a case-by-case basis. The school and the Program Leader do not need to collect money or worry about payment deadlines.

Benefits of Traveling with the Industry Leader

For over 50 years, WorldStrides has been enriching students' lives by providing top quality educational travel programs. Our staff of more than 1,800 professionals is dedicated to serve you. Our accredited programs and commitment to excellence make us the leader in educational student travel.

Safety & Security

24/7 Tour Central Office

We maintain a Tour Central office that can be reached 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, because safety is our first priority. Should your group require an extended stay due to an airline problem or weather-related issue, our Tour Central office will make arrangements to accommodate your group (hotel, meals, re-booking airline seats, and providing additional bus usage) at no additional charge to you or your students.

Extensive Emergency Manual

We have developed an extensive emergency manual that details how we will deal with all types of emergency situations, and all of our on-site staff members have been trained to carry out these plans. Set procedures, checklists, and immediate access to correct phone numbers will result in faster and more accurate responses, which is critical when dealing with an emergency situation.

Night Chaperones

Our Night Chaperones (evening security) are given extensive training on how to supervise student groups. We also complete criminal background checks on all new applicants before they begin work. Night Chaperones are available on all East Coast, West Coast, Illinois History, and Florida programs. High-quality Night Chaperones are an integral part of our safety net and allow you to get the rest you need while on tour.

On-site Coordinators

WorldStrides On-site Coordinators stay with your group at each hotel on East Coast, West Coast, and Illinois History programs. These individuals will assist with hotel check-in and check-out, be available to answer questions and make necessary adjustments to individual group itineraries, assist with any emergency that may arise, and host an adult hospitality suite each evening with refreshments and snacks. WorldStrides will have additional staff members who will meet your group upon arrival to the East Coast, as well as when the group departs for home. This helps ensure that all facets of airport arrival and departure run smoothly.

Liability Insurance

We maintain an industry-leading multi-million dollar level of liability coverage. Our insurance automatically covers teachers, chaperones, and the school. WorldStrides' insurance is truly geared to protect you. Additionally, accident, illness, and accident-related dental insurance coverage are provided for WorldStrides program participants. Limits per single occurrence are \$7,500 for accident, \$1,500 for illness, and \$750 for accident-related dental.

United States Tour Operators Association (USTOA)

As an Active Member of USTOA, WorldStrides is required to post \$1 million with USTOA to be used to reimburse, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the USTOA Travelers Assistance Program, the advance payments of WorldStrides customers in the unlikely event of WorldStrides' bankruptcy, insolvency or cessation of business. Further, you should understand that the \$1 million posted by WorldStrides may be sufficient to provide only a partial recovery of the advance payments received by WorldStrides. Complete details of the USTOA Travelers Assistance Program may be obtained by writing to USTOA at 275 Madison Avenue, Suite 2014, New York, New York 10016, or by e-mail to information@ustoa.com or by visiting their website at www.ustoa.com.

Full Refund Program

The Full Refund Program protects the investments of your students, their families, and the community. If the participant, the teacher, the school, or the school's administration cancels prior to trip departure, the participant will receive a refund of the money they've paid (less the cost of the Full Refund Program)—regardless of the reason. Participation in this program is optional, though highly recommended. Through this program, WorldStrides has returned millions of dollars to thousands of families who were forced to cancel for countless unexpected situations.

Student Supervision & Safety

Planning for a Safe Experience before Departure

BEHAVIOR CONTRACT

Safety is the number-one priority at WorldStrides. All participants are expected to demonstrate high standards of conduct, courteousness, and consideration toward others. Students and their parent/legal guardian must sign a behavior contract so everyone understands the proper rules of conduct. Students behaving inappropriately while on the program may be sent home at the parent's expense.

MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

A parent/legal guardian for each participant must complete a medical release form and provide emergency contact information and authorization for treatment in the event of an emergency. Teachers carry all medical release forms throughout the trip.

Ensuring Students' Safety While on the Program

ADULT SUPERVISION

With a chaperone-to-student ratio of 1:15 (can be customized to fit your group's needs), students receive proper attention and supervision. The Program Leader will identify the adult chaperones for the program. WorldStrides suggests selecting adults who are flexible, helpful, and comfortable with the students. Please note that at selected sites, students may be allowed the freedom to explore on their own.

COURSE LEADERS

A specially trained Course Leader guides each group throughout your WorldStrides program. Course Leaders devote 100% of their attention to the students, challenging them to assess and apply what they learn through firsthand experience so they take the most away from the program. Students also follow a busy schedule, so their days are full of planned activities with adult supervision.

Emergency Services

TOUR CENTRAL

WorldStrides' Tour Central offices are located in Washington, D.C., New York City, and Williamsburg, VA, and are staffed by full-time WorldStrides employees. These individuals are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to handle emergencies and accommodate the needs of all traveling teachers and students.

WORLDSTRIDES NAME TAGS

Throughout the trip, all students wear WorldStrides name tags with WorldStrides' emergency contact information. The back of this badge contains the Tour Central phone number, giving every student quick access to a WorldStrides employee. In the unlikely event of a problem, help is never more than a phone call away.

DOCTORS ON CALL PROGRAM

WorldStrides has an exclusive partnership with The George Washington University Department of Emergency Medicine. A George Washington University doctor serves on our staff as the WorldStrides Medical Director, overseeing medical response planning for the organization and providing direct case management in the event of a medical response issue anywhere in the world. Our partnership gives us access to doctors who are available 24 hours a day to provide in-hotel emergency care to all our traveling students, parents, and teachers in the Washington, D.C. area and phone consultations for travelers in other locations. This program offers teachers and students the unparalleled benefit of receiving care in the comfort of their own hotel rooms while minimizing disruption to the entire group.

Student Supervision & Safety CONT.

WorldStrides Selects Its Suppliers with Safety in Mind

HOTELS

WorldStrides pre-screens its properties and selects only those which are safe, comfortable, and high quality. WorldStrides typically uses hotels such as Marriott, Holiday Inn, Ramada Inn, or comparable. For added security, WorldStrides books only hotels with inside corridors and hallways and provides additional night security (in most destinations).

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

WorldStrides contracts with major airlines such as American Airlines, Delta Airlines, Southwest Airlines, United Airlines, or comparable. Typically, WorldStrides meets the group upon arrival at their destination.

SUPPLIERS

WorldStrides only works with companies who share WorldStrides' high safety and quality standards. WorldStrides thoroughly screens and regularly evaluates motor coach drivers, hotels, and restaurants by periodically visiting these venues and relying on program evaluation surveys completed by teachers after returning from their program. All participating enterprises maintain their own insurance coverage.

Doctors on Call Program

WorldStrides has an exclusive partnership with The George Washington University Department of Emergency Medicine, and a George Washington doctor serves on staff as our WorldStrides Medical Director. This means travelers in Washington, D.C., have access to in-hotel emergency medical care 24 hours a day. The Doctors on Call Program offers teachers, parents, and students the unparalleled benefit of receiving care in the comfort of their own hotel rooms while minimizing disruption to the entire traveling group. We are also able to provide phone consultations to those groups traveling to other locations. The doctors will evaluate the situation, injury, or illness over the phone and make recommendations for treatment accordingly.

How Does It Work?

George Washington's Emergency Physicians will accept our phone calls, determine whether the patient can be treated at the hotel or should go directly to the hospital, and assist us from there all the way through the process. If someone needs to go to the hospital, they will expedite the process and help save valuable time for the patient, the Program Leader, and the On-site Coordinator or Course Leader.

The On-site Coordinator or Course Leader and Program Leader, with the help of Tour Central, will initiate the process when it becomes necessary. The doctor on-call will contact the Program Leader and patient and determine the next steps to be taken. In Washington, D.C., if coming to the hotel makes the most sense, billing will be taken care of immediately and the patient will be treated. The insurance paperwork will be completed at the hotel and the On-site Coordinator/Course Leader will take care of the rest. If the doctor on-call determines that the patient needs to go to the hospital, then our standard emergency plan is activated.

New Crisis Support and Behavioral Health Assistance Program

We're pleased to add a new layer of support for travelers who may be experiencing emotional or mental stress through a new partnership with AXA, one of the world's leading providers of emergency assistance.

AXA's Behavioral Health Assistance Program provides seamless access to assessment, intervention, and stabilization services:

- > 24/7 telephone access to provide confidential and immediate support no matter the global location
- > Experienced, U.S.-based healthcare professionals (masters and doctoral-level clinicians) when traveling
- > Coordination with local professionals for referrals to provide additional support, if needed



Beyond Classroom Walls: Education

Accreditation

WorldStrides was the first accredited student travel organization in the nation. Accreditation recognizes educational institutions for performance, integrity and quality, and entitles them to the confidence of the educational community and the public. WorldStrides is accredited through multiple regional accrediting bodies across the nation, including AdvancED (parent organization for the Northwest Accreditation Commission, North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and Council on Accreditation and School Improvement), Western Association of Schools and Colleges, and Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. This accreditation means that we have met or exceeded safety and educational standards established for schools all over the world. Accreditation means more educationally sound programs and better value for parents and students. All certificates of accreditation are available upon request.



Discovery for Credit for Students

All students in grades 6-12 who participate on WorldStrides programs are eligible to receive high school credit through our Discovery for Credit program. College preparatory credit is also available for students in grades 9-12 on select programs. Students who travel on a WorldStrides program and complete online coursework requirements are eligible to receive this credit. This helps students fulfill graduation requirements, open up their course schedules to be able to take upper-level courses, and distinctively showcase themselves to colleges and universities.

Professional Development

WorldStrides programs comply with states' requirements for professional development. WorldStrides will help educators identify opportunities to earn professional development in their state, assist in the development of a portfolio, as needed, and issue a transcript free of charge.

Course Leaders

Programs are led by caring and dynamic experts in the field who help students achieve key learning objectives through activities and group discussions. Each Course Leader uses WorldStrides unique brand of educational power or LEAP (Learning through Exploration and Active Participation). Through this method, learning becomes a real-world experience for students and adults alike. By seeing, experiencing, and interacting on a WorldStrides program, students have the unique opportunity to apply knowledge gained in the classroom. Our Course Leaders have rich and varied backgrounds that lend themselves to superlative educational experiences for students, fresh perspectives, and engaging interaction during our programs. WorldStrides Course Leaders have a passion for helping students discover a love of learning that will last a lifetime!

Curriculum and Academics Team

WorldStrides employs a full-time curriculum and academics team, who are responsible for maintaining our accreditation, developing curriculum materials, training our Course Leaders, assessing student learning, and providing educators with opportunities to grow through our professional development program.

Tour Components

In addition to safety, security, and educational content, we have also invested in the quality of our tour components, which remain consistently strong and continue to deliver exceptional service.

The Educational Value of Student Travel

Educational Value of Student Travel

Learning through personal experience takes education beyond the classroom. Through educational travel, students use knowledge acquired in the classroom to analyze the world around them and make a personal connection by applying their knowledge to their understanding and view of the future.

In the classroom, students can only read about historical events or scientific principles. Students on a WorldStrides program actually experience those educational moments right into the sights and sounds of the places we take you. For example, in our Washington D.C. tours, students don't just join a long line of tourists at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier—they'll actually participate in the ceremony. Or, they'll take turns reciting Martin Luther King, Jr.'s famous speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. These encounters open students' minds and change their outlook on learning itself!

Value for the Teacher

Only an accredited organization can help you grow professionally and allow the Program Leader and chaperones to earn professional development. Many educators teach about the space launches from Kennedy Space Center or diverse ecosystems, having never been to key places where the events took place or the environments that are home to assorted ecosystems. WorldStrides programs provide every teacher with full immersion in the curriculum and professional development opportunities. Seasoned Program Leaders (teachers leading the trip) agree that they learn something new and meaningful each time they travel.

What Do Students Learn?

WorldStrides challenges students to develop a real appreciation for the history, the people, and the vision that have shaped our country. As our nation's capital, this city brims with beautiful monuments, commemorative statues and memorials, and impressive national government centers, including the Capitol Building itself. Students of all ages flock to this special city for a face-to-face experience with our heritage. They come away with an expanded appreciation and the memories of a lifetime. They'll learn more about our country, and they'll learn more about themselves, too.

Accreditation Sets WorldStrides Apart

WorldStrides is a school, independently accredited by regional accrediting bodies across the country. We maintain both school accreditation, which verifies the high academic quality of our programs, and corporate accreditation, which assures our organization's commitment to safety, security, and financial stability. Our accredited status attests to our high academic standards. Traveling with an accredited travel study school means that your program is centered around a structured curriculum that meets state standards.

Discovery Journals and Academic Credit

Each student is provided with an interactive Discovery Journal filled with educational games, fun facts about the sites, and thought-provoking questions. The journals are designed to stimulate critical thinking and creativity, while enhancing the quality of your educational travel program. Students can earn high school or college preparatory credit by completing online coursework through our Discovery for Credit program after they return from your trip.

Earn Credit with Discovery for Credit

Your WorldStrides program is so much more than a typical field trip. Each itinerary is built around WorldStrides' accredited curriculum that allows students the option to earn high school or college preparatory credit.

What Is Involved?

Discovery for Credit is an online learning environment offered in conjunction with WorldStrides travel programs. Content and assessment for all courses are developed and maintained by the WorldStrides Curriculum & Academics team, eliminating the Program Leader's need to provide additional instruction or grading.

How Does It Work?

To access Discovery for Credit, students must log in to the Academic Credit Portal using their Trip ID and Customer Account Number. Once logged in, students can access their Discovery for Credit Dashboard to enroll in the appropriate courses and complete the required online assignments. Online instructors are available to answer questions throughout the process.

High School Credit Details

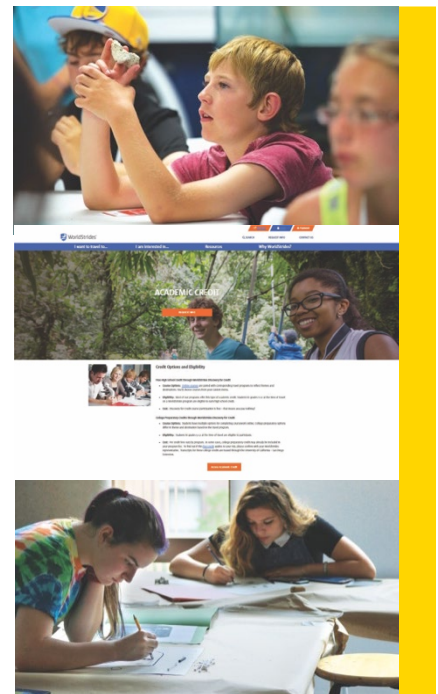
- > Available for students in grades 6-12 at the time of travel
- > Free of charge
- > Deadline for completing coursework is six months from the return date of travel
- > Upon successful completion of coursework, WorldStrides will mail an official transcript to the student

To best facilitate the transfer of credit earned, WorldStrides recommends that students and parents inquire what their high school's transfer credit policy is, in case additional paperwork is requested prior to beginning coursework.

College Preparatory Credit Details

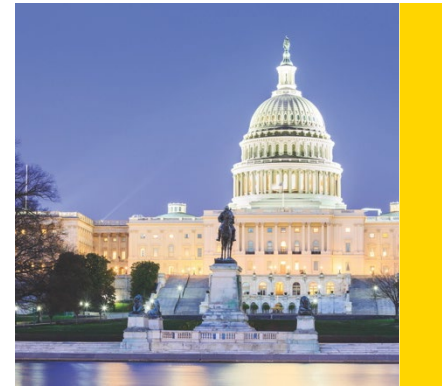
- > Available for students in grades 9-12 at the time of travel
- > Discounted tuition rate based on the number of credits the student wishes to earn
- > The participant can request an official transcript via the partner university

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT DISCOVERY FOR CREDIT,
CALL YOUR WORLDSTRIDES REPRESENTATIVE OR
VISIT WORLDSTRIDES.COM

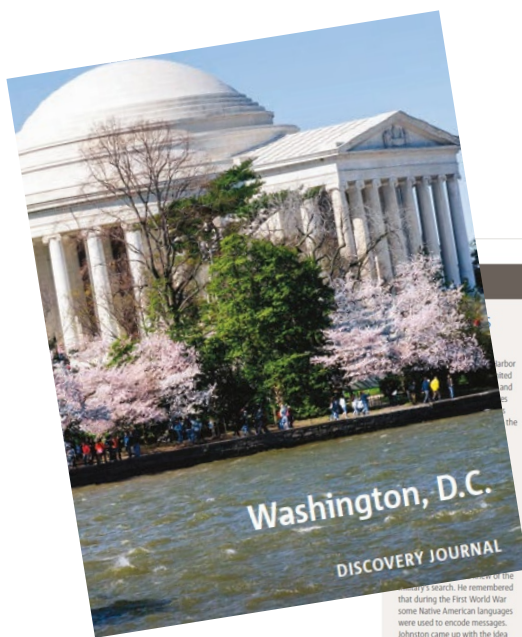


Destination Discovery Journals

On a WorldStrides program, students are immersed and engaged in their own learning. For example, *The Art of Social Protest Discovery Lesson* in Washington, D.C., exposes students to the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the most prominent leader in the Civil Rights Movement. Imagine your students standing at the base of the Lincoln Memorial, reading Dr. King’s famous “I Have a Dream” speech and learning about other famous and impactful marches on our nation’s capital. Through the guidance of your WorldStrides Course Leader, students study how to communicate their own message “to the masses” and create their own sign of personal action. It is WorldStrides’ unparalleled commitment to experiential learning that is demonstrated in our on-site Discovery Journals.



ASK YOUR WORLDSTRIDES REPRESENTATIVE ABOUT A **DISCOVERY JOURNAL** TODAY!



World War II Memorial

were baffled. They never broke the code. Many officers believe that were it not for the Navajo code talkers, the U.S. would never have prevailed in the Pacific.

The Code
In the European Theater of Operations (ETO), U.S. troops used Native American languages informally to send messages back and forth, but the native speakers held normal conversations instead of speaking in code. Navajo Code was more complex. Even when the Japanese captured and tortured a regular Navajo soldier, he could not understand it. To him, it was a string of unrelated words.

The basic structure of the code was the English alphabet. Each letter was represented by one

three Navajo words whose English translation started with that letter. For example, “woi-la-chee” (ant), “he-la-sani” (apple), and “ho-ni” (axe) were code for the letter “A”. The code talkers would mix up which word they used to make the code even harder to break.

Washington, D.C. Discovery Journal

Code Talkers (continued)

Does your deciphered message look familiar? It should. The message is one of many famous quotes engraved on the Memorial. Find yours and respond to the questions below.

Quote: _____

Said by: _____

Date: _____

What was going on in the war? _____

What does it mean? _____

Curriculum Guide to a WorldStrides Program

Washington, D.C.

All WorldStrides programs are developed following a rigorous educational process. This document highlights the standards we follow and the high educational goals we set for our programs. Our unique approach to education is recognized through our accreditation as a supplemental school by multiple regional accrediting bodies throughout the country. We believe that, together, we make a world of difference through hands-on learning.

The Foundation of a WorldStrides Program

SUBJECTS		Students will use key questions of inquiry to learn concepts of history, geography, literature, and culture. The interrelatedness of these subjects is emphasized.
SKILLS		Students will develop tools needed to acquire, organize, and communicate knowledge. These include thinking, research, and self-management.
ATTITUDES		Students will be encouraged to make connections within their studies and learn to reflect on their experiences as they relate to the real world.
ACTIVITIES		Students will learn to take appropriate actions and become actively involved in their own education. Through this program, they will explore how they can make a difference in their school or community.

SUBJECTS: Learning About History

CULTURAL HISTORY		Students will compare cultures and study ethics and creative ideas in the arts, such as fine arts, literature, musical arts, and dramatics.
ECONOMIC HISTORY		Students will understand basic economic terms, study currency development, and be able to compare major economic theories such as feudalism, capitalism, and free markets.
INTELLECTUAL HISTORY		Students will study key historical events in American history. They will recognize historical cause and effect and the importance of individual choices, actions, and character.
POLITICAL HISTORY		Students will compare and contrast diverse forms of governments, and they will evaluate authority and civic responsibility. Foreign policy will be addressed as it relates to geography and key historic events.
SOCIAL HISTORY		Students will study and compare different ways of life throughout time as well as in the current day. They will evaluate the ideas of authority and power as it relates to key people and past and current events.

SKILLS: Learning How to Apply Knowledge

READING		Students will practice reading skills in various formats. Critical analysis of selected reading passages and comprehension of directions and maps will be developed.
WRITING		Students will give thoughtful insight and use reasoning to write about their experiences. They will learn the art of writing about travel and personal experiences.
LISTENING		Students will display sensitivity in hearing other people's viewpoints and ideas. They will deepen their respect for the traditions of others.
RESEARCH		Students' natural curiosity will be nurtured. They will acquire the skills necessary to pose well-formulated questions and to conduct purposeful, constructive research.
COMMUNICATION		Students will express their ideas and information with confidence and clear articulation.

ATTITUDES: Learning Beyond the Textbook

RESPECT		Students will develop empathy and caring for others.
RESPONSIBILITY		Students will be equipped with the ability to apply knowledge appropriately.
CURIOSITY		Students will be stimulated to inquire, thus fostering the spirit of discovery and excitement in learning.
COOPERATION		Students will be encouraged to develop diversity and flexibility of thinking, and develop sensitivity towards other people and events.
CONFIDENCE		Students will build and reinforce a sense of identity and independence.

Discover D.C. | Becoming an Historian and a World Citizen

A WorldStrides program is an inquiry-based travel program encouraging critical thinking. Students are engaged and stimulated through key discovery questions explored in their Discovery Journals and in the field. Students will critically examine historical facts as they travel. It is reflective thinking that will lead students to responsible action, cultural awareness, and self-identity.

SITE / LOCATION (Not all sites will be seen on your program.)	SUBJECTS					ACTIVITIES	SKILLS				
	CULTURAL	ECONOMIC	INTELLECTUAL	POLITICAL	SOCIAL	CURRICULUM FOR WASHINGTON, D.C. (The following provides an overview of the educational activities included in a WorldStrides program. Changes may be made by WorldStrides at its own discretion without notice.)	READING	WRITING	LISTENING	RESEARCH	COMMUNICATION
AIR & SPACE MUSEUM			•		•	Test Pilot: trace the development of flight through the most influential pioneers and flying machines and test different paper airplane designs.	•			•	
ARLINGTON CEMETERY	•				•	Students will be challenged to consider why we remember significant events with memorial stones, and how this shows honor.	•		•		
CAPITOL BUILDING	•	•			•	Working in teams, students predict how legislators will be influenced by special-interest groups.	•				•
BUREAU OF ENGRAVING & PRINTING		•		•		Consumers, Clerks, and Counterfeiters: test your knowledge of U.S. currency by working in teams to outsmart each other and make more money.			•	•	•
FDR MEMORIAL			•		•	Using FDR's "Four Freedoms" speech, students will discuss which freedoms are most essential.	•				•
FORD'S THEATER			•	•		Students will walk through the events associated with the assassination of our 16th President and discuss turning points in history.			•	•	•
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM			•	•	•	Responsibility and Remembrance: verbal discussion and written reflection on different causes and responsibilities of citizens during this time in history.		•		•	•
IWO JIMA MEMORIAL	•		•			The Power of War Photography: study famous war images of World War II and guess the story behind each picture and photographer.				•	•
JEFFERSON MEMORIAL	•				•	Students will examine the Jefferson Memorial to identify many of Thomas Jefferson's personal pursuits.		•		•	
KENNEDY CENTER	•				•	Kennedy Center Honors: team challenge to "honor" a chosen artist by creating a performance for classmates, such as liturgical dance or praise song.		•	•		
KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL		•		•		Two Koreas: participate in a simulation of divided Korea 50 years after the war with descriptions of life on each side of the DMZ.			•		•
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS	•					Fire! Saving American Treasures: students work in teams to choose which treasured documents in the American Treasures collection to save from destruction.				•	•
LINCOLN MEMORIAL	•		•			Students will determine the memorial's effectiveness in reflecting the character of Lincoln, as well as its effectiveness as a symbol of social justice and democracy.	•	•			•
MOUNT VERNON	•			•	•	Colonial House: role-play of life in early American history; could you live by these rules?	•			•	
NATIONAL ARCHIVES				•	•	But It's My Right: teams study the Bill of Rights and debate the rights that are essential to a life of liberty and happiness in school or at home.	•			•	
NATIONAL ZOO					•	Extinction: in zookeeper teams, students solve clues to revive one of the zoo's species from extinction in the wild.	•				•
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM					•	Survival of the Strangest: students participate in a quirky team scavenger hunt to find unique survival characteristics among the exhibits in the museum.	•		•		•
SUPREME COURT				•	•	Free Speech for All: learn about key court cases on student free speech and debate school uniform policies.	•				•
VIETNAM MEMORIAL			•	•		A Nation Divided: read and listen to various viewpoints about the Vietnam War and discuss the purposes and politics of war memorials.	•		•		•
WASHINGTON MONUMENT			•	•	•	The Art of Social Protest: listen to and recite MLK's "I Have a Dream" speech and learn how to communicate an effective message to the masses.	•		•		•
WHITE HOUSE				•	•	Powerful Parents, Paparazzi, and the Press: You are the President's child. Decide how far the press can go in reporting about you and your family.		•			•
WWII MEMORIAL	•		•			Code Talkers: learn about the secret Navajo code talkers program and work in teams to decipher famous quotes from WWII history.	•			•	

Curriculum Guide to a WorldStrides Program

Florida Splash into Science

All WorldStrides programs are developed following a rigorous educational process. This document highlights the standards we follow and the high educational goals we set for our programs. Our unique approach to education is recognized through our accreditation as a supplemental school by multiple regional accrediting bodies throughout the country. We believe that, together, we make a world of difference through hands-on learning.

The Foundation of a WorldStrides Program

SUBJECTS		Students will use methods of inquiry to learn concepts of marine life science, physical science, earth and space science, and ecology. Emphasis is placed on how these subjects are interrelated.
SKILLS		Students will develop tools needed to acquire, organize, and communicate knowledge. These include thinking, research, and self-management.
ATTITUDES		Students will be encouraged to make connections within their studies and learn to reflect on their experiences as they relate to the real world.
ACTIVITIES		Students will learn to take appropriate actions and become actively involved in their own education. Through this program, they will explore how they can make a difference in their school or community.

SUBJECTS: Learning About Science

LIFE SCIENCE		Students will study the relationships between organisms and their physical environments and the ways that marine life can be classified for identification and conservation.
PHYSICAL SCIENCE		Students will understand characteristics of matter and basic water chemical transformations. The sources and properties of water will be demonstrated in the lab activities.
EARTH SCIENCE		Students will study and compare characteristics and conditions of various geological locations and plate tectonics. They will make conclusions about investigations regarding weather and climates.
SPACE SCIENCE		Students will study the earth's composition and structure, how the sun and atmospheric processes affect the water cycle and how weather patterns affect the diversity of marine life.
ECOLOGY		Students will evaluate how ecosystems are supported or hindered by human endeavors and why energy and marine life diversity are important for conservation.

SKILLS: Learning How to Apply Science

READING		Students will practice reading skills in various scientific formats. Students will develop skills in comprehending directions, reading lab manuals, and reading maps.
WRITING		Students will give thoughtful insight and use reasoning to write about their experiences. They will practice writing lab reports and accurately taking scientific measurements.
LISTENING		Students will display sensitivity in hearing other people's viewpoints and ideas. They will deepen their respect for the traditions of others.
RESEARCH		Students' natural curiosity will be nurtured. They will acquire the skills necessary to conduct purposeful, constructive scientific inquiry and research.
COMMUNICATION		Students will express their ideas and information with confidence and clear articulation.

ATTITUDES: Learning Beyond the Science

RESPECT		Students will develop empathy and caring for others, marine life, and nature.
RESPONSIBILITY		Students will be equipped with the ability to apply knowledge appropriately.
CURIOSITY		Students will be stimulated to inquire, thus fostering the spirit of discovery and excitement in learning.
COOPERATION		Students will be encouraged to develop diversity and flexibility of thinking, and develop sensitivity towards other people and events.
CONFIDENCE		Students will build and reinforce a sense of identity and independence.

SPLASH INTO SCIENCE | Becoming a Scientist

A WorldStrides program is an inquiry-based travel program encouraging critical thinking. Students are engaged and stimulated through key discovery questions explored in their Discovery Journals and in the field. Students will critically examine historical facts as they travel. It is reflective thinking that will lead students to responsible action, scientific awareness, and self-identity.

SITE / LOCATION (Not all sites will be seen on your program.)	SUBJECTS					ACTIVITIES	SKILLS				
	LIFE SCIENCE	PHYSICAL	EARTH SCIENCE	SPACE SCIENCE	ECOLOGY		READING	WRITING	LISTENING	RESEARCH	COMMUNICATION
						CURRICULUM FOR SPLASH INTO SCIENCE The following provides an overview of the educational activities included in a WorldStrides program. Changes may be made by WorldStrides without notice.					
ORIENTATION	•	•		•		Mix-n-Match: students pair up to learn about the program objectives and activities and more about each other in this fun matching game.	•				•
EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK	•				•	Swamp Sounds: on a night hike, learn about the different types of waves (sound, seismic, water, and light) and how land and marine animals use sonar technology to adapt to their environments.		•	•		
EVENING PROGRAM ONE	•	•			•	Common Grounds: teamwork and interaction are the keys to success as students solve crazy brainteasers that focus on the marine life seen throughout the program.	•				•
EVERGLADS SHARK VALLEY	•				•	No Shark Tales: during this tram tour, identify animals seen above the water: alligators, snakes, and birds. No, there are no sharks in the Everglades!		•	•		
EVERGLADES SAFARI PARK		•	•			Airboat Adventure: take a wild ride on an authentic airboat and study the different Florida ecosystems: the hardwood hammock and mangrove marshes.		•	•		
EVENING PROGRAM TWO			•	•		Moons and Masks: learn about water safety skills during this interactive lab that also teaches about the atmosphere, weather cycles, and biodiversity.			•	•	
DIVERS SNORKEL ONE		•	•			Rockin Reefs: during this first snorkel trip, learn about plate tectonics, water wave energy, and how tropical fish adapt to the different reefs or Florida mangroves.			•		
CURRY NATIONALSTATE PARK		•	•			Shady Deals: test the UV protection of sunglasses and study how the sun’s energy interact with matter on earth, in the water, and in seagrass beds.		•		•	
TURTLE HOSPITAL	•					Rescue, Rehabilitate, and Release: go in-depth and behind the scenes at this world class sea turtle hospital. Examine x-rays, learn about conservation efforts, and feed rescued sea turtles.			•		•