



Fieldwork & Adventure at DDES

Adventure and Fieldwork are at the heart of the Expeditionary Learning approach to learning. When kids surmount obstacles – camping, climbing, snowshoeing, spending nights away from parents – they bring that confidence, tenacity and courage back to their “academic selves.” Thus, adventure is not an add-on, but core to the overall growth we desire for our children.

Another core practice of the EL Education model is connecting students to the world beyond school through meaningful fieldwork, collaboration with experts, and service learning. Our “City as Campus” vision enables students and teachers to explore our unique setting in Downtown Denver to find meaningful ways to connect students’ learning directly to their community.

Once a year during summer registration, DDES asks ALL families to contribute to our Adventure & Fieldwork programs, so we are not asking for donations for each individual trip and field excursion. **DDES does not receive any state funding to help pay for our buses, equipment, entrance fees, reservations, cabins, over-time staffing, food or maintenance.** We need your help to keep Adventure alive at DDES!!

We understand that not all families are in the position to contribute the full ask. If your student qualifies for Free and Reduced Lunch, or if your family is simply not in the position to currently pay, please consider contributing \$100/per student, or whatever amount you are comfortable with at the time of registration. Please know that ALL students fully participate in each program regardless of contribution and that DDES also has the equipment, clothing, sleeping bags, shoes, etc. to make sure all students feel comfortable and confident during their Adventure experiences.

What is my contribution going towards?

Expense	% of total	Expense	% of total
Reservations	18%	Overtime for staff	7%
Equipment	1%	Bus Maintenance	17%
Transportation	6%	Adventure Specialist salary support	19%
Food expenses	10%	Future buses	4%
Activities	8%	Fieldwork costs	10%

Examples: Adventure and Fieldwork

Grade	Fall Adventure (subject to change)	Spring Adventure (subject to change)	Fieldwork examples (not exhaustive list)	Contribution per student
Kinder	1 day trip Cherry Creek State Park	1 night cabin trip Woodland Park	Butterfly Pavilion, Tattered Cover, Bee experts, Denver Center Performing Arts	\$350
First	1 night cabin trip YMCA Camp, Deckers	1 night tent trip Cheyenne Mountain	Craftsman & Apprentice, Botanic Gardens, Downtown Denver Partnership, Career experts, Denver Center Performing Arts	\$395
Second	1 night tent trip Lake Dillon	1 night tent trip Cherry Creek State Park	American Museum of Western Art, Civil Rights community partnership, Denver Center Performing Arts	\$395
Third	1 night tent trip Golden Gate State Park	2 night tent trip Mueller State Park	Public Library, school visits, urban habitat exploration, Hawk Quest, Denver Center Performing Arts	\$400
Fourth	2 night tent trip Rocky Mtn National Park	2 night cabin trip Vail Pass Huts	History of Colorado Museum, Ute Museum, The Greenway Foundation, National Renewable Energy Lab, Denver Center Performing Arts	\$425
Fifth	2 night tent trip Great Sand Dunes	2 night tent trip with rafting TBD	Voter Registration Drive at Civic Center Park, Expert Community Advocates, Museum of Nature & Science Heart Lab, Denver Center Performing Arts	\$450



Fieldwork & Adventure Collection Form
*Bring to Registration/Open House

Grade	Yearly Ask (per child)	Monthly (9 payments)
Kinder	\$350	\$39
1st-2nd Grade	\$395	\$44
3rd Grade	\$400	\$45
4th Grade	\$425	\$47
5th Grade	\$450	\$50

Form of payment (choose one):.

- Credit Card at Registration: _____
- Cash Amount: _____
- Check#: _____
- 10 Monthly Payments ***this option requires PROCARE sign-up at REGISTRATION and ACH payment information**

Student Full Name(s)	Grade(s)	Amount Paid Today
Yes, I would like to make an additional tax-deductible contribution to support fieldwork scholarships.		
Total		