

FOR STUDENTS

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are excited to let you know that your child is coming to visit the Fairfield Osborn Preserve on the western slope of Sonoma Mountain about seven miles east of Rohnert Park. Home to ancient oak trees, delicate wildflowers, black-tailed deer, yellow-legged frogs, and over 150 different species of aquatic insects, the Preserve hosts an amazing diversity of plant and animal life. Under the skilled direction of one of the Preserve's trained volunteer naturalists, your child will investigate natural habitats, become acquainted with the creatures they discover, and understand the place of each in the ecosystem.

We ask for your help in enabling your child to gain the most from this wonderful opportunity. To ensure that your child feels as comfortable as possible, please make sure they:

- Dress to get dirty and keep warm! Children must wear **long** pants, sturdy **old** shoes with good tread for hiking and several layers on top. Raincoats (or large trash bags) are a must for late Fall and early Spring.
- Bring plenty of drinking water and a simple lunch. We suggest a sandwich and a piece of fruit; lunchtime is short and often food is wasted. Candy, gum, and soft drinks are not permitted.
- Pack water, lunch and extra clothes in a small day pack for easy transport.

After the fieldtrip:

- Check your child closely for ticks, especially on the scalp, and remove with fine tweezers. Though Lyme disease is of very limited concern here at the Preserve, it is a good idea to do a thorough check.
- Encourage your child to share with you stories about their experiences here.
- Bring your family for a naturalist-led weekend hike. This way your child can teach you what he/she learned about the Preserve and its inhabitants. We offer guided walks on Saturdays in the Fall and Spring. Call the Preserve office at 795-5069 for more information.

Please complete the form below, detach it, and return it to your child's teacher. No child may participate without it. Keep this part for your records. We are eager to welcome your child to the Preserve and we hope he or she will persuade you to return with them soon. Thank you for sharing your child with us. We will do everything possible to make sure their visit is safe, educational, and fun.

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\_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in a fieldtrip at Fairfield Osborn  
name of child

Preserve. I understand that every reasonable effort will be made to ensure my child's health and well-being and that my child will be expected to stay with and obey the directions of the field instructor in charge. Furthermore, I agree to hold harmless the employees and agents of Fairfield Osborn Preserve and the California State University against all claims, damages, losses and expenses arising out of my child's participation in the fieldtrip.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please list below any health considerations pertinent to your child's visit including, but not limited to, bee or wasp sting allergies, respiratory conditions, limitations to walking, seizures, and diabetes.

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