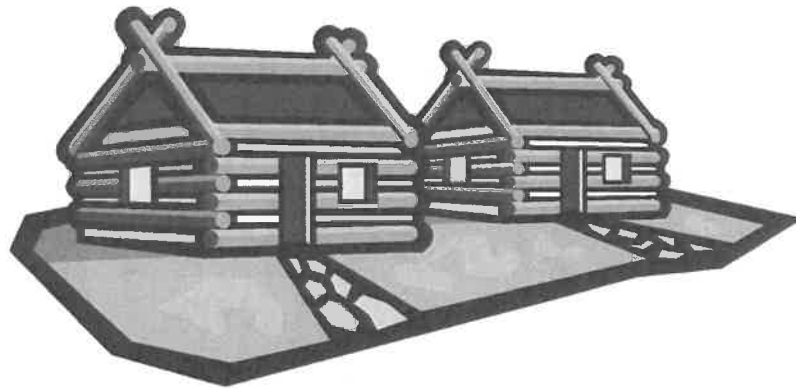


Sixth Grade Camp

Oct. 9- Oct. 11, 2024

Final Reminders Packet



Included in this packet:

- Letter to Parents with Important Reminders
- Address to Camp and Camp Phone Number
 - What to pack
 - Curriculum
- Driving Directions
- Map of Campground



Driving Instructions to YMCA STORER CAMPS

The YMCA Storer Outdoor School

★**Important Note:** If you are using an online mapping service or GPS unit to navigate use this address:

**6941 N. Stony Lake Rd.
Jackson, MI 49201**

★**If you enter YMCA Storer Camps into Google it will take you to the incorrect entrance on the south side of the lake. Enter the above address.**

FROM TOLEDO, OHIO AND POINTS SOUTH:

- Take U.S. 23 North into Michigan.
- Exit at Dundee (exit # 17).
- Turn left, taking M-50 going west.
- Drive 40-45 minutes through several small towns, passing Brooklyn to Napoleon. Just as you enter Napoleon, across from the BP gas station, turn left onto Stony Lake Rd. If you reach the Mobile gas station in Napoleon, you have gone too far.
- Go ¼ mile, until Stony Lake Road divides into North Stony Lake Road and South Stony Lake Road.

Once on Stony Lake Road, after ¼ mile, Stony Lake Road divides into North Stony Lake and South Stony Lake Rd. Stay right on North Stony Lake Rd and drive approximately 2 miles. You will see the North Center entrance on your left.

FROM ANN ARBOR/DETROIT AND POINTS EAST:

- Go West on Interstate 94 to exit # 157, Pierce Rd/Old US-12.
- Turn left and proceed West on Old US-12 (which eventually turns into E. Michigan Ave).
- As you near the town of Grass Lake, turn left on Norvell Rd. You will see a car dealership and bank near this intersection. Go approximately 6 miles.
- Turn right onto Sharon Valley Road at the 4-way stop.
- Turn right onto Austin Road.
- After about one mile, you will come to a stop sign in Napoleon, MI. Turn left, go ½ block to a BP gas station on your left, and turn right onto Stony Lake Road.
- Go ¼ mile, until Stony Lake Road divides into North Stony Lake Road and South Stony Lake Road.

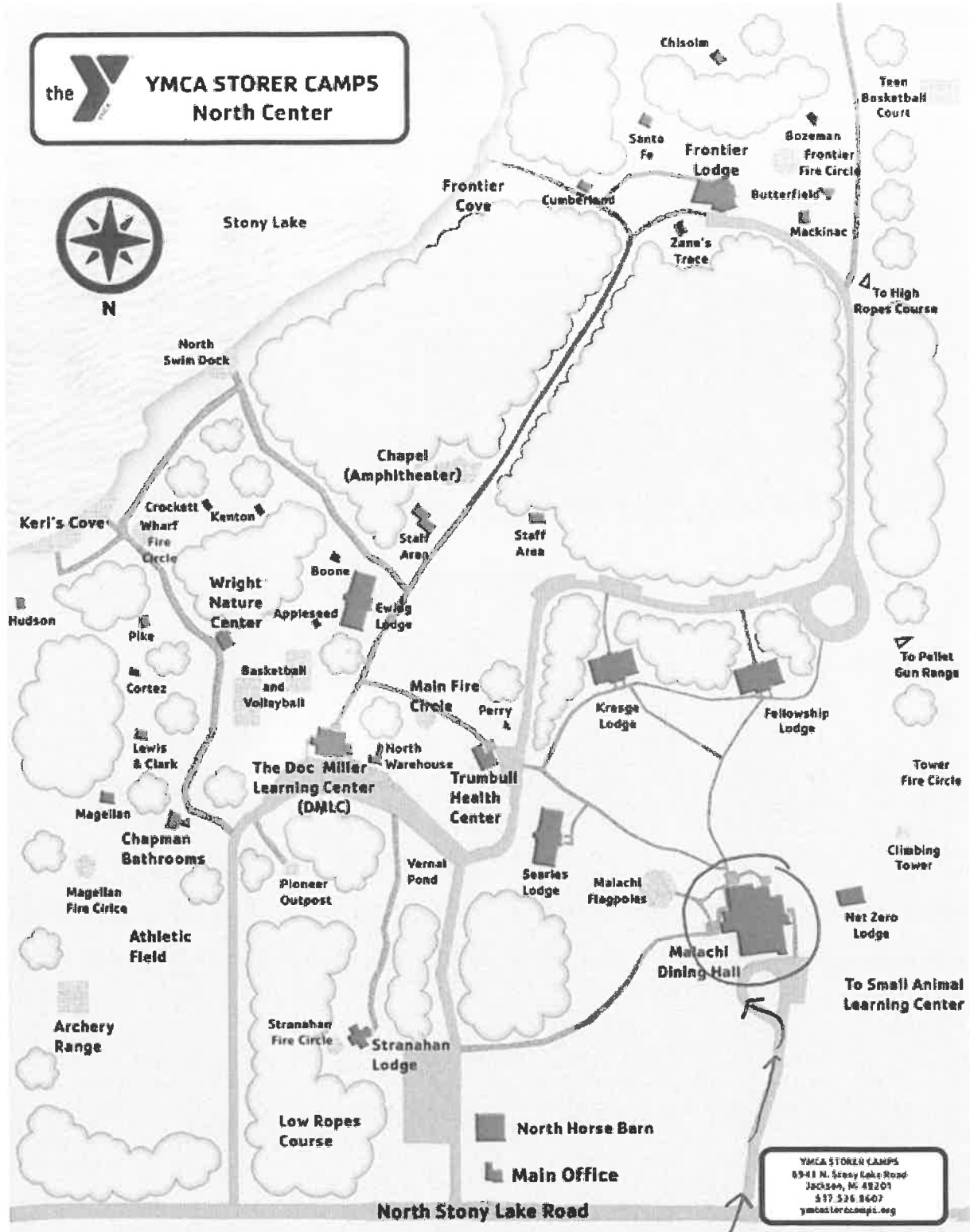
Once on Stony Lake Road, after ¼ mile, Stony Lake Road divides into North Stony Lake and South Stony Lake Rd. Stay right on North Stony Lake Rd and drive approximately two miles. You will see the North Center entrance on your left.

FROM LANSING, BATTLE CREEK, AND POINTS NORTH AND WEST:

- From Lansing, take U.S. 127 South to Interstate 94, then turn East and take exit # 142 (South on Route 127).
- From Battle Creek, continue Eastbound on Interstate 94 and take exit # 142 (South on Route 127).
- Exit onto Highway M-50 and head East (toward Monroe).
- Continue East on M-50 about five miles to Benton Road. Turn right onto Benton Road and travel about two miles to the first stop sign. This is North Stony Lake Road. Turn left here, and look for the North Center entrance on your right

If you have any difficulties finding camp, please call us M-F (8 am- 5pm) at (517) 536-8607.

North Center Map



This is where we will be if you need to pick up your child

-Hello Families! It's the one week countdown before camp!

This packet will include all of the final information that you will need for your student's trip to 6th grade camp. Please look over everything carefully so that you and your child will be prepared on Wednesday, October 9 when we leave for camp. ***If you are not a member of East's Facebook page, I would recommend to join. I will be using this platform to post pictures and give camp updates.***

Bring-along-list

See the list that is attached in this packet. I would like to stress several items to bring along or not bring along:

1. If it takes batteries, or plugs in, it should not be in the bag! Exception would be a flashlight.
2. Pack weather appropriate clothing. We spend 75% of the time outside, even at night, so please pack with that in mind. Layers, rain gear, and gloves are all recommended!
3. Pack extra socks! They get dirty/wet quickly.
4. Pack a refillable water bottle - **label with student's name.**
5. A small cinch sack is helpful to carry their water bottle and other items in while we are in the woods.
6. Use a garbage bag to put their bedding/pillow into. Don't forget to put that "special" label on it to mark it as your child's. It's good to have a spare garbage bag for the way home, just in case the first one rips!
7. Because of possible wet weather, an extra pair of shoes and a \$1 store poncho can be helpful.
8. No money needed - there is nothing to buy at camp.
9. No snacks and/or candy. We do not want to encourage critters to come into cabins!
10. **NO Cell Phones** should be brought to camp. According to camp and school policy, the only way students can contact home is through a teacher.
11. I recommend that a parent helps their child to pack. I have found that students who pack their luggage themselves are not prepared for the weather or tend to under or overpack.
12. Speaking of overpacking, students carry their own luggage and bedding from the bus to their cabin. It's about a 5-10 minute walk. Making sure they can carry everything before you leave home on Wednesday is recommended.

Wednesday Morning Reminders (October 9)

1. Make sure your child is fever free and feeling well enough to join us on our camp trip before dropping them off. Students that have a fever while at camp will be isolated and sent home immediately. Please keep the map and driving directions provided in this packet handy in case you get a call to come get your child from camp.
2. Please remember to make arrangements to bring your child to East on Wednesday morning. **There are no school buses available on Wednesday, as the school will be closed.**
3. Students may start arriving at 8:10 am (the building is closed) on Wednesday and should arrive no later than **8:25** that morning. Drop off will be located near the gymnasium entrance. Students can find their travel group and cabin group by checking the posters outside the gym wall. At 8:15 am, we will allow students to enter the gym with their luggage and look for their travel cone. **PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE LOT, DROP OFF AND GO, AS STAFF AND OUR CHARTER BUSES WILL NEED THE SPACE!**
4. Parents will not be allowed into the building. Say your goodbyes in your vehicles. I promise we will take great care of them!
5. A station will be set up right outside the gym entrance for collecting any medications that are not already here at school. Please turn in meds in a freezer-sized Ziplock bag, marked

with your child's name. Remember, you can only turn in what was clearly labeled on the health form and it must be in the original packaging! No lose pills allowed. If you have any changes for medication, you will need to fill in a new health form. Please ask for one prior to Wednesday morning so that you don't need to spend time filling it in the morning of camp.

6. If your child has medicine that is normally given here at East, it will be packed in a separate bag for staff to take to camp (unless you noted otherwise on your form).
7. **Students that have inhalers and EpiPens should keep that with them at all times while at camp for their own safety. A cinch sack to carry these is recommended.**
8. We will use East's Facebook page to post pictures from our trip. Please check periodically throughout the three days for pictures and updates.

Friday Pick-up Procedures (October 11)

1. We will arrive back at East between 1:15 and 1:30 p.m. I will use East's Facebook page to give updates on our arrival time. Please make arrangements to have your child picked up at this time. Students will not be allowed into the building and need to go home. You may have another parent pick up your child, if needed. Bring your patience - the parking lot will be packed with cars and people!
2. Luggage and students will be dropped off outside of the gym at East. **Please help unload luggage as the buses arrive. Students may not exit the bus until all luggage is removed.**
3. Medication given to us while at camp will be available for pick-up outside door 5's entrance.

Also included in this packet for your convenience:

1. Directions to camp and a map (students that exhibit a fever or COVID-like symptoms will be isolated and sent home from camp immediately)
2. A list of the curriculum while at camp
3. A packing list

For your reference ~ Camp Emergency Phone Number 517-536-8607

Your child will be very involved while at camp. We do not anticipate any behavior problems; however, if your child cannot handle him/herself in an appropriate manner, you will be called to pick up your child from camp. Refunds will not be given. Please discuss with your child how to make good choices while at camp, especially with our parent volunteers.

You and/or your family are welcome to send letters to your child while they are at camp at the address below. Please have them in the mail by 10/4 to assure arrival at camp during your child's stay. Remember to write upbeat, encouraging words. Letters that focus on missing your child lend to homesickness.

Name of Student
C/O East Middle School
The YMCA Storer Outdoor School
6491 Stony Lake Road
Jackson, MI 49201

I can't wait to start on our camping adventure. As always, if you have any last minute questions please email me at melanie.formosa@pccsk12.com

Happy Camping - Mrs. Formosa

BRING ALONG LIST

BEDDING

- Sleeping bag or sheets & blanket (Twin size)
- Pillow & pillowcase

CLOTHING (Spring/Fall)

- Pajamas
- Underclothing (2 per day)
- Socks (2 pairs per day)
- Shirts (long and short sleeved)
- Pants/jeans (3 pairs; dresses not recommended)
- Bathing suit for showering
- Sweatshirt/jacket
- Raincoat ***Needed for every season!**
Please note: Do not bring umbrellas. If horse riding, no ponchos.
- Comfortable tennis shoes (2 pairs)
- Waterproof shoes/boots (1 pair)
- Shower shoes (1 pair)
- Plastic bag for dirty clothes

CLOTHING (Winter)

Please Note: We are an Outdoor Environmental Education Center. Your child will be outside for extended periods of time except in cases of extreme/sub-zero weather. Please prepare your child with proper clothing for outdoor winter activities.

- Pajamas (1 pair)
- Underclothing (2 per day)
- Socks (3 pairs per day)
- Shirts (long and short sleeved)
- Pants/jeans (3 pairs; dresses not recommended)
- Bathing suit for showering
- Raincoat ***Needed for every season!**
Please note: Do not bring umbrellas. If horse riding, no ponchos.
- Winter/Insulated Coat with a hood
- Snow pants (1 pair)
- Gloves/Mittens (2 pair: non-cotton recommended)
- Scarf

- Winter hat
- Waterproof Insulated Boots (1 pair)
- Comfortable tennis shoes (1 pair)
- Shower shoes (1 pair)
- Plastic bag for dirty clothes

TOILETRIES

- Bath towel & washcloth
- Comb and/or brush
- Deodorant (no aerosol spray cans)
- Lip Balm
- Soap/Shampoo
- Toothbrush & toothpaste

OPTIONAL ITEMS

- Day backpack
- Reusable water bottle
- Flashlight
- Sunscreen lotion
- Insect repellent (no aerosol spray cans)
- Sunglasses or Hat
- Camera (disposable recommended)
- Reading book
- Stationary/writing paper, pen & stamps
- Stuffed animal

MEDICATIONS

Medications MUST be turned in to school before departure to camp. Only emergency medications such as rescue inhalers, epinephrine injectors and diabetic supplies can be carried by students.

SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR CABIN LEADERS ONLY

- Alarm Clock (or cell phone)
- Watch (or cell phone)
- Extension Cord
- Travel Mug
- Book to read to children

PLEASE DO NOT SEND THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

- Video Games or Electronic Devices
- Hairspray, mousse, gels, etc.
- Food (including pop & candy)
- Firearms, knives, archery equipment or weapons
- iPads/iPods
- Blow dryers & curling irons
- Matches or lighters
- Cell Phones
- Chewing gum
- Fishing poles, hooks, etc.
- Money

3 Day Daily Schedule (Monday-Wednesday OR Wednesday-Friday)

Day 1

10:30	Students arrive, orientation and move into cabins
11:45-1:15	Lunch
1:15-2:15	Afternoon Activities & Cabin Leader/Teacher meeting
2:15-2:45	Tour
2:45-3:45	Class
4:00-5:00	Class
5:05	Bell rings; cabin responsibilities (set tables, flag, etc.)
5:15-6:15	Dinner
6:15-7:00	Cabin Time with Cabin Leader
7:00-8:45	Evening Activity
8:45-9:30	Get ready for bed
10:00	Lights Out!

Day 2

6:30	Rise & Shine
6:30-7:45	Get ready; clean cabins/bathrooms
7:45	Bell rings; cabin responsibilities
8:00-9:00	Breakfast
9:00-9:30	Cabin Time with Cabin Leaders
9:30-10:30	Class

10:45-11:45	Class
12:00	Lunch
1:00-1:30	Cabin Time with Cabin Leaders
1:30-2:30	Class
2:45-3:45	Class
4:00-5:05	Afternoon Activities & Cabin Leader/Teacher meeting
5:05	Bell rings; cabin responsibilities
5:15-6:15	Dinner
6:15-7:00	Cabin Time with Cabin Leaders
7:00-8:45	Evening Activities
8:45-10:00	Get ready for bed
10:00	Lights Out!

Day 3

6:30	Clean cabins; pack; bring luggage to the assigned location
8:00	Breakfast
9:15	Class
10:30	Class
11:45	Sack or Box Lunch, evaluations
12:30	Departure

East 2024 Camp Curriculum Agenda

Natural Science/Environmental Awareness/Team Building

IN COLD BLOOD

1 Hour in length

- Compare, contrast and classify warm and cold-blooded organisms based upon observable physical characteristics
- Compare, contrast and classify reptiles and amphibians based upon physical and behavioral characteristics
- Define adaptations
- Identify adaptations of the resident reptiles and amphibians

After a discussion about cold-blooded and warm-blooded organisms, adaptations, and differences between reptiles and amphibians, students have the opportunity to handle and examine resident snakes, frogs, turtles, salamanders, and toads.

FIREQUEST

1 Hour in length

- Identify and demonstrate proper fire safety
- Identify the three needs of fire: oxygen, fuel and heat source
- Identify the three types of fuel: tinder, kindling and fuel
- Be introduced to several methods of creating a heat source
- Build and light a fire using one or more fire starting techniques

This class consists of an introduction that covers methods of starting fires, fire building procedures, fire safety, and proper ways to extinguish a fire. Students will work in small groups to build their own fires using various techniques (magnifying glasses, batteries, etc.)

GIMME SHELTER

1 Hour in length

- Discuss the importance of shelter as a basic human need
- Discuss the appropriate dimensions, materials and weather considerations in building an effective shelter
- Practice building debris shelters

Students will build debris shelters that are specific to outdoor survival. In small groups, the students will create a plan for building a shelter focusing on materials; structure and safety, and then execute their plan. This class aims to promote independence and teambuilding among small groups of students.

INCREDIBLE JOURNEY

1 Hour in length

- Demonstrate safe spotting techniques
- Reflect, discuss and evaluate elements of group dynamics such as trust, common goals, common experiences, leadership and challenge by choice
- Participate in a series of obstacles and/or challenges in a group setting

Students learn to develop team building skills such as communication, cooperation and trust as a group and work to overcome the challenges presented on the course.

DISC GOLF

1 Hour in length

- Learn about the history of disc golf.
- Learn the rules and proper throwing techniques used in the game.
- Play on our 9-hole course.

Disc golf is one of the fastest growing recreational sports in the world. Students will be shown disc throwing techniques. Students will then head to our great beginner level nine hole to test their skills. The game itself follows traditional golf rules teaching etiquette of the game as well.

ARCHERY

1 Hour in length

- Distinguish between contact and noncontact forces in real-life scenarios within popular sports
- Explore examples of kinetic and potential energy and their role in familiar sports
- Learn about the history of the sport of archery

Students will be introduced to the basic equipment of archery and safety. Students will practice their skills in an outdoor setting.

MICROSCOPIC PONDERINGS

1 Hour in length

- Define and compare characteristics of a lake, pond and vernal pond
- Discuss the roles and needs of observed organisms in an aquatic ecosystem
- Use and care for a basic microscope
- Collect, observe, and classify aquatic organisms from a lake or pond
- Identify aquatic organisms based upon physical and/or behavioral characteristics

Students collect specimens from Stony Lake in the fall and from a vernal (seasonal) pond in the spring. They are then able to use microscopes and dichotomous key to classify and identify various organisms. This class is highly experiential and can strengthen students' observation and classification skills.

THE TOWER

1 Hour in length

- Practice setting and meeting personal goals
- Encounter physical and emotional challenges
- Practice appropriate safety commands, equipment use and climbing techniques

YMCA's climbing tower has been carefully designed and structured to provide a safe yet challenging experience, both physically and psychologically, for all participants. After students have reviewed all safety techniques and commands, they will be secured into a climbing harness and belay system, and attempt to scale the Tower on their own. This activity requires strict safety procedures and is directly supervised by trained and experienced Storer facilitators.
