



Live. Learn. Lead.

August 15th, 2023

Dear Parents and ALHS Juniors:

Here at ALCS, our mission is to give students opportunities to understand how the subjects we learn in our indoor classroom are interconnected with the world we experience. To this end, we will be taking 11th grade students on our annual junior class science trip in two weeks. The purpose of this trip is to allow students to experience the interconnectivity between the real world and a myriad of sciences, including Astronomy, Biology, Ecology, Chemistry and Geology. Students are often introduced to these topics as separate functions in science; on this trip, we strive to demonstrate how each facet of science has contributed to the development of our ever-changing world, and how we can protect that world through our understanding of it.

Here are the essentials: A detailed itinerary will be provided closer to departure.

Who: Any student whose schedule is made up of 50% or more of 11th grade classes

What: A 4-day trip to the Chiricahua's and the greater Tucson area.

Places we may visit: The Chiricahua National Park, Cochise Stronghold Campground, Colossal Cave, Gilbert Campground, 4th Ave in Tucson, Flandrau Science Center and Planetarium, Biosphere 2, the University of Arizona, and the Reid Park Zoo.

Why: To cultivate a sense of interconnectivity between sciences and to motivate students to think critically about their future as citizens and humans.

Travel, as you know, can be both enlightening & expensive. As always, ALCS faculty have endeavored to keep trips as affordable as possible, sleeping in campgrounds, taking advantage of student discounts, packing as much as possible into 4 days of city & desert travel. We hope that all students in the class will be able to attend this curricular road trip. Please know that the Aldo faculty will never let a student's financial challenges get in the way of attending a school trip.

On **Monday**, we are asking students to bring “a sack breakfast & a sack lunch” as well as money to buy themselves dinner on 4th Ave in Tucson on Tuesday. There are numerous affordable options for dinner—under \$10—available near where we will be walking that evening. We will return to ALCS around 4:00 pm on Thursday.

A packing list is attached below. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (575) 494-0071 or at ztecca@aldocs.org

Zachary Tecca

Packing List

Items with an asterisk () beside them are available on loan from the school. "Loaners" require that students offer \$50 collateral as a guarantee that items are returned in good condition. Please let Zachary Tecca (ztecca@aldocs.org) know if you need any of these items.*

- Duffel or "softside" travel bag (or backpack*)
- Tent*
- Cool-weather sleeping bag in a stuff-sack*; should be rated 20 degrees or lower
- Sleeping pad* (more important than you might think)
- Cap with a brim
- Rain poncho *or* raincoat and pants
- 2 sturdy water bottles or Camelback-style hydration system
- Headlamp or flashlight
- Sturdy hiking shoes
- Sandals for camp (very optional in winter)
- Mess kit (sturdy bowl, cup, spoon, fork)
- Trash bag
- Hand towel and washcloth
- Bandana
- A "sack breakfast & sack lunch" for the first day of the trip
- \$10-20 for dinner in downtown Tucson
- Toiletries: sunscreen, lip balm, soap, comb, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant
- Journal, along with at least one pen & pencil
- 2 optional items for camp:
 - Lighter (for fire-starting)
 - Pocket knife with a 2-inch (or shorter) blade

- In general, you need clothes for 4 days: the clothes you wear to school on Monday, & a couple changes of clothes for Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday. The key word is layering.
 - 2 pair of socks; cotton is not recommended
 - Warm jacket—but probably not a "winter coat"; cotton is not recommended
 - Warm cap; cotton is not recommended
 - 1 long-sleeved shirt; cotton is not recommended
 - 2 short-sleeved shirts; cotton is not recommended
 - 1 pair of pants; long pants that convert into shorts are ideal; cotton is not recommended
 - Underwear, of course—including some sweatpants or long-johns for sleepwear
 - Also, a watch would be handy, so that we can stay on schedule; we are visiting a number of sites that require us to keep a strict appointment.