



**Live. Learn. Learn to Live at Home as Global Citizens.**

Dear World Citizens and Their Parents:

In our life-long quest to understand where we live and where we come from in time & space, heading down from the mountains of our beloved Gila, across the Tumacacori Highlands & into the Salt River valley around Phoenix. It's time to learn about art, biology, culture & humanity's 'capacity to endure' (eg. *'to-live-sustainably'*) while focusing upon three engaging and *historically relevant* themes throughout modern world history, (i) international human rights, (ii) human identity & migration, and (iii) how our species deals with conflict.

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

**Who:** 10th grade

**What:** A 4-day trip to the International Border, the Phoenix area, and the Mogollon Rim in Arizona

**Places we may Visit:** The US Border Patrol station in Nogales, People Helping People educational office (e.g. humanitarian aid network) and a *Shrine for Migrants on the International Border near Arivaca Lake*, Public lands that have a wild character, the Musical Instrument Museum, Team Building at urban recreational facilities, and the Oak Flat Indigenous Rights Encampment.

**Why:** To engage in experiences that guide us in becoming conscious of the biological, social, economic and political realities that form our collective heritage.

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, and 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 that offers students (1) a glimpse of a wider world beyond our Gila home country, and (2) an integrating context for understanding facts, issues & stories that are often hidden in plain sight.

The 10th grade trip offers students roughly equal time in museums and outdoors with feet on the trail, learning scientific concepts & cultural perspectives outside of the classroom. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to (a) experience international border issues & indigenous rights movements through a humanitarian lens – cast in the light of their World History focus on the topic of natural rights -- and to (b) integrate our ongoing discussion about the global factors influencing the displacement and movement of people over the course of our globalized human history.

Even though we will be lower in elevation and in a warmer climate than Silver City for most of the trip, the principle of layering prevails; a jacket or fleece is necessary, as are closed-toed shoes, light clothes & a hat for warm days. So, too, are a warm sleeping bag and a tent necessary. If you do not have a tent and/or sleeping bag, the school has some to loan. Finally, while rain is a rare blessing here in this region of North America, it's always possible—so students should bring rain gear.

A packing list is attached below. If you have any questions about the trip, don't hesitate to contact me 575-654-3622 or [prankin@aldocs.org](mailto:prankin@aldocs.org) or [www.aldostudents.org](http://www.aldostudents.org)

Avery at [avery.jepson@aldostudents.org](mailto:avery.jepson@aldostudents.org)

With kind regards,

Pete Rankin

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## Conflict Awareness Trip (10th Grade) - 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 Pete Rankin ([prankin@aldocs.org](mailto:prankin@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
- \$7-10 for dinner in downtown Phoenix on Wednesday, Feb 26th
- 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.

**Note:** Please keep the "secret stashes" of food at home. When students bring chips, snacks, candy or soda, the entire group is at a greater risk for unwanted creature tent-invasions.