



Kickapoo Valley Reserve

Fall 2023

Dear Homeschool Workshop Parents and Students:

Hello! We are excited to welcome you to the upcoming Homeschool Workshops at the Kickapoo Valley Reserve. We know that you will enjoy the fun day and many hands-on activities we have planned for you. To make your visit here a success, please review the following guidelines and let us know if you have any questions!

Directions to the KVR Visitor Center: If you need directions to the Kickapoo Reserve Visitor Center, we recommend you use the link, "How to Find Us", found on our website:

<http://kvr.state.wi.us/category.asp?linkcatid=2352&linkid=947&locid=115>. MapQuest, GPS and other mapping programs are not known to be very accurate in the Kickapoo Valley.

Adult Responsibilities: To help our instructors give full attention to their students (and to conserve on space in classrooms), we ask that parents with infants, toddlers and small children plan to either drop their older children off or wait in the lobby/exhibit space while children are in class. (Feel free to hike, explore and check in with your older children as needed.) Adults without small children are welcome to sign up to be a chaperone, but are otherwise not expected to stay. If you are interested in being a parent chaperone, please contact the KVR Education coordinator Maggie Schultz at 608-625-2965.

Arrival/Departure/Schedule: In order to help us get started with classes in a timely manner, we ask that you arrive *at least* 15 minutes prior to the start of the program. Please check in at the front desk each day upon arrival. Our staff will have name tags for each child and will be able to direct you to the classroom where your child's program will begin. Children can be picked up in the Visitor's Center at the end of each day.

Snacks: The KVR will provide healthy, balanced snacks each day at about 10:30am. We are able to accommodate any dietary restrictions, please include that information in the registration. If you prefer to bring your own snacks, they can be packed in your child's backpack.

Refunds and Cancellations: Friday workshops will be canceled by the KVR only in the event of poor travel conditions (identified by local school closings). The KVR will try to re-schedule the canceled workshop for another day; refunds will be issued if participants are unable to attend the re-scheduled date. If you choose to cancel registration after you have paid, refunds will be made with more than 14 days notice prior to the start of the program, less a 25% administrative fee. Cancellations of less than 14 days notice will not be refunded.

Appropriate Dress: Dressing appropriately is extremely important for field trips to the Kickapoo Valley Reserve. All of our classes will have an outdoor component, and students will be walking on and off trails. Please make sure that students dress for the weather (warm boots, hats and mittens are a must). Layers are always appropriate. Don't wear your favorite shoes!

A Few Words about Ticks: They are present here at the Kickapoo Valley Reserve! While ticks are not something to be overly concerned about at this time of year, when temps rise above 40 degrees ticks can become active. So remember to check your children if it's been a warm winter day. The CDC has more information available here: http://www.cdc.gov/ticks/geographic_distribution.html.

The Facility and Grounds: The Visitor Center is equipped with public restrooms, classrooms and meeting spaces. The Visitor Center is open to the public, and other guests may stop in to visit while your group is here. We ask that groups treat the facility and grounds with respect thus enabling other groups' enjoyment of the area. We ask that groups follow a "leave no trace" ethic when on the grounds, being sure not to leave litter, and that they properly dispose of garbage and recyclables in the building. We are also sharing space with the Kickapoo Valley Forest School, so being considerate and respectful of shared spaces is a must.

Gift Kiosk: The Friends of the Kickapoo Valley Reserve maintain a small gift kiosk that has several items for sale including books about the Kickapoo Valley Reserve, t-shirts, collector plates, post cards, and several kid-friendly nature items. Students and adults are welcome to purchase items either before or after your programs. There are no snacks or drinks for sale at the Kickapoo Valley Reserve.

Additional Programs: We truly hope that your child(ren) enjoy our workshops. If you would like to book additional programming for your homeschool group, you can find more information on our website, <http://kvr.state.wi.us/education>, or by calling the education coordinator to discuss details. In addition, we offer week-long, nature-centered summer camps for all ages. Registration for those camps will be opening in February, so keep your eye on our website if you are interested. Lastly, we send out a once/month email informing you about upcoming programs and events at the KVR. If you would like to be added to that list, please contact the KVR via Kickapoo.reserve@krm.state.wi.us, with the subject 'Monthly Email List'.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

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