

Rainwater Exploration Day with Projects:

Turtle Island Preserve Forest School - Rainwater Exploration Day with Projects and Environmental Stewardship:

10:00 AM - Arrival and Introduction: Students gather at the forest school's meeting area, where they are greeted by their instructors. The day begins with an introduction to the theme of rainwater exploration and its importance in understanding ecosystem dynamics. We will go over rules, safety procedures with wildlife and the Preserve, basic first aid, and a brief bio about Turtle Island Preserve and the instructors for the parents. Parents will leave.

10:30 AM - Rainwater Observation Walk: Led by knowledgeable guides, students embark on a guided walk around Turtle Island Preserve to observe the movement of rainwater within the local environment. They examine guttering, drains, natural waterways, and other features where rainwater collects and flows. During this walk we will point out poisonous plants and wildlife to be aware of. We will also collect water and create a survival filtration system. We will also be collecting items to make our filtration systems and rain chains during this time.

11:30 AM - Discussion and Reflection on Environmental Stewardship:

Returning to a sheltered area, students engage in a group discussion about

environmental stewardship. Talk about loss of habitat, or environmental changes have an effect on our water. Pollution or lack of filtration into our underground/ above ground waterways. They explore concepts such as grey water reuse, the importance of clean water, and Leave No Trace principles. They discuss ways to incorporate these principles into their daily lives to minimize their environmental impact. We will show how to make a recycled bottle project to show how the earth helps with filtering water.

12:00 PM - Lunch Break, Fire-Making Demonstration, and Clean-Up: Students enjoy a packed lunch in a designated outdoor picnic area, surrounded by the sights and sounds of nature. During the break, instructors demonstrate how to make a fire in the rain, teaching survival skills such as finding dry tinder and using fire starters effectively. After lunch, students participate in a clean-up session, collecting any litter or debris they find in the forest school area. We will also be collecting items to make our filtration systems and rain chains during this time.

11:30-1:00 PM - Project: Small Filtration System for Drinking Water: In a hands-on workshop led by forest school educators, students design and build their own small-scale filtration systems using materials like plastic bottles,

sand, gravel, and charcoal. They test the effectiveness of their filtration systems by pouring water through and observing the results.

2:00 PM - Craft Activity: Create a Rain Chain: In a creative session, students craft their own rain chains using materials like metal wire, beads, shells, or recycled materials. They explore the functional and decorative aspects of rain chains, learning how they can guide rainwater from the roof to the ground for collection and reuse.

2:45 PM - Conclusion and Final Thoughts: The day at Turtle Island Preserve's forest school concludes with a brief wrap-up session. Students share their experiences from the day's activities and reflect on the importance of environmental stewardship. They depart with newfound knowledge and inspiration to continue exploring the wonders of nature while actively protecting and preserving the environment.

3:00 PM - Dismissal: Students bid farewell to their instructors and fellow classmates as they depart from Turtle Island Preserve, carrying with them a deeper understanding of rainwater management, practical skills for water filtration and fire-making, and a renewed commitment to environmental stewardship.

