

Wesley Pines

Outdoor Education

Planning Guide

1095 Camp Wesley Pines Rd, Hazlehurst MS, 39083 | Phone: 601-892-2341

Wesley Pines Outdoor Education Mission

Extend, Explore, Enrich

What's inside

Planning

Planning Guidelines

Forms & Checklist

Sample Schedule

Curriculum Guide

Participant Information

Letter to Parent / Guardian

Letter to Chaperone

Packing List

Challenge Course Forms

Day Experience Prices

1 Day Experience

- \$15 Per participant
- ~4 education hours
- Lunch can be provided for an additional \$10.00 per participant

Planning Guidelines

To Book Your Experience:

1. Discuss the duration of your trip and possible dates with your school. We encourage you to determine at least 3 sets of possible dates.
2. Discuss OE curriculum, program planning needs, and goals with your school.
3. To make a reservation, or for further questions, contact Dillon Harrison at dillon@wesleypines.com.

After Booking:

1. Upon booking, Wesley Pines will send you a Policies & Procedures Agreement, OE Contract, & Group Profile forms via email. Please complete these forms and mail your deposit to confirm your experience (please see Deposit & Cancellation Policies below for more information).
2. Recruit adult chaperones to supervise the students. Chaperones are generally parents, teachers, or administrators. You will need at least one adult for every 7 students and a balance of male and female chaperones for sleeping arrangements.
3. Arrange transportation to and from Wesley Pines. Directions can be found in this Planning Guide and on our website at wesleypines.com/outdoor-education.

Preparing for Your Experience:

1. Prepare students and chaperones for the trip. Share letters and information from this guide and our website with students, parents, and chaperones. Generate enthusiasm!
2. Send home High Ropes & Challenge Forms (if applicable for your experience) with each student and chaperone and collect them once completed. Please bring a copy of these forms with you.
3. Let Wesley Pines know in advance of any major allergies (dietary, environmental, etc.) or dietary concerns.
4. Assign students to Learning Groups. Templates can be found in this guide. Please email a copy of this to Dillon prior to arrival.
5. Check with all chaperones regarding your own school's chaperone policies and check if they have received necessary materials from this guide. If they have any

questions, please encourage them to contact us by phone or email. We want them to feel confident, well-prepared, and excited!

6. Consider setting up a plan, such as a group email/text, for parents to verify that the group has arrived at Wesley Pines and to relay any other information.
7. The school is responsible for assigning a medical person and providing emergency transportation for the duration of the trip. Designate an adult with your group to be responsible for the handling and distribution of student medications. Wesley Pines has staff certified in First Aid & CPR on site. Should any student/adult arrive ill or become ill during their stay, Wesley Pines reserves the right to request they be sent home to ensure the health/well-being of other participants.
8. Work through the enclosed Forms and Information Checklist to assist you in the planning of your trip.

Deposit & Cancellation Policies

- Deposits are a non-refundable 25% of the total estimated cost of your group's experience. Deposits must be received within 14 days of receiving your contract to confirm your date.
- In the event of cancellation due to travel advisories or school closures, your group can reschedule within the remainder of the calendar year from the original trip date without incurring a cancellation fee.
- Deposit and invoice payment options (Preferred payment methods: Cash, Check, ACH Transfer):
 - Please make any checks payable to "Camp Wesley Pines." You may mail your payment to:
Camp Wesley Pines
1095 Camp Wesley Pines Rd
Hazlehurst MS, 39083
 - Cards can be used to pay, but there will be a 3.5% service charge on any card used.

Forms and Information Checklist

Please reference this checklist as you prepare your group for your EE experience. These suggestions are here to assist you in keeping the necessary information in order to make your visit as smooth as possible.

Teacher/Leader Planning:

- Forms and Information Checklist
- Learning Groups Form (~8-12 students with 1 adult)
- Designate an adult to handle the administration of all routine medication and medical treatment (we can assist with storage of medication as needed).

Provide to Participants & their Parents/Guardians:

- Parent/Guardian Letter
- Packing List
- Directions To Wesley Pines
- High Ropes, Zipline & Challenge Release Form (if applicable)

Provide to Chaperones:

- Chaperone Letter
- Packing List
- Directions To Wesley Pines
- High Ropes, Zipline & Challenge Release Form (if applicable)

Provide to Wesley Pines Before Your Visit:

- Non-refundable 25% deposit
- Group registration forms
- Final number of participants and chaperones
- Any dietary concerns or major health concerns for CWP Staff to be aware of
- Learning Groups Form

Give to Wesley Pines Staff Upon Arrival:

- Remainder of invoice payment (if not sent prior to arrival)
- Copy of all High Ropes, Zipline & Challenge Release Forms (if applicable)

Wesley Pines Outdoor Education Curriculum Guide

Classes

Organisms & Their World Classes

Plants

Plants are often forgot about in the world. These incredible organism provide the backbone for many ecosystems. Learners can practice identifying plant structure, investigate adaptations, and study photosynthesis in the Garden and Forests of Wesley Pines.

MS CRS Standards:
L.1.1 ,L.1.4, L.3.1.2 ,
L.5.3A

Time: 2 or 3 hours

Accessibility: Light walk

Animals

Animals are everywhere! Wesley pines hosts a myriad of species of animal. Learners can practice identifying characteristic of animals and learning about their life cycles in our forests and waters.

MS CRS Standards:
L.1.2, L.2.1

Time: 2 or 3 hours

Accessibility: Light walk

Ecology

Ecology is all about the interdependence of plants and animals. From simple organisms to the most complex, ecosystems are all about the interwoven bits and pieces. Learners can explore healthy ecosystems, study interdependence of plant animal relationships, and learn to classify organisms in our garden, forest, creek, and lake.

MS CRS Standards:
L.1.3, L.1.4, L.2.3, L.4.2, L.5.3B,
L.6.1, L.6.4, L.8.4A

Time: 2 or 3 hours

Accessibility: Light walk

Custom Class

Custom classes may be classes that we could offer your group. These may be tailored to a specific topic or with a specific goal in mind. Email dillon@wesleypines.com for more information.

MS CRS Standards: Choose a standard and our staff will help design a class to meet your need.

Time: Variable

Accessibility: Variable

Physics & Our World Classes

Earth & Change

Change is all around us. Through erosion and weathering, the Earth changes beneath our very feet. Learners can investigate different soil types, uses observation to understand how geology of the land affects the ecosystem, and see how the water cycles plays an important role in it all. *This course can be taught alongside the canoeing & Kayaking activity.*

MS CRS Standards:
E.4.9A, E.8.7

Time: 2 or 3 hours
Accessibility: Light walk

Motion & Energy

Motion and energy is all about doing things. Physical science focuses on the world around us and how it moves and changes. Learners can explore how energy changes things, engage with concepts like gravity, and enrich their understanding of motion. *This class is recommended to be paired with either the zipline, climbing tower, or swing by choice.*

MS CRS Standards:
P.2.6, P.4.6A, P.5.6, P.6.6, PHS.5,
PHS.7, PHS.9, PHY.1, PHY.2,
PHY.3
Time: 2 or 3 hours
Accessibility: Light walk

Custom Class

Custom classes may be classes that we could offer your group. These may be tailored to a specific topic or with a specific goal in mind. Email dillon@wesleypines.com for more information.

MS CRS Standards:
Variable

Time: 2 or 3 hours
Accessibility: Variable

Fire and Electricity

Explore fire building as a means of understanding how properties of matter change and see how the law of the conservation of mass is present in a fire burning. *Fire building will be taught as a part of this lesson, and serve as part of the activity.*

MS CRS Standards: P.5.A,
P.7E, PHS.9

Electricity is at the core of our lives. Learners can learn how electricity and magnetism is at play in our daily lives. *This class can be paired with our Quickflight activity to display magnetism at work.*

Time: 2 or 3 hours
Accessibility: Light walk

Activities & Team Building

High Ropes / Quickflight

Get out of your comfort zone and challenge yourself on our high ropes course. Participants work through our Aerial obstacle course and gain self confidence and confront fears.

Time: 2 hours
Accessibility: Moderate Hike

Swing by Choice

Feel the force of gravity as you swing till your heart is content. This exhilarating activity challenges participants to swing higher and faster than they may have gone before, and with the help of other guests, they get hoisted and then swing in an exciting experience.

Time: 2 hours
Accessibility: Moderate Hike

Zipline

Our Zipline is a thrilling time as participants fly through our forest and see it from a new perspective.

Time: 2 hours
Accessibility: Ligh Hike

Climbing Tower

Climb to new heights as participants push themselves higher on our climbing tower. Through individual effort and collective encouragement, participants can do the 1% more that we challenge them to do.

Time: 2 hours
Accessibility: Light Hike

Canoeing & Kayaking

Explore the lake in canoes and kayaks(12 years old +) and see the wonders of Lake Copiah.

Time: 2 hours
Accessibility: Light walk

Team Building

Team building includes Low ropes and other activities that encourage cooperation in order to achieve a goal. Work on communication and listening with these activities.

Time: 30 minutes to 2 hours
Accessibility: Light Walk or Hike

Letter to Parent/Guardian

Greetings Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for your interest in Wesley Pines's Environmental Education Program. We hope that the resources found on our website, in conjunction with the information relayed from your lead educator, have begun to illustrate the exciting educational experience your child will take part in here at Wesley Pines.

Wesley Pines's Outdoor Education Program is located in Gallman, MS, and offers day residential environmental education programming for public and private schools, homeschool organizations, and similar community organizations. Located in the southern rolling plains ecoregion of Mississippi, Wesley Pines offers beautiful and unique land and water ecosystems for students of all ages to explore and utilize as an out-of-doors classroom.

Our Curriculum is intentionally designed and continuously adapted to provide students with an inclusive learning experience that complements learning in the classroom. These experiential classes and important discussions encourage active participation outside in the ecosystems that inform our neighborhoods, towns, and cities. Students spend their days at Wesley Pines living into an educational experience that offers them a chance to explore our lands, creek, lake, wetland, and garden while using inquiry skills and cultivating curiosity.

We take our time to immerse ourselves in the learning experience in order to welcome all learning styles and personalities into this space. These wonderful and diverse ecosystems take their time to develop and we like to take our time to make sure your students can take the necessary time they need to develop critical, empathetic, and active learners as well. Students have the opportunity to positively deepen their physical, social, and psychological awareness while also relating these elements to a deeper understanding of ecological well being, participation, and justice.

Our OE staff have years of educational and camping experience with young people and are passionate about lifelong learning. All staff members are well-trained in class facilitation & CPR/AED & First Aid. Our staff look forward to extending hospitality and care to all who visit. Learning and living are celebrated equally at Wesley Pines, and we celebrate your learner's time engaging with the human and more-than-human world.

If you would like to learn more about our program or would like to access forms and materials pertaining to your learner(s) visit, please visit our website at www.wesleypines.com You can also visit our Facebook and Instagram pages, where we will post photos throughout the experience. If you have any questions, please call our office at 601-892-2341 or email our director at dillon@wesleypines.com

Sincerely,
Dillon Harrison
Outdoor Education Director

Chaperone Letter

Greetings, Chaperone!

Thank you for your commitment to accompanying students throughout an exciting experience at Wesley Pines! Your engagement informs students' experiences and will create a fun and safe learning environment.

The best way you can support students is through genuine curiosity, engagement, and enthusiasm. We're trying to build a learning community within the group, and you're an important part of it! We're also trying to help students become engaged and curious about nature, science, their own ideas, and others' ideas. You are role models, and students will notice what you do. If you are engaged with what we're doing, following instructions, and being enthusiastic, it helps the students see it as a worthwhile thing to do. Whether adventures outside are commonplace for you or if this is your first experience of this kind, we celebrate your participation because your energy and involvement motivates student learning.

Focus on things you don't know, and try to figure them out with students. Listen to their questions, or ask them questions. Over time, try to get little moments of connection with everyone. The more connections you make, the more you'll really care about the students, and the more effective you'll be in supporting their learning experiences. We encourage you to learn more about your students (interests, passions, etc.) because your investment helps to make this experience special. We'll also participate in a lot of discussion in our learning experiences - in pairs/small groups and with the whole group. In these discussions, please partner/group with students and participate fully, but give students lots of time to share their ideas. Our goal is to help empower students to share their ideas and think together, so it's important for us to listen more than we speak!

Meal times are shared family-style and are learning opportunities just like any other at Wesley Pines. We ask chaperones to enjoy their time with the students at their tables. Encourage great conversation, healthy habits, and good listening during announcements. If you have dietary needs, please reach out to us at least three weeks prior to your experience so that we can best support you during your time here.

Safety is foundational to any OE experience. We have Wilderness First Responders on staff and all other staff members are well-trained in class facilitation & CPR/AED & First Aid. If an emergency occurs, immediately notify your school's emergency care personnel and Wesley Pines staff members.

If you would like to learn more about our program or would like to access forms and materials pertaining to your visit, please visit our website at www.wesleypines.com. If you have any questions, please call our office at 601-892-2341 or email our director at dillon@wesleypines.com.

Sincerely,
Dillon Harrison
Outdoor Education Director

Packing List

Please make sure to reference this list before your visit! Pack seasonally and comfortably. Older clothes are great because they will likely get wet and/or dirty. We move around and walk a lot at Wesley Pines. Classes are held outside, rain or shine. **Closed-toed shoes are required. Participants of all ages are expected to honor our close-toed shoe policy.**

Recommended

- Comfortable clothes and shoes
- Journal & pen/pencil
- Backpack
- Closed-toe shoes
- Water shoes, closed-toe (class-dependent)
- Jacket/rain poncho
- Water bottle
- Insect repellent & sunscreen

Optional

- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Dirty clothes bag
- Camp store money*

Cold Weather Additions

- Heavy jacket
- Warm hat
- Gloves
- Extra socks

*The camp store can be available for your group at the request of your group leader(s) prior to arrival. At the camp store, merchandise varies from a \$3 sticker to a \$20 Long Sleeve Tee. The camp store is optional during your experience. You are welcome to bring your own snacks, which would be stored in our Dining Hall outside of store time.

Learning Group Form

School Group:

We like to have learning groups of 12 or less to help boost learning, conversation, and transformation. We ask that groups be similar in grade-level readiness, which includes content awareness, social & emotional maturity, and education experience. Please include the full name of participants, as that will help our staff familiarize themselves with the groups. Feel free to make copies if there are more participants.

Learning group 1

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Learning group 2

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Learning group 3

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Learning group 4

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Release Form

MINOR PARTICIPANT WAIVER, RELEASE, INDEMNIFICATION OF ALL CLAIMS & COVENANT NOT TO SUE

NOTICE: THIS IS A LEGALLY BINDING AGREEMENT. Read this document carefully and in entirety. By signing this agreement, you give up your right and the named minor's right to bring court action to recover compensation or obtain any other remedy for any personal injury or property damage however caused arising out of the named minor's participation in Camp Wesley Pines Conference, Retreat, & Camping Center, Inc. (CWPCRCC) programming or use of the facility/equipment, now or any time in the future.

Acknowledgement of Risk

I, in my legal capacity as the parent/guardian of the minor named below, do hereby acknowledge and agree that participation in CWPCRCC programming or use of the facility/equipment activities comes with inherent risks. I have full knowledge and understanding of the inherent risks associated with participating in programming or using the facility/equipment, including but in no way limited to: (1) slips, trips, and falls, (2) aquatic injuries, (3) athletic injuries, and (4) illness, including exposure to and infection with viruses or bacteria. I further acknowledge that the preceding list is not inclusive of all possible risks associated with participating in CWPCRCC programming or using the facility/equipment and that said list in no way limits the operation of this Agreement.

Coronavirus / COVID-19 Warning & Disclaimer

Coronavirus, COVID-19 is an **extremely contagious** virus that spreads easily through person-to-person contact. Federal and state authorities recommend social distancing as a mean to prevent the spread of the virus. **COVID-19 can lead to severe illness, personal injury, permanent disability, and death. Participating in CWPCRCC programs or accessing CWPCRCC facilities could increase the risk of contracting COVID-19.** CWPCRCC in no way warrants that COVID-19 infection will not occur through participation in its programs of accessing its facility.

Waiver, Release, Indemnification & Covenant Not to Sue

In consideration of _____'s participation in CWPCRCC programming or use the facility/equipment I, _____, the parent/guardian of the minor named above, agree to release and on behalf of myself and the minor named above, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, and assigns, **HEREBY TO RELEASE**, the

CWPCRCC officers, directors, employees, volunteers, agents, representatives and insurers (“Releases”) from any causes of action, claims, or demands of any nature whatsoever including, but in no way limited to, claims of negligence, which I, the named minor, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators and assigns may have, now or in the future, against CWPCRCC on account of personal injury, property damage, death or accident of any kind, arising out of or in any way related to the use of CWPCRCC facilities/equipment or participation in programs whether that participation is supervised or unsupervised, however the injury or damage occurs, including, but not limited to the negligence of Releases.

In consideration of the named minor’s participation in CWPCRCC programming or use of the facilities/equipment, I, the undersigned parent/guardian of the named minor, agree to INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS Releases from any and all causes of action, claims, demands, losses, or costs of any nature whatsoever arising out of or in any way related to the named minor’s participation.

I hereby certify on behalf of myself and the named minor that I have full knowledge of the nature and extent of the risks inherent in participation of CWPCRCC programs or use of the facilities/equipment and that I, on behalf of myself and the named minor, am voluntarily assuming said risks. I understand that I and the named minor will be solely responsible for any loss or damage, including personal injury, property damage, or death, the named minor sustains while participating in CWPCRCC programs or use of the facility/equipment and that by signing this agreement I, on behalf of myself and the named minor, HEREBY RELEASE Releases from all liability for such loss, damage, or death. I further certify that the named minor is in good health and has no conditions or impairments which would preclude his/her safe participation in CWPCRCC programming or accessing the facility.

I further certify that my date of birth is _____ (MM/DD/YYYY), that my present age is _____, that I am therefore of lawful age (18 years or older) and otherwise legally competent to sign this agreement, and that I have legal capacity to act as the parent/guardian of the named minor. I further understand that the terms of this agreement are legally binding and certify that I am signing this agreement, after having carefully read it, of my own free will.

Participant Name (Print Clearly)

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Name (Print Clearly)

Directions to Wesley Pines

From Jackson:

Take I-55 south

Use exit 65 to exit I-55

Turn left on W Gallman Rd

Continue about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile and turn left by Camp Wesley Pines sign

Follow the road until you arrive!

From Brookhaven:

Take I-55 North

Use Exit 65 to exit I-55

Turn right on W Gallman Rd

Continue about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile and turn left by Camp Wesley Pines sign

Follow the road until you arrive!

GPS:

1095 Camp Wesley Pines Rd,
Hazlehurst MS, 39083