2014

Safari Overnight

AT

THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES

of DREXEL UNIVERSITY

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CHAPERONES

BEFORE ARRIVAL AT THE ACADEMY

- Safari Overnights are for groups with **children ages 7 and up only**. Activities continue until 11 p.m. and may not be suitable for younger children. Chaperones must be over 18 years of age.

- One person has been designated as your trip coordinator. If you have any questions, the trip coordinator should contact the Academy. In the case of a last-minute emergency, you may leave a message with the security guard (19th Street entrance) at 215-299-1019. The appropriate person will respond to your call as soon as possible.

- REMEMBER TO EAT DINNER BEFORE YOU ARRIVE. The Academy does not serve dinner, and you are not allowed to bring food into the building**. Outside food may be confiscated due to the potential of severe allergic reactions among our guests.** Participants will receive a light evening snack about halfway through the programming. If you have dietary concerns, please contact your trip coordinator. Breakfast will be served in the morning.

WHILE AT THE SAFARI OVERNIGHT

- Arrive at the Academy between 6:15 and 6:45 p.m. **Doors open by 6:30 p.m.**. We ask that groups assemble and that only the trip coordinator check in with the front desk. Use the Parkway entrance, facing Logan Circle, on the Ben Franklin Parkway. If you are staying for the overnight, you may drop off your group on 19th Street (NOT the Parkway) and then park your vehicle. Please ensure there is an adult present from your party before you leave your children.

- At check-in, the Academy will provide color-coded group identification for the children and maps and schedules for the chaperones. Each child should be assigned to a specific chaperone from your group who is responsible for that child's behavior. An Academy staff member will be assigned to guide your group throughout the program. However, **all adults must remain with their groups the entire time**.

- Cell phones should be turned off or placed on vibrate mode. Should you need to answer a call, please remove yourself quietly from the group.

- **The Academy is a smoke-free building!** You may smoke outside the 19th Street entrance. **Please make sure there is still a chaperone with your group.**

- **No alcoholic beverages** are allowed on the premises; this is a family event. Any chaperones with alcohol or obviously **under the influence of alcohol will be asked to leave the building.**

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- During the Safari Overnight your group will rotate through a set of different interactive natural history classes. Groups are expected to stay together with their guides at all times. Free time to explore the museum will be scheduled during the evening and in the morning.

SPENDING THE NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

- The Commons Room on the ground level is open all night. If you cannot sleep, please come to the Commons to talk so as not to disturb others (sound carries easily through the museum halls). If you go to the Commons, make sure there are other adults with the children. Food and drink are not allowed in the museum halls.

- Your group will be assigned to sleep in one of the Academy's many exhibit halls right next to some of the greatest creatures of all time. Due to the large size of most overnights, **we cannot confirm your sleeping area** prior to arrival. Sleeping areas will be set up **after the last class** so that we can explore the museum all evening without stepping over (or on) people's possessions.

- **Girl Scout Overnights**: Male chaperones are expected to sleep on a separate floor from Girl Scouts. Please bring enough adult females to chaperone your group during the night. No male siblings are permitted at Girl Scout-only overnights.

- **Boy Scout Overnights**: No female siblings are permitted at Boy Scout-only overnights.

- The museum is not pitch black at night. In every space there are certain emergency lights that remain on all the time so **it is never completely dark**. We recommend bringing sleeping masks if you are particularly sensitive to lights. Please arrange for your chaperones to bring flashlights in case of an emergency. Safari managers and guides will also have flashlights with them. We request children do not bring flashlights, because they tend to turn into toys.

THE NEXT MORNING

- **Safari Overnight t-shirts** will be available for purchase the morning after the overnight. However, if you would like to pre-order shirts for your group, please fill out the attached t-shirt order form and return it to the overnight coordinator at least 30 days before your overnight. Complete only one of each form per reservation number.

- **When exiting in the morning, use the 19th Street exit**. The main doors remain locked until 10 a.m. when the museum opens to the public. **All gear must be removed from the museum by 9 a.m.**; once you have stowed your gear you are welcome to spend more time exploring.

WHAT TO BRING

- ✯ Children who are attending without their parent or guardian must provide the trip leader with a permission slip containing pertinent medical information.

- ✯ A reusable water bottle labeled with your name

- ✯ Toothbrush, toothpaste, washcloth, and soap

- ✯ A sleeping bag or a blanket and a pillow. Unfortunately, the Academy's floors are rather unforgiving, so we strongly recommend that you bring some sort of padding to sleep on in addition to a sleeping bag and pillow. Space is limited so please do not bring oversize items.

- ✯ Flashlight (for adults only)

- ✯ Comfortable clothing should be worn. Since there may not be an opportunity to change clothes, participants should wear clothes comfortable enough to sleep in. Make sure to dress in layers as the museum's temperature can vary greatly during the night. Shoes (not Heelys) must be kept on until bedtime, and socks must be worn all night (in case child gets up during the night).

- ✯ Short-sleeved Safari Overnight t-shirts will be on sale in the morning for $15. If you would like to pre-order a shirt, please contact your trip coordinator. In the morning, the children may want to visit the Academy Shop, for which we recommend $5 to $10. Please keep all money in a safe place.

- ✯ All belongings should be kept in one bag (duffel bag, trash bag, etc.) and have an identifying tag.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING

Shoes with wheels (Heelys)
Any electronic devices- MP3 players, Ipods, Ipads, disc man, or any other device with sound)
Food, juice/soda, or gum
Hairdryers or curling irons