

**FREE  
CLASSES!**

**The Outdoor Campus-West**  
South Dakota Department of  
Game, Fish and Parks

# **Group Programs**



**Spring 2016**

## Group Registration Information

Groups can schedule their own naturalist-led program by choosing from the programs in this brochure and calling 394-1753 for open dates and staff availability. Please be sure to read the information below regarding group requirements!

**Program Registration Opens:** February 11th for March, April and May

Groups will not be scheduled before this date. Call 394-1753 for information and scheduling.

- **Group size:** Minimum size is 10 unless noted; maximum group size is 20 unless noted.
- **Other programs:** Groups of 9 or smaller should register for programs found in the community programs brochure.
- **Cost:** All programs are free! Thank a hunter or angler for supporting our education efforts!
- **How many programs?** Groups may schedule only one program per month to insure equal program availability to all groups.

**Confirmation letter:** After scheduling, the group leader will be sent a confirmation letter with instructions and a waiver for participants. Please be sure to read this information thoroughly!

- **Waiver:** All individuals signed up for programs must have a waiver signed by a parent/guardian in order to participate.
- **Chaperones:** At least one adult chaperone is required for each youth group, and one adult for each youth angler age 7 and under. All adults and youth age 16 and older are encouraged to have a valid SD fishing license for fishing programs. This includes chaperones.
- **Special needs:** Please inform us of any special needs, mobility concerns or health problems (including allergies) when scheduling.

## Special Requests

If your group has a special program request, contact Keith Wintersteen. *He will try his best* to accommodate your needs for programs.

keith.wintersteen@state.sd.us; (605) 394-1753

Ages are estimates – programs can be adapted to meet the needs of your group.

### **Camping Skills**

Our naturalists and trained volunteers will teach you basic skills to help you enjoy camping in the wilds of the Black Hills. Learn basic camp site selection, cooking techniques and other fun base camp skills.

**Ages:** 10 years to adult

**Time:** 2 hours

**Maximum class size:** 20



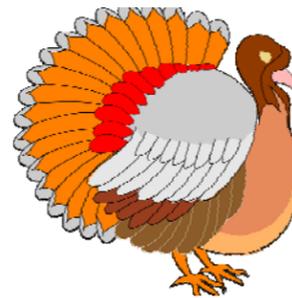
### **Sprout Safari**

Our youngest hunters can learn about firearms safety, game identification and hunting regulations before being issued a “license” to hunt 3D game targets with foam dart guns and bow and arrows.

**Ages:** 3 and above

**Time:** 45-60 minutes

**Maximum class size:** 12



### **Paddling**

Learn the basics of flat-water paddling in canoes and kayaks. Course includes basic safety, paddling strokes, and hands-on practice at our pond. Wear shoes and clothes that can get wet! Children 4-7 years may paddle with an adult.

**Ages:** 8 years to Adult

**Time:** 1-1.5 hours

**Maximum class size:** 20



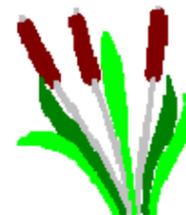
### **Locavore!**

Take a hike with us and learn to identify, harvest and prepare locally available wild plant and animal food items. We will spend part of the class wading so wear appropriate clothing.

**Age:** 8 years to adult

**Time:** 3 hours

**Maximum class size:** 10



### **Introduction to Shotgunning**

Learn basic firearms safety, shotgun action types and safe shooting techniques from our instructors then try your hand trapshooting at the Rapid City Trap Club. Equipment provided at no charge.

**Ages:** 18 years and up

**Time:** 4 hours

**Maximum class size:** 6



### **Introduction to Rifle Shooting**

Learn basic rifle safety and shooting techniques. Participants will then try live fire shooting at a local rifle range. All equipment will be provided at no charge.

**Ages:** 18 years and up

**Time:** 4 hours

**Maximum class size:** 6



### **Hook'em, Cook'em and Eat'em!**

Families will learn how to catch, clean and cook a trout. Fishing, fish cleaning and cooking gear will be provided. You bring the appetite. This program is open to individuals, families, and adults.

**Ages:** 4 to adult

**Time:** 1.5 hours

**Maximum class size:** 10



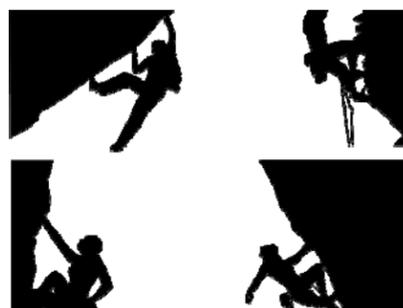
### **Rock Climbing**

Learn the basics of rock climbing on our tethered climbing wall. Participants will learn the basics of climbing safety, gear, and route planning then hit the wall on one of four routes.

**Ages:** 8 years to Adult

**Time:** 1-1.5 hours

**Maximum class size:** 20



### **Basic Fly Fishing**

An introduction to fly fishing equipment, knots, and casting. Practice casting on our lawn, then do the real thing at our pond. Bring your hat and sunglasses to keep you safe. Valid SD fishing licenses are encouraged for participants age 16 and older. This includes all adults and chaperones.

**Ages:** 12 years to adult

**Time:** 1-1.5 hours

**Maximum class size:** 4



### **Stream Fly Fishing -prior participation in Basic Fly Fishing required**

Get a hands-on introduction to fly fishing streams. Bring your own hat and sunglasses to keep you safe! We will cover wading, casting, fly selection, and landing fish. Valid SD fishing licenses is required for participants age 16 and older.

**Ages:** 16 years to adult

**Time:** 3 hours

**Maximum class size:** 4



### **Handgun Safety**

Discover the challenge of hunting with handguns. Topics covered will include handgun action types as well as safely loading, unloading and storing handguns. We will practice shooting pellet guns built to the same size and weight as center fire handguns.

**Ages:** 18 years and up

**Time:** 2 hours

**Maximum class size:** 8



### **Lure and Tackle Making**

Students will learn how to make their own lures and spinners. All equipment is provided. Students keep the gear they make after testing it in our fishing pond. All fish caught must be released so we'll have fish for the next class.

**Ages:** 10 years to adult

**Time:** 2 hours

**Maximum class size:** 8



### **Orienteering**

Orienteering is a fun activity for all ages. Younger participants can hone map reading skills on the beginning map courses. Older participants can learn how to use the map and compass together to navigate in the backcountry.

**Ages:** 8 years to adult

**Time:** 2 hours

**Maximum class size:** 10



### **Introduction to Archery**

Experience archery at The Outdoor Campus-West! We will learn about safety and archery equipment used for competitive shooting and hunting big and small game, then use Genesis bows to practice on 3D targets.

**Ages:** 8 years to adult

**Time:** 1 - 1.5 hours

**Maximum class size:** 12



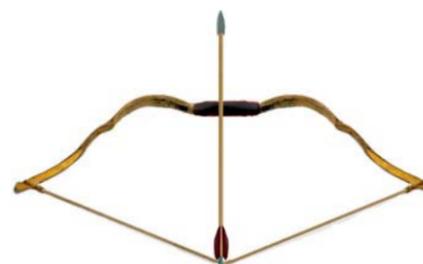
### **Introduction to Bow Hunting**

Learn the basics of hunting with bow and arrow. Learn about safety and archery equipment used for hunting big and small game. Learn where and how to bow hunt on public land in South Dakota.

**Ages:** 10 years to adult

**Time:** 1 - 1.5 hours

**Maximum class size:** 12



### **Air Rifle ABCs**

Join us on The Outdoor Campus-West range as we learn basic safety and shooting positions. Improve your accuracy with every shot while learning basic shooting techniques.

**Ages:** 8 years to adult

**Time:** 1.5 hours

**Maximum class size:** 8



## Self Tours for Groups

Groups may visit our habitat displays, aquarium and grounds on their own. This option is popular with groups who are not able to schedule a program led by our staff.

- **You must call and schedule your group in advance!** This prevents conflicts with other groups and programs at The Outdoor Campus-West.
- Plan 45 minutes to 1 hour for visits to The Outdoor Campus-West habitat displays and aquarium.
- Take time to walk the trails! We have short trails, long trails and trails in between! See all kinds of South Dakota habitats including short grass prairie, ponds, creeks, pine and deciduous forests, western riparian areas and many kinds of wildlife!

## Borrow These Teaching Tools

We have crates of teaching materials you can borrow for up to two weeks by leaving or sending a security deposit of \$75. **We are not able to take credit cards.** When the crate is returned and after a satisfactory inventory of its contents, we will destroy or return your check. These are the crates we lend:

**Cougar Crate**  
**Elk Trunk**

**Critter Crates**  
**Fishing Kit**  
**Snowshoe Crate**

**Swift Fox Box**  
**Bat Trunk**

To reserve these crates, contact staff at 605.394.2310 or [tocwest@state.sd.us](mailto:tocwest@state.sd.us).





## **Contact Information**

**Keith Wintersteen**

**Group Program Coordinator**

**The Outdoor Campus-West**

**4130 Adventure Trail**

**Rapid City, SD 57702**

**(605) 394-1753**

**Email: [keith.wintersteen@state.sd.us](mailto:keith.wintersteen@state.sd.us)**

**[www.outdoorcampus.org](http://www.outdoorcampus.org)**