Dear OMSI Family,

Welcome to Orca Camp on San Juan Island! We are all looking forward to a summer full of unforgettable experiences in Northern Washington. To ensure your camper is ready for adventure, please read the enclosed material immediately.

Enclosed you will find the following information:

- Drop-off and Pick-up information – IMPORTANT CHANGES
- Activity and Curriculum information
- Equipment list
- Tips for campers and families
- OMSI Outdoors rules and policies
- Alternate transportation form – for any campers NOT riding the bus to or from camp

By becoming familiar with this information, you can help make sure your camper is safe, comfortable and ready to enjoy their outdoor experience. For additional registration or transportation questions, please contact register@omsi.edu or 503-797-4661. Specific site or program questions may be directed to the OMSI Outdoors Manager by contacting outdoors@omsi.edu or 541-819-0030.

Sincerely,

OMSI Outdoors
CAMPER DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP LOCATIONS

The drop-off and pick-up location has changed! The check-in tables are at 1800 SE Water Ave., but there is no parking at that location. Park vehicles in OMSI’s North parking lot and walk your camper across the street to 1800 Water Ave. Pick-up will be in the same 1800 Water Ave location.

Please relay this information to anyone dropping off or picking up your camper this summer. If you have questions, please contact our office at: register@omsi.edu or 503-797-4661. If there are delays, or changes at drop-off or pick-up, the OMSI Outdoors registration department will contact the parent or guardian involved via email or phone. In an emergency, notification is done by phone.

Please, remember that you must park in OMSI’s North Parking Lot and walk your camper across Water Avenue to the drop-off location.

AUTHORIZED PICK-UP POLICY

Adding additional persons to any child’s authorized pick-up list must be conducted by the primary contact person listed on the registration form, or by the secondary contact if approved by the primary contact at the time of registration. These people, and these people only, will have the opportunity to call, email, or discuss in person with the registration office, exactly whom they would like to be on their child’s pick-up list. All changes to the list must be made by contacting the registration office by phone (503-797-4661) or email (register@omsi.edu).

All authorized persons picking up students from OMSI programs must show valid government-issued photo ID at the time of pick-up. If you do not have a government-issued ID, please let OMSI staff know in advance so alternate arrangements can be made.

We understand that emergencies do arise and we will work with that person on an individual basis to come to a solution. It is our intention that this policy does not add any additional stress to your already busy days, but that it helps put you at ease concerning your child’s safety while at OMSI.
ORCA CAMP

ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Keep your eyes open! Seals, porpoises, and orca whales are waiting for you on San Juan Island in northern Washington. What else? There’s plenty of canoeing and coastal hiking trails, and camping at San Juan Island National Historical Park as you meet island researchers, visit the Whale Museum, and take a sea-life boat out into the sound.

FACILITY INFORMATION

We will travel by bus to Northern Washington and by ferry to San Juan Island. We’ll be camping throughout the week in the tent facility in San Juan National Historical Park at English Camp. Accommodations are in canvas tents that are tall and spacious, but without electricity or heat. Campers will need both a sleeping pad and sleeping bag. There are outhouses on site and running water for filling water bottles and brushing teeth. Showers will be taken once a week in private stalls at the Port of Friday Harbor. Campers will eat meals in the main shelter with their friends and OMSI Outdoor staff.

OMSI Outdoors Instructors are Wilderness First Responders, a certification of first-aid skills for patients who are more than one hour time away from advanced medical care. Since this facility is within 20 minutes of advanced medical care, OMSI Instructors will administer basic first-aid and quickly connect campers to those medical services, in case of an emergency.

LEVEL OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY: 1: ■□□□

Before each activity within this program, OMSI staff will review with campers the risks of the activity and the general precautions to be taken. The nature and demands of the activities of this program are “Level 1: Easy”. Campers should be able to do easy walks on forest trails up to one mile with a light day pack. Such risks of these activities include, but are not limited to: cuts and bruises from stumbling or tripping, exposure due to bad weather and bug bites.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Concepts to be Introduced:

• Ocean life ranges in size from the smallest living things, microbes, to the largest animal on Earth, blue whales.

• Everyone is responsible for caring for the ocean. The ocean sustains life on Earth and humans must live in ways that sustain the ocean.

• The ocean is a source of inspiration, recreation, rejuvenation, and discovery. It is also an important element in the heritage of many cultures.

Program Goals:

• Act out the proportional relationships of different levels of the food chain in the marine ecosystem.

• Compare physical features of land mammals and marine mammals.

• Use models to describe how marine mammals have adapted to the unique stressors of the marine environment.

• Use a model to compare relative sizes of marine mammals.
ORCA CAMP
EQUIPMENT LIST

SLEEPING GEAR:  
____ sleeping bag
____ insulated sleeping pad
____ pajamas
____ pillow

FIELD EQUIPMENT:
____ 2 water bottles (1 quart/liter each)
____ flashlight or headlamp
____ daypack with straps
____ sack lunch for the first day

CLOTHING:
____ 2 pairs of shoes: 1 pair of sturdy, well-fitting and broken-in shoes & 1 pair water shoes (no slip-off sandals)
____ 2 pairs of long pants
____ 1 or 2 pairs of shorts
____ 5 shirts: 1 long-sleeved, 4 short-sleeved (for layering)
____ sweatshirt or warm jacket (it will get cold at night)
____ adequate underwear & socks
____ rain gear (jacket w/hood & pants, or poncho)

PERSONAL GEAR:
____ toiletries: (soap, toothbrush/toothpaste, comb/brush, deodorant)
____ towel
____ sunscreen (SPF 15 or SPF 30)
____ lip balm with sunscreen
____ insect repellent

OPTIONAL:
____ sunglasses
____ camera (not on a cell phone)
____ binoculars

ALL CLOTHES AND EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE MARKED WITH THE CAMPER’S FULL NAME.
(OMSI is not responsible for lost items.)

PLEASE DO NOT BRING SNACKS OR CANDY
(Food in cabins/tents can attract rodents.)

NO ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE BROUGHT
(Cell phones, tablets, MP3 players, blow dryers, video games, etc.)

OMSI OUTDOORS GOODS FOR SALE!
We will have a selection of t-shirts representing all OMSI Outdoors programs for sale. They will be available in the overflow lot at the end of each camp session for $10.00
TIPS FOR CAMPERS AND PARENTS

Health and Safety:

- Any campers found with lice or nits will not be allowed to depart for camp. No refunds will be available. If possible, accommodations will be made to enroll the camper in another camp in the same season.

- Tetanus toxoid boosters must be current (within last 10 years). Most children received their vaccinations before they started school at age five. If your camper has not received one since then, he or she will need a booster before participating in any of the High School programs.

Food Allergies: If your camper has any particular health problems or requires a special diet, please notify the OMSI Outdoors Manager two weeks before camp.

Medications: All medications (including over the counter) should be sent in original container with the camper’s name and complete instructions attached. Parents/guardians should give the medication to an OMSI Outdoors staff member at check-in. It will be secured throughout the program and dispensed by one of the adult staff members. The medications will be returned to the parents/guardians at the end of the program.

Electronics: An important part of the camp experience is for each camper to gain independence, develop greater resilience, and enjoy the unique opportunities offered by OMSI Outdoors without technological distractions. Digital cameras are the one exception. Please do not give your camper anything that you cannot afford to replace.

Camp Community Duties: To develop skills in cooperation and teamwork, and increase self-esteem, each camper will be asked to serve their turn on camp cleaning activities with their cabin group.

Mail: Due to the remote nature of this program, campers are unable to receive mail.

Personal property: All equipment must be marked to identify the owner. OMSI is not responsible for lost articles. Please check carefully to see that you have all of your gear before leaving for home. Any items left behind will be held at OMSI for two weeks. Call OMSI at (503) 797-4000 to arrange for their return. Any unclaimed items will be donated to charity. Please leave personal sports equipment at home.

Cancellation: If your registered camper is not going to be able to attend the camp session, please let the OMSI Outdoors registrars know as soon as possible before the session. Most sessions have a waiting list from which we can fill vacancies.

Telephone: If you urgently need to reach a camper or if you have any questions concerning the staff, the facilities, or the program, contact the Coastal Discovery Center. Cell phones are not allowed on any OMSI Outdoors program. We will ensure that any necessary communication between parents/guardians and campers can take place through the main phone at each site.

Communication: We strongly discourage our staff from having contact with your camper after camp since we cannot supervise it. Campers who want to stay in touch with each other may exchange phone numbers, addresses, or e-mails, but understand that any communication between your camper and another camper or a staff member after the camp session is over is the responsibility of the camper’s parent or guardian to oversee.

MEDICAL

The OMSI Outdoors staff are certified in first-aid and CPR and most instructors are Wilderness First Responders and all carry first-aid kits. Precaution will be taken by OMSI staff to assure the health and safety of each camper. If your camper becomes ill, beyond a minor cold, or is injured, requiring more than a Band-aid, we will call you to inform you. Accident insurance is provided for all campers.
OMSI OUTDOORS PROGRAM RULES AND POLICIES

GENERAL

1. If a rule is not stated, common sense and good judgment, respect and safety should apply.
2. As good citizens, we obey all state and federal laws.
3. All people are to be treated with courtesy and respect. This precludes the use of obscenities, jokes or slurs relating to another's race, religion, sex, or physical or mental limitations. Bullying will not be tolerated.
4. Careful use/handling of living and non-living resources helps to preserve our unique environments. Watch, examine, and observe without disturbing.
5. Handling potentially dangerous organisms is prohibited.
6. An OMSI staff member should be contacted immediately if someone is sick or hurt.
7. Firearms, explosives, or fireworks of all types are not allowed. Sharp tools are to be used in a manner that will not injure others.
8. Smoking or the use of alcohol or drugs is not allowed. The use of any illegal substance will result in immediate dismissal from the program.
9. Quiet hours are observed between 10:00 p.m. and 6:30 a.m. except under special circumstances (astronomy observation and early morning walk). During this time campers should be in their sleeping area and quiet.
10. Students should not visit others' sleeping areas. This is to prevent problems relating to personal possessions and bullying.
11. Displays of exclusive romantic relationships are not allowed.
12. All personal and OMSI property should be used only with permission and treated with care.
13. Swimming is done in assigned swimming areas and supervised by qualified OMSI Outdoors staff.
14. Unsafe activities must be avoided at all times (E.g.: running, sliding, or jumping on rough, slick, or poorly lit areas).
15. Violation of these policies, particularly those that relate to an individual's physical or mental health and well-being, are the grounds for immediate dismissal from our programs. In the event of a dismissal, parents or guardians are responsible for making transportation arrangements to pick up their camper in the field.
16. Pets are not allowed at camp.

TRANSPORTATION RULES

1. Campers are informed of and expected to follow all rules while riding in a bus or van.
2. Campers are required to wear seat belts at all times if provided.
3. Campers must always remain seated while on the bus or van.
4. Campers must keep hands and head inside the vehicle at all times.
5. Campers are not allowed off the bus at any time until complete instructions have been given to them as to where to assemble, what the boundaries are, and what will take place at that spot, and when to reassemble at the vehicle.
6. Campers will be with counselors and instructors whenever they are away from the bus or in the van on the way to or from camp.
OMSI OUTDOORS DISCIPLINE CODE

Families, please review these policies with your camper prior to the program.

If a camper is disruptive to the program, OMSI reserves the right to insist that the parents or guardians make immediate arrangements for the camper to leave the program. If this is not done, OMSI reserves the right to bill the parents the full cost for transporting and chaperoning the camper home.

GOALS: To offer the opportunity for each camper to succeed. To insure the safety and well-being of all campers. To offer the opportunity to experience the benefits of the learning process. To allow campers to build a cooperative framework in the social and academic aspects of the program.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS:

"Disruptive behavior" is any action by a camper that disrupts or decreases the learning situation, environment, or social interaction of the group. The following steps will be taken by appropriate OMSI Outdoors staff in response to disruptive behavior:

Step one: The counselor/instructor talks to the camper to determine if he/she understands the rules and is capable of adhering to them, with the camper receiving a time out if it is deemed appropriate.

Step two: If the action continues, the camper meets with the OMSI Outdoors Manager. A verbal behavior contract may be agreed upon, with time out observed.

Step three: If the action continues, the camper meets with the OMSI Outdoors Manager. A contract is written and signed by the camper and the Manager. The parents or guardians are notified about the situation and the need to pick up the child from the camp if the behavior continues.

Step four: If the action continues, the parents or guardians are called to remove the child from the program at the parent's expense.

ACTIONS WHICH JUSTIFY IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF STUDENT FROM PROGRAMS WITH TRANSPORTATION HOME ARRANGED BY PARENTS:

1. Violent acts or threats of violence against campers or staff.
2. Possession of alcohol, narcotics, or tobacco products.
3. Theft or vandalism.
4. Possession of a weapon.
5. Overt sexual or offensive behavior or remarks toward campers or OMSI staff, including the use of racial, religious, or sexual slurs or intimidation.

If it is necessary to remove a camper due to complications arising from an undisclosed condition, parents or guardians who do not fully disclose a child's condition will be responsible for transportation home, and the full program cost.
ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS

IF YOUR CAMPER WILL NOT BE RIDING THE BUS TO OR FROM CAMP, PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

We advise families to use the OMSI bus for transportation to and from the camper’s camp or program. The bus trip to camp is an important part of the getting-acquainted process, and natural history education is conducted. However, we acknowledge that in some cases it is best for families to take their camper to the camp or program. This form will ensure families and OMSI Outdoors staff have the same information as to when your camper will arrive and/or depart from camp and with whom. Please remember that whomever is picking up your camper will need to show photo I.D.

Please contact the OMSI Outdoors registrars at least three weeks in advance of the program to arrange a time and place to drop off and/or pick up your camper at camp: register@omsi.edu or call 503-797-4661.

When arrangements have been made, please fill out this form and mail, fax or email it to the OMSI Outdoors registrars at:

OMSI Registration
1945 SE Water Ave.
Portland, OR 97214
FAX # (503) 239-7800
register@omsi.edu

To ensure that all alternate transportation arrangements have been confirmed, we suggest checking with the OMSI Outdoors registrars one week prior to the beginning of the camp.

Name of Camp: ____________Orca Camp_________________________

Name of Camper: ____________________________________________

1) The person dropping off camper will be: __________________________

Dropping off at this time: _________________________________

Dropping off at this location*: _______________________________

This person can be reached at these phone numbers: ________________

2) The person picking up camper will be: __________________________

Picking up at this time: _________________________________

Picking up at this location*: _______________________________

This person can be reached at these phone numbers: ________________

*Location must be approved by the OMSI Outdoors registrars prior to sending in form.

Parent/Guardian Signature __________________________ Date ____________

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