

Dear Teacher or Chaperone,

Thank you for volunteering to supervise the youth on the upcoming field trip to the Arkansas 4-H Center Arkansas Outdoor School (AOS) program.

This may be your first trip to our programs or your tenth; either way there are a few basic guidelines to follow to make this trip a success for you and your students.

- Wear appropriate clothing and be prepared to be outside
- Wear appropriate footwear for walking and hiking
- Stay with your assigned group at all times
- Have fun! This is your field trip too!

Sometimes it is hard to know how to support your students and the instructors during the activity sessions. Below are two lists: one of examples of positive behavior exhibited by chaperones, and one of negative behaviors exhibited by chaperones. Let's shoot for the positives.

Examples of positive behavior:

Encouraging students to participate in provided activities
Modeling enthusiasm for the program
Enforcing non-interruptive discipline when necessary
Participating in activities (without showing off)
Assisting instructors when you see an opportunity

Examples of negative behavior:

Talking on your cell phone during educational sessions
Pressuring your students to climb higher on the rock wall
Leaving your group to get refreshments
Answering all the questions from the instructors
Distracting the students during instructions

A successful field trip experience relies on positive role modeling and supervision by dedicated chaperones. Let's work together to make this a positive experience for everyone.

Sincerely,

Eric De Vries
AOS Coordinator
C. A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center