SAAS OUTDOOR & TRAVEL 7th & 8th GRADE YUKON

July 20-August 2, 2024
12-16 Current 7th & 8th Graders - Cost: \$3350
TRIP LEADERS: Chelsea Adrada, Ray Mack, Josh Kurisko

The Middle School Yukon Trip is an opportunity for 7th and 8th grade students to experience canoeing and camping on the shores of Lake Laberge and the Yukon River. The group will canoe roughly 150 miles and camp at about 8 different sites along the way. We will begin the trip with a couple of days at Fox Bay Lodge, outside of Whitehorse, to organize group gear and practice paddling in canoes. After we leave Fox Bay, students will be canoeing, setting up tents, cooking for themselves in small groups, and taking care of group gear each day as we journey from Lake Laberge to the Yukon River and make our way to Carmacks. In addition to canoeing, students will have the opportunity to explore historical sites, hike, play games, enjoy campfires, and reflect on their trip experience and middle school journey.

Prerequisites:

No prior experience or skill is necessary to enjoy this trip.

We will have 3 pre-trip meetings spaced throughout the year, including

Trip overview and introduction to gear needs (students and families)

Initial gear check and trip to the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park in Seattle to learn about history of the Yukon territory (students)

Final gear check during summer months before departure (students and families)



Trip Goals:

This trip is designed to place students in a long-term group context that will help them grow through physical and emotional challenges. The remote wilderness setting provides numerous opportunities for students to practice leadership, interpersonal connection, and personal growth.

Students will...

not have access to technology during the trip

experience the physical stress of maneuvering a canoe with different partners throughout the trip

learn how to set up camp, taking care of group needs first before individual needs

cook their own meals in small groups, making collective decisions about what to eat and how to prepare it

share a tent with peers

pack and securely load canoes with their personal and group gear daily

Through different groupings and pairings, students will develop communication skills and form new connections with peers. While the leaders provide general trip structure and safety, students will practice individual and collective decision making each day. Students will be encouraged to reflect individually through journaling or simple self-reflection during their time on the river and will participate in group reflections during nightly campfires. Students come on the trip with a range of comfort being away from home, being on the water, and camping outdoors, but the different facets of this trip allow students to develop new connections and skills.

Contact Information:

For any further questions please email:

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To register for the trip, complete any necessary trip surveys and find more information, please visit our SAAS trips page by following the link here:



www.seattleacademy.org/student-life/ outdoortravel









Freddy Carley, Director

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