



Outdoor Discovery Club Frequently Asked Questions

Is there paperwork? When is it due?

All Grand Canyon Youth Outdoor Discovery Club members will need to complete the following steps in order to participate with the club:

- ◆ Read and completely fill out the *Application Packet*. There are several places on the application that require signatures and initials from BOTH parents/legal guardians and students. Please review your application for completeness before submitting. Return the application to your teacher sponsor.
- ◆ Each expedition will require an additional permission slip by the parents, allowing their student to participate in a specific activity, on a specific date. These slips will become available within a few weeks of the expedition. *Permission slips will be due one week before the expedition* in order to secure your spot.

How much do expeditions cost? What if I need help with an expedition fee? What is the refund policy?

Fees will be determined on an expedition- by- expedition basis.

- ◆ Our preference is expedition payments be made in the form of a check and given to either your teacher sponsor or a GCY representative. *Payments will be due one week before the expedition* in order to secure your spot.
- ◆ Financial aid will be available for each expedition. Please make sure to submit the last page of the *Application Packet* to be eligible. It is the responsibility of the student to inquire about financial support from GCY. We do not want cost to be a deterrent for any participant, so please approach us if this is an issue.
- ◆ GCY reserves the right to cancel any program and/or alter trip dates due to weather, safety concerns and/or any other unforeseeable circumstances. Participants who cancel more than 5 days before an expedition will be entitled to a program refund. Participants who cancel less than 5 days before any expedition will be charged a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the cost of participation. We cannot offer a refund to participants who cancel less than 24 hours before any expedition.

How do I find out about expeditions? What is the best way to communicate with GCY?

Students will be given information sheets during club meetings to bring home and show to parents.

- ◆ The *Application Packet*, expedition information, and permission slips can all be found on our website.
- ◆ We will use a free texting service, called Remind, to help communicate with students outside of meeting.

What can students expect from the expeditions?

Club members will explore a wide variety of both wilderness and non-wilderness areas.

- ◆ The level of physical difficulty will vary from expedition to expedition. Many of the expeditions will challenge members to try new things and explore new places while focused on monthly themes. While we will encourage everyone to participate fully, we also want all of the members to feel safe and supported.
- ◆ Transportation to and from expedition locations will be determined on an expedition-by-expedition basis.

What are some of the expectations for participation?

Positive behavior is important for successful expeditions. As part of Outdoor Discovery your cooperation will improve everyone's experience. Please refer to the personal contract in *Application Packet* for a detailed list of expectations.

- ◆ Participation should be viewed as a privilege. We reserve the right to dismiss a participant without refund and at the expense of the participant, their parents or legal guardians due to any participant behaviors that compromise the safety and learning environment of the program.

How is safety encouraged on all GCY expeditions?

At GCY, we believe that most emergencies can be prevented by taking care of one's self and listening to safety guidelines. All of our guides are certified in wilderness medicine (WFR), will have extensive first-aid materials, and either a cell or satellite phone along on each trip. If you are nervous about any aspect of the program, please do not hesitate to contact us for more information.