

## BEING A CHAPERONE AT FIELDGUIDES

We are so excited to work with you for your school's upcoming trip with Fieldguides. Being a chaperone is a lot of fun and also a lot of responsibility. This letter is a chance for us to share a few things with you about the program so you know what to expect and can make the most of your experience.

Throughout the program you will be acting as a representative of your child's school, and the students will be under your supervision at all times. Much of this time you will be aided by one or more of our staff members. At other times, during 'free time', play periods, and at night you will be responsible for providing the primary care and supervision of the students. This includes helping them get ready for sleep, making sure they are all accounted for, and accompanying them to the restroom at night. In turn, if you drive a vehicle to the program you may be asked to transport students back home at any time during the program if the need arises.

Outside your role as a direct care provider, we also have a few requests about your involvement in the program, don't worry this is the fun stuff. After many years running trips with chaperones our biggest takeaway is that the programs where the chaperones get involved are the ones where everyone has the most fun. Our staff put a lot of time into planning well thought out programs and your support in implementing those plans is essential to a successful program. So please, participate in the activities with the students! We think you'll find them not only enriching for yourself but also a great way to build rapport with the students, including your own child(ren).

Lastly, we want you to know that Fieldguides runs its programs with a family style atmosphere. This means we all cook, eat, clean, play, and learn together. It also means that we practice good role modeling behavior at all times and help each other if we are having trouble with anyone else at the program. Foul and abusive language will not be tolerated, nor will corporal punishment of any kind. Using drugs, other than prescription medication, is not allowed. No alcohol or marijuana. If you or any students are having problems, tell our staff, we are here to help you. At least one staff member is always on call if you need help or support.

The first day of your trip will include a chaperone orientation to help remind you what is expected. It will also cover any location specific details and give you a chance to ask any questions you may have.

Thanks for making this trip possible for your child and their classmates. We look forward to getting to know you and spending a few unforgettable days together in the great outdoors.

All our best,  
Team FIELDGUIDES