20. Yellowstone’s Youth Conservation Corps Resource Education Curriculum

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Leadership

Youth will understand:
- Leadership within group dynamics.
- A diverse range of effective leadership styles and roles.
- The power of skillfully applying communication strategies.

Youth will know…
- How to employ conflict resolution through active listening.
- How to exemplify adaptability and resiliency.

Youth will be able to…
- Articulate goals, inspire vision and contribute to crew success
- Practice sound judgment and decision-making skills to enhance their leadership skills.
- Demonstrate awareness of self, others, and place

Essential questions
- What are the top three characteristics of a competent leader?
- What roles does communication play in leadership?
- In your opinion, what characteristics differ in an effective vs. an ineffective leader?
- Which leadership characteristics do you possess, and which characteristics would like to improve?
- What does high a performing team look like?
Culture Heritage

Youth will understand:
- The significance of protecting our nation’s cultural resources and heritage.
- The connection between the National Park Service Mission and action (i.e. present day management).
- The historical significances of Yellowstone National Park.

Youth will know…
- Why the National Park Service manages cultural resources
- The basic historical concepts, events, and people of Yellowstone National Park.
- Different historical perspectives of Yellowstone National Park
- How management practices have changed over time.

Youth will be able to…
- Identify cultural resources of Yellowstone National Park
- Explain the goals of protecting our nation’s cultural resources and heritage.
- Articulate the dual purpose of the National Park Service Mission

Essential questions
- What have I learned that can inform my own cultural heritage?
- In what ways have other cultures contributed to Yellowstone National Park’s cultural heritage?
- How does the National Park Service address a dual mission purpose?
- How do historical concepts, events, and people from Yellowstone’s past influence the present and future of the Park?
Stewardship

Youth will understand:
- How to transfer stewardship knowledge and skills from one setting to another. e.g. from Yellowstone National Park to their own community.
- The application of service learning principles to their local communities.
- How reflection tools can expand the analysis of a problem.

Youth will know...
- The positive and negative consequences of each stewardship project.
- The variety of careers available in the National Park Service.
- The responsibilities of youth and staff involved on a stewardship project.

Youth will be able to...
- Analyze different points of view to gain an understanding of multiple perspectives.
- Investigate potential careers available through the National Park Service.
- Apply stewardship ethics while living and learning in a community.

Essential questions
- What did Yellowstone National Park gain from our stewardship project?
- Why is this work important in relation to the Park Service Mission?
- What careers would I like to explore?
- What have I gained from our stewardship project(s)?
- What reflective tools aid in understanding who I am?
- What skills and knowledge can I bring to my crew and our stewardship project?
Ecological Relationship

Youth will understand:
- Ecological processes and systems of the natural world.
- Fundamental geological concepts and processes.
- Abiotic and biotic factors are interrelated.

Youth will know…
- Basic abiotic and biotic functions of an ecosystem.
- Basic natural history of Yellowstone’s flora and fauna.

Youth will be able to…
- Articulate ecological and conservation issues.
- Skillfully use scientific practices in different settings
- Demonstrate observation skills through listening, exploring, and journaling.

Essential questions
- What is the relationship between humans and nature?
- What are the interacting components of an ecosystem?
- How are species interdependent and interrelated?
- How do organisms adapt to changes in their environment?
Sustainability

Youth will understand:

- The dynamic nature of social, economic, and ecological changes over time.
- All systems function within the interrelated parts of the whole.
- How natural and human communities form our environment.

Youth will know…

- Personal actions have effects beyond immediate reactions.
- All organisms and systems have balanced cycles.
- System parts are connected through larger patterns.

Youth will be able to…

- Show a commitment to sustainable practices at local and global scales.
- Recognize the interconnection and interactions between the social, the economic, and ecological community.
- Effectively practice sustainable decision-making.

Essential Questions

- What factors influence a sustainable community?
- What can people learn from natural systems to improve our collective future?
- What is your responsibility to yourself, your community, and the world?