

Nature Pre-Camp Prep

Two of the most popular nature classes at Camp Foley are Snakes and Turtles. In addition, kids love rocks, dissection, and nearly anything YOU show PASSION towards. Your task is to come to camp with background knowledge in these areas, ready to immerse yourself in this “hands on” activity that Foley campers love. Each nature topic is developed into a three day lesson plan, of one hour per day.

TASK: In each of the areas below, take notes and **send one complete document with all of your notes to Alli at alli@campfoley.com and bring notes to camp with you.** We are here to bounce ideas off!

1. Learn about snakes:
 - a. Snake information by Lacy Perry – Intro to How Snakes Work, Snake Basics, Snake Structure, Snake Movement, Snake Digestion at this website:
 - i. <http://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/life/zoology/reptiles-amphibians/snake.htm>
 - b. Research Foley’s resident snakes and provide info you can share with the kids about each, the more knowledgeable and passionate you are about your activity, the more the campers want to participate:
 - i. Western Hognose Snake
 - ii. Black Rat Snake (White Sided)
 - iii. Milksnake (Pueblan)
 - iv. Cornsnake (Motley)
 - v. Bullsnake (Gopher Snake)
 - vi. The two most common snakes around camp –Plains Garter and Red Bellied.
2. Learn about turtles (same as the snakes, the more you know, the better!):
http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/reptiles_amphibians/turtles/index.html
 - i. Common Snapping Turtle – seen frequently in pond
 - ii. Painted Turtle – easily caught in pond
 - iii. Spiny Softshell Turtle – found in Whitefish Chain
 - iv. Have basic knowledge about Wood and Blanding’s Turtles
3. Learn about common animals often seen or heard around camp. Gain knowledge and identification information about animals such as (include facts/info about 7 species of your choice, they don’t necessarily have to be on this list, but must be found around camp):

Deer	Bald Eagles	Beavers
Muskrats	Fox	Leopard Frogs
Blue Herons	Mallard	Red Wing Blackbirds
Wood Duck	Spring Peepers	Green Herons
Bass&Dogfish Nests	Geese	Pileated Woodpecker
Skunks	Hawk	Yellow Bellied Sapsucker
4. Learn and take notes about common things that might be found wading in a fresh water lake (take notes on 5 of these):

Crayfish	Clams	Snails
Minnows	Tadpoles	Sunfish
Water Striders	Green algae	Dragon Fly life cycle (stages found in water)
Plankton	Agates	Quartz
Leeches	Water Lilies	Sphagnum Moss

5. Pick a topic (not turtles or snakes) that you want to teach a 3 day (1hr per day) nature class about. Submit a sample outline about what you think you want to do. This can be a pretty rough draft, but the more details you include, the better!