



Adventure for All

Why Nature Connection?

Today's youth are experiencing less unstructured time in nature than in previous generations, especially youth from marginalized communities - devoting an average of 4-7 minutes per week. This is a drastic loss in time outdoors compared to prior years.

EverWild's recipe for providing mentorship and nature connection programming for up to 8 hrs per day promotes healthier, happier and more intelligent youth who are equipped with the tools necessary for becoming active stewards of the earth.

We engage youth with the natural world by immersing them in it. We transport them from their school or community center and bring them to our flowing fresh water creeks, salty wetlands, coastal beaches, and mountain trails surrounding the Los Angeles area. Our core routines include youth-led exploration, wilderness living skills, expanding awareness, questioning and tracking, wandering and mapping, storytelling, gratitude, and more. Our skilled mentors also teach conflict resolution, nonviolent communication, and peacemaking.

What is the Adventure for All Program?

The **Adventure for All** program will serve our community by meeting youth where they already are and transporting them to Los Angeles' mountains and beaches for day and overnight trips. From elementary through teen years, we will meet at partnering organization sites including community centers, recreation centers, and low-income schools to provide fully subsidized programming.

Programming will include adventures at wilderness and coastal locations and activities aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards, social-emotional learning, and environmental literacy - covering activities such as storytelling, bird language, wilderness living, leave no trace, sit spot, nature journaling, art of questioning, tracking and wildlife signs, plant identification, and more.



Why fully subsidized programs?

Historically, people from low-income households and communities of color have greater barriers to accessing and recreating in the outdoors. Factors include affordability, transportation, lack of safety and inclusion, lack of proper gear, and residing in areas devoid of safe parks and green spaces.

Data from the US Forest, National Park, and Fish and Wildlife services suggest deep inequality in the demographic of visitors with only 5%-12% being people of color compared to the 88-95% of white non-hispanic visitors.

We envision a more diverse outdoors that's welcoming, inclusive, accessible to all, and reflects the diversity of Los Angeles. Providing equitable access to nature and mentorship is an impactful way to enrich the lives of all youth in Los Angeles.

Youth who participate in EverWild's programs...

- Demonstrate a connectedness to nature
- Display social-emotional growth, social responsibility, and leadership skills
- Develop 21st century skills including communication, creativity, collaboration, critical thinking.
- Become environmentally literate, resilient, and empathetic
- Exhibit pro-environmental behaviors
- Experience better academic performance and a motivation to learn
- Increased health and wellness
- Develop the ability to cope with emotions and stress



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