



Adventure Academy After-School Program Spring 2024

Rippleffect is excited to offer our After-School Program for the 2023-2024 school year! This program is for 3rd-5th graders at Longfellow, Ocean Ave and Reiche Elementary Schools!

Days Offered for Each School:

- Longfellow and Ocean Ave: Monday-Thursday
- Reiche: Mondays and Wednesdays
- Rowe: Tuesdays and Thursdays

The Adventure Academy After-School program offers daily adventures around Portland's surrounding woods, parks, and waters! Free play, exploration, outdoor skills, and leadership curriculum will all be woven into the program to provide a safe place for young people to connect, explore, and form new friendships!

Students will:

- Gain **new friendships**, develop **enhanced social and communication skills** and build **self-confidence**.
- Learn the concepts of **Self, Peer and Community Leadership** and put them into practice.
- Gain **self and situational awareness tools and practices**, including mindfulness and self and group reflection.
- Learn **outdoor living skills** to be successful, confident and safe on their outdoor adventures.
- Develop **group problem solving skills and resiliency** through a variety of outdoor and adventure challenges.

Dates: Spring 2024 Session (**April 1st through May 31st**) Monday-Thursday, each day PPSD is in session (exceptions noted below).

- Rippleffect will not provide care the following days that school is not in session, or during closures:
 - Monday, April 15th-Thursday, April 18th (Spring Break)
 - Monday, May 27th (Memorial Day)
 - Please note that our After-School programming will end on Thursday May 30th. We are unable to offer programming for the last week and a half of school due to our staff transition to summer programming.



Transportation:

- Rippleffect staff will pick up students each day in front of school/dismissal doors in our 15-passenger buses.

Parent Pick-Up:

- Pick-up will be at **5:30pm at the Rippleffect Office within** the State Street Church at 159 State Street.
- If your child needs to be picked-up earlier than 5:30pm, parents may coordinate with Rippleffect Staff to meet the group, as they may be at a local adventure location.
- Please call or text our **After-School Google phone number (207) 331-3663** to communicate about pick-up needs.

To Bring Each Day: Please ensure that your child comes to Rippleffect each day with -

- Afternoon snack
- Water bottle
- Clothes to be comfortable outside for around 2-3 hours including
 - Closed toed shoes (boots during cold months!)
 - Rain Gear as needed
 - Extra layers (Jacket and hat and gloves as appropriate)

Sample Activities: Each day, students will embark on micro-adventures in the Portland area.

Adventures can include:

- Hiking on local trails
- Exploring beaches and tide pools
- Team building and outdoor education activities
- Free play on local playgrounds
- Ropes course and rock climbing at the Rippleffect Outdoor Community Center
- Board games, foosball, and art projects back in the office during pick-up time

Sample Schedule:

Please note that this sample schedule may alter due to weather, or location of our local adventures. A weekly email will be sent to parents containing a schedule for the following week. We also provide extended care on Wednesdays due to early dismissal for all elementary schools.

Sample Schedule:

- 2:10pm: Pick up Longfellow and Ocean Ave students and head to a local playground for community play and exploration.
- 3:30pm: Pick up Reiche/Rowe students and head to the adventure location.
- Around 4:45-5pm: Head back to the Rippleffect community space on State Street for games, crafts, and support with homework.
- 5:30: Parent pick-up.



To Enroll:

If your family/child does not have an account with us, please create one here:

https://rippleffect.campmanagement.com/p/request_for_info.php?action=enroll

To secure your child's space in the program, the registration contract and deposit (half of tuition) must be returned and paid within 7 days of enrollment (once you receive the program confirmation email).

Adventure Academy After-School Program Policies

Tuition Payment Schedule:

Tuition can be either paid in full upon enrollment, or be made in two installments, with each installment being one-half of the total program cost.

- The deposit, due upon enrollment, covers one installment and is non-refundable.
- The remaining installment will be due on April 1st.
- If you choose to enroll in autopay, your primary card on file will be automatically charged on April 1st for the second in.

Refunds:

- Rippleffect is not responsible for issuing refunds for missed days due to appointments, illnesses, or other personal reasons.
- Any withdrawal from the program once it has begun will result in the forfeiture of the deposit.

Participant Readiness and Behavioral Expectations

Program Readiness Skills

- Participants must be willing and able to spend up to two hours outside at our local adventure locations, including during rain and snow (severe weather conditions will result in moving programming indoors).
- Participants must be able to participate independently, or with reasonable accommodations/modifications that do not conflict with the program structure.



- Participants must be able to respect the public land and facilities that we use during our programming. This includes following the 7 Leave No Trace Principles.
- Participants must be able to stay with the group while in public settings, and while transitioning onto and out of our bus transportation.
- Participants must be able to take and follow directions and instructions from guides.
- Participants must interact and participate in a manner that is physically and emotionally safe for themselves and others.
- Participants must be able to advocate for personal care pertaining to bathroom needs.
- Participants must respect others (listening and following directions; using appropriate language; keeping hands and feet to self).
- Participants must maintain self-control (anger management).

Behavioral Non-Negotiables:

The following behavioral policies are absolutely non-negotiable and universal for all populations in the program, including staff, visiting staff, and students. Inability to follow these non-negotiables may lead to dismissal from the program.

- **Theft:** Blatant, unequivocal theft will not be tolerated.
 - **Severe Threat of Bodily Harm and Property:** Violence towards staff or other participants will not be tolerated, including hard hitting, biting, spitting, kicking. No weapons of any kind will be permitted. Participants are not allowed to have knives. Participants must not run out of sight of the guides, or leave the program location. Destruction of Rippleffect property and equipment will not be tolerated.
 - **Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco:** Drug, alcohol, tobacco, and E-cigarette use is not permitted during youth programs, and is grounds for immediate dismissal from programming.
 - **Sexual Behavior:** Sexual activity, sexual language, and sexual harassment will not be tolerated.
 - **Emotional Safety:** Any severe violation of emotional safety is grounds for immediate dismissal. No verbal threats or intolerance of others' differences will be tolerated.
- Rippleffect has a zero-tolerance policy on bullying and harassment.**



3 Step Policy for Behavioral Situations:

If a behavioral situation arises during program hours that does not fall under the above list of “non-negotiables”, Rippleffect follows these steps:

- **Step 1:** Rippleffect staff will have a conversation with the participant(s) to explain exactly what the problem is, and to reinforce and remind them of behavioral expectations.
- **Step 2:** If behavior continues, Rippleffect staff will give the participant(s) a verbal warning of further consequence. Effective strategies for mitigating continuing behavioral problems may include temporary separation from the group, mediating conflict between participants, or one-on-one conversation with Rippleffect staff. Parents will be notified of the behavioral incident.
- **Step 3:** If behavior continues, the parent/guardian will be contacted for an early pick-up. Rippleffect staff may separate a participant from program activities and contact management. Management will speak with the parent/guardian to develop a plan moving forward. If the behavior is corrected, the participant may return to the program. Repeated incidents may result in dismissal from the program.

Examples of inappropriate behavioral situations that initiate this 3 Step Policy include:

- **Disruptive Behavior:** Interrupting, failing to follow directions, inappropriate language or noises, other behaviors that interfere with the functioning of the group.
- **Verbal Mistreatment:** Teasing, swearing, name calling, putdowns, gossiping, other behaviors which harm the feelings of others.
- **Light Physical Aggression:** Pushing, shoving, “light” hitting that does not lead to injury and which is quickly de-escalated, corrected, and does not reoccur.

