



*Connect.
Create.
Conserve.*

Dear Teachers and Chaperones,

We'd like to thank you for being a chaperone on an upcoming field trip to the San Diego River. The best support you can offer the students is through sharing excitement, focused curiosity, and consistent engagement.

The following are some basic rules and expectations that we have for our teachers and chaperones to ensure a safe and positive experience for all.

- We ask chaperones to help enforce safety rules and encourage students to listen to the instructors during each activity.
 - The role of our staff is to provide a fun and safe learning experience, not to discipline students.
- Please keep your cellphones out of sight (may be used for taking photos or emergency calls).
 - If you need to take a call, please step away from the group.
- The focus should remain on the kids and their experiences in nature, so please keep personal side conversations to a minimum.
- Let's strive to keep attitudes upbeat and positive, to foster excitement in the students.
- Please come properly dressed for the outdoor environment by wearing closed-toed shoes and clothes that can get dirty/muddy. Bring sun protection and water to drink.
- Help to encourage the kids to ask questions and give them a chance to make observations, rather than answering for them.

Teachers: We also ask for your help in gaining and holding the attention of the class during large group activities.

Examples of questions to encourage exploration:

- What do you notice about this _____?
- What more do you want to know about it?
- What does it make you think of?
- Why do you think _____ is the way that it is?

Some more follow up questions:

- What is the coolest thing about _____?
- Why do you think that?
- What role do you think this plays in the ecosystem?
- How do you think this helps it survive?

We look forward to seeing you on the River soon!

Thank you!

San Diego River Park Foundation Staff and Volunteers