



Organized lessons as well as independent exploration.



Students raise their own tents.

## Leave-no-trace!

**Leave No Trace camping** is an increasingly popular – and necessary – approach to travel in wilderness areas. As the term suggests, the goal is for the camper to have as little impact as possible on the location he is visiting. One of its mottos is *"Take nothing but pictures. Leave nothing but footprints."* Its simplest and most fundamental rule is: *pack it in, pack it out*, but it goes beyond that.

## Target messages

- Humans are part of the natural world.
- Sustainability is an important goal to which our society should strive.
- The natural world has inherent value.
- Environmental health and human health are interrelated.
- We have an obligation to contribute to the health of human and natural communities.

EST. 1999

**PRAIRIE CROSSING**  
CHARTER SCHOOL



CREATING NATURAL LEADERS

## 5/6 Grade Camping Trip



*Creating Natural  
Leaders*

## 5/6 Grade Camping Trip

**Rationale-** The Prairie Crossing Charter School campouts are a unique opportunity to enhance and expand student learning. We believe that integrating the environment outside of the school campus into the curriculum is an effective method of increasing student achievement. In addition, the campouts should play an integral role in developing environmentally and socially literate citizens by:

- Facilitating the development of students' ecological sense of place
- Providing knowledge and skills that allow students to make informed choices and have life-styles that contribute to a healthy society and environment
- Facilitating student involvement in authentic, community-based efforts that improve the local human and natural community

The educational opportunities provided on our camping trips.

Art - photography, drawing, painting	Land use history
Data collection	Life-cycle investigations
Descriptive writing	Management plan development
Diversity calculations and comparisons	Mapping
Ecological disturbance	Navigation skills
Ecological restoration	Nutrient cycles
Ecological succession	Observation with a variety of senses
Education material development	Phenology
Exotic species impact and control	Plant identification and classification
Food web analysis	Service learning
Forest management methods	Team building
Forest measurements	Trail hiking
Forest products	Water cycle
Forest regeneration	Wildlife identification and classification
Forest surveys	
Glacial geology	
Habitat surveys and classification	



Working together to solve problems and accomplish goals.



Hiking and exploring. Always learning.

