

Mohican Outdoor School

About Mohican Outdoor School...

Mohican School in the Out-of-Doors, Inc. is an outdoor environmental education organization located in rural Richland county near Butler, Ohio. Mohican School's program enriches all phases of the elementary and middle school curriculum, meeting content standards in all areas. The Mohican Outdoor School experience is interdisciplinary with an emphasis on hands-on, experience-centered learning. While serving many grade levels, fifth and sixth grade makes up most of the student body in the resident program. Programs are offered in day trip experiences and resident experiences lasting 2, 3, 4, or 5 days. The school operates from September through May each year. Over 200,000 students from over 90 school districts have participated since 1961, when the school was founded. Mohican School in the Out-of-Doors, Inc. is a private, non-profit, 501 (c)(3) corporation.

The faculty and staff include certified teachers and others with Bachelor's and Master's Degrees. Individuals with associate degrees, college students, and high school interns, plus others with specialized skills complete the staff. All are rich in experience in science, math, outdoor education and environmental awareness. All staff are FBI and BCI background checked regularly and participate in random drug screenings.

In addition to the outdoor/environmental education program, Mohican Outdoor School offers outreach experiences at off-site locations such as schools and libraries, teacher workshops, homeschool programs, adult programs, day and resident summer camp, and other family events throughout the year.

Mohican Outdoor School's History...

Mohican School traces its history to 1961 when Ron Reed experimented with a resident outdoor education program with Madison Local Schools in Richland County. In 1965 the project received a federal grant which lasted for three years until 1969, at which time the program was made available to districts from all over Ohio. In 1972 Mohican School became a non-profit corporation. In 1989 the Ohio Alliance for the Environment recognized Mohican School for its excellent contribution to environmental education in Ohio. Mohican School was also recognized by the Ohio Conservation and Outdoor Education Association (now known as the Environmental Education Council of Ohio – EECO) as an outstanding resident outdoor/environmental education program. During the decade of the 1990's, Mohican School expanded its program to include day-trips and outreach programs, and began searching for a location to call "home" and build permanent facilities to be owned by Mohican School. That "home" was found at the historic Hemlock Falls site near Butler, Ohio. The Hemlock Falls Outdoor Education Center was opened in 1997 and provided an opportunity for a more developed day-trip program. In October 1999, Mohican School opened the Environmental Learning Center (ELC) on 210 acres, a complex including a lodge, dorms, classroom and office space. In 2002, Red Apple Lodge was opened and is used by visiting classroom teachers.

Ohio's premiere outdoor education experience. MOS champions environmental stewardship and is committed to providing a unique understanding of the interrelatedness of the natural environment emphasizing cooperative learning in a community-centered setting.



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Field Trips

Field trips are normally held at the Hemlock Falls Outdoor Education Center located at 5391 Bunkerhill North Road, Butler, Ohio 44822. Field trips typically begin at 10:00 AM and conclude at 2:00 PM. We can tailor a field trip to meet the needs of any group and the staff at Mohican are anxious to work with you to design a day of enrichment that meets your request. Be sure to bring a sack lunch because you may get quite hungry in the fresh outdoor air.

Extended Day

The extended day trip is similar to a field trip except the day is longer. (10:00 AM until 5:00 PM or 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM) Extended day trips are a perfect solution for schools who are not permitted to participate in overnight trips. These trips are held at our main campus and a hot lunch is served. Dinner and an evening snack are included with groups staying until 9:00 PM. Be sure to contact us to discuss tailoring an extended day to your groups needs. In addition to environmental education and STEAM programs, the Mohican Outdoor School can also provide programs focused on team building and leadership.

Residential

The residential program provides hands-on, experienced-centered classes in an outdoor setting. Programs are offered lasting 2, 3, 4, or 5 days during the school year from September to early June. Predominantly 5th and 6th grade participate in our resident education program but we can tailor our programs to suit any grade level. The Mohican Curriculum is designed to enhance your curriculum. Our thematic approach is to create a community where all aspects of the resident experience help students develop a sense of responsibility and stewardship toward the environment.

Daily Schedule

7:00-Wake up	1:45-Class
7:45-Flag Raising	4:00-Option Time
8:00-Breakfast	5:15-Dinner
8:45-Clean-up	6:00-Class
9:15-Class	7:15-Snack Break
11:30-Cleanup	8:30-Night Report
12:00-Lunch	8:45-Go to Dorms
1:00 Teacher Time	10:00-Lights Out

Outreach

When you can't come to us, let us come to you. Our Mohican on the Road Program allows your school to participate in most of the programs available on our campus at your school. Presentations, half-day, full day and multi-day programs are available. The Mohican on the Road Program is usually only available during the non-peak months of December-March. However, dates are sometimes available in September and November. Class selection will be based on school facilities available.

Funding

We provide grant writing and fundraising assistance to those schools which serve a large population of economically challenged students. Our Executive Director will work hand in hand with your administration to help your school participate in a field trip, residential or outreach program.

Classes

This is our current class list. Please remember that we can tailor or create curriculum to serve your individual needs.

- Anti-bullying (K-3 only)
- Archery
- Astronomy
- Botany-plant study
- Canoeing
- Compass Challenge
- Creative Writing
- Dendrology-tree study
- Discovery Hike (Day or Night)
- Ecology
- Entomology-insect study
- Fire Building
- Geocaching
- Geology
- Greenville Players
- Hemlock Falls Discovery
- Herpetology-reptile/amphibian study
- Ichthyology-fish study
- Junk Bag Wars-engineering
- Limnology-stream/pond study
- Mad Science-chemical reactions
- Mammals
- Math Hike
- Meteorology-weather study
- Microscopic Investigations
- Oceanography/Marine Biology
- Ornithology-bird study
- Outdoor Cooking
- Pedology-soil study
- Raptors
- River Rafting w/Mohican Adventures
- Slimy Science (K-3 only)
- Survival
- Team Building