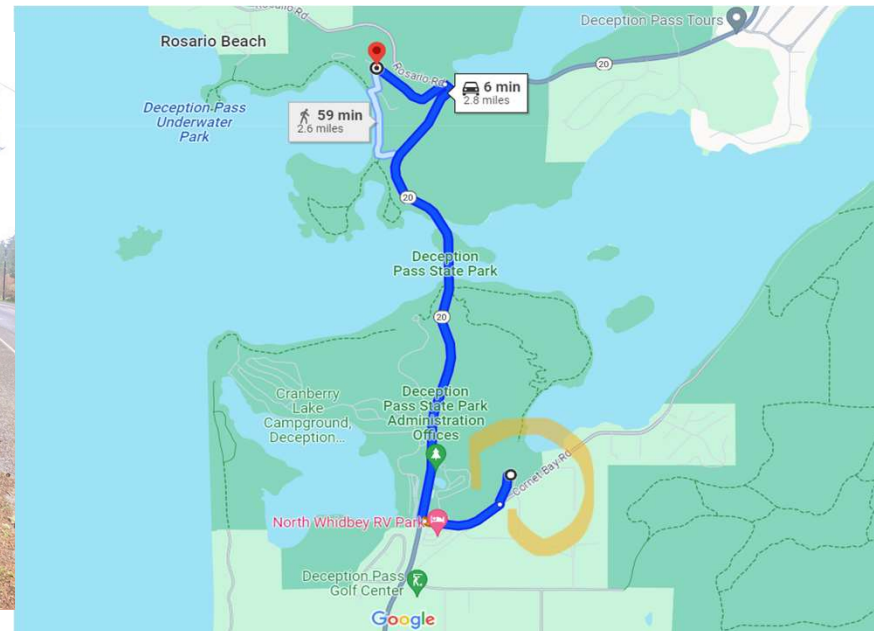


# Winter Has Come. Hooray! It's Time To Move Nature School



To Cornet Bay  
(December to Mid-March)

When the winter has come and it's cold outside, there may be days when we need to be inside. From December to March, my class moves to Cornet Bay. We'll have a new place to explore, learn and play.



I look at the calendar and check the date.  
It's a Cornet Bay day and I can not wait!



DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

I get my backpack and make sure I have what I need.



I unzip my pack and find extra clothes. I have snow bibs, a fleece pull over, silky thermals, lots of warm socks and underwear. I have pull-ups if I need them, a pile of knit gloves and a hat. It gets cold in the winter and I will be prepared for that!



I can help make my lunch and a yummy snack. It helps if they are separated inside my backpack. When it's cold, I can bring a thermos with warm soup or tea.



I always make sure I have a full bottle of water with me.



It's time to get ready, I put on my jacket and boots.  
I'm dressed for cold weather, but if we stay inside  
today, I can change out of my snow suit.





I get in my car seat and buckle up tight. As we drive to Nature School, I might feel excited or nervous, but I know I will be alright.



I hold your hand in the parking lot and make sure to look both ways. That is one way we keep each other safe.



(Lower Parking lot follow road up)



(Road from parking lot to upper parking lot near classroom site)



(Portion of upper parking lot)

New friends might come with their mothers, fathers, grandparents or friends.



I can say “hello” and tell them my name. Some friends may be a little shy at first. They may just wave.

It's time to check in. I carry my backpack and place it in along the wall. I take out my lunch and snack and find the right bin.



I get a big hug, and wave “goodbye” to you.  
I know I’ll see you again when Closing Circle is through.

I say “hello” to my teachers. They are always there to help me. They help me to learn about the animals, the forest, plants and trees.



Teacher Luanne



Teacher Christina



Teacher Angela

They teach me what it means to be part of a forest community.

If I have a problem, they can help me to figure it out. When I have big feelings, they can help me to let them out.



Teacher Justin



Teacher Amanda



Teacher Molly



Teacher Ally

I can sit at the table and share activities and books with my friends, or play in the forest until Morning Circle begins.



Different activities are set out every day. I learn how to sort colors, match and identify shapes.

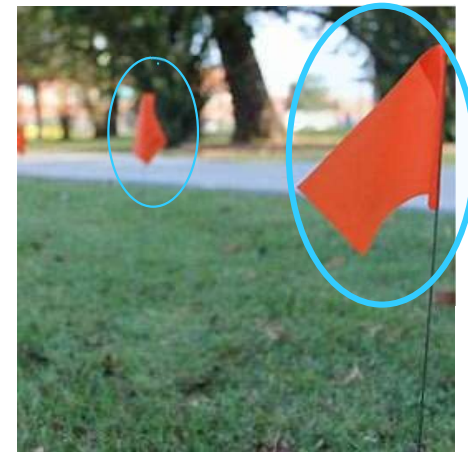




Some may help me develop strength when I grasp, how to sequence, and learn left from right. All these activities teach me the skills I need to read and to write.



I am careful to try to stay inside the orange flags when I play. They mark the boundaries my friends and I need to stay inside until the end of the day.



It's time for Morning Circle, I find a stump to sit on.



If my favorite one is not free,  
I can choose an open one  
and find a new friend to sit next to me.

I might hear new rules to follow during activities today. It is always important to keep myself, my friends and this place safe.



I may learn to whittle or how to split wood. I can help gather the pieces into a pile. We'll use them later when we build a fire.



It's cold in the morning and we may build a fire. There are special rules--we all must abide. There is a safety area. There's no running inside. I can stand or sit outside the railing and enjoy the fire.



When it's my turn to help, I take off my gloves and pull back my hair. I can enter the safety area with one teacher there. There's only one way to walk in. I can listen to the teacher and gently place something on the fire. I let go quickly and lift my hand up high.



Tools are for teachers, they're not for me to try. I can watch for a minute and see what happens next. I walk out of the safety area through the exit. I will not climb over the railing. It's there to protect me.





My teacher shows me a schedule with the activities for the day. It's the order we'll try to do things, but sometimes it might change.



It's time to go potty. There are a lot of stalls to choose from. I will sit and try.



I go into the bathroom stall, pull down my pants and underwear. If I need some help, there are teachers right there.



While I sit on the potty, I can sing or count. I listen closely for something to come out.



Hooray! I'm done on the potty, I make sure I wipe and I flush.



I pull up my underwear and the rest of my clothes. I may have lots of layers and my teachers can help me with those.

I go to the sink, get soap and wash my hands clean. I rub my hands together back and forth, the tops and my fingers between.



Time to dry my hands. Some bathrooms have paper towels and some have a blowing machine.



It's snack time! I get my snack out of the bin and sit with my friends. When I'm finished eating and have cleaned up my space, I might have time for more free play.

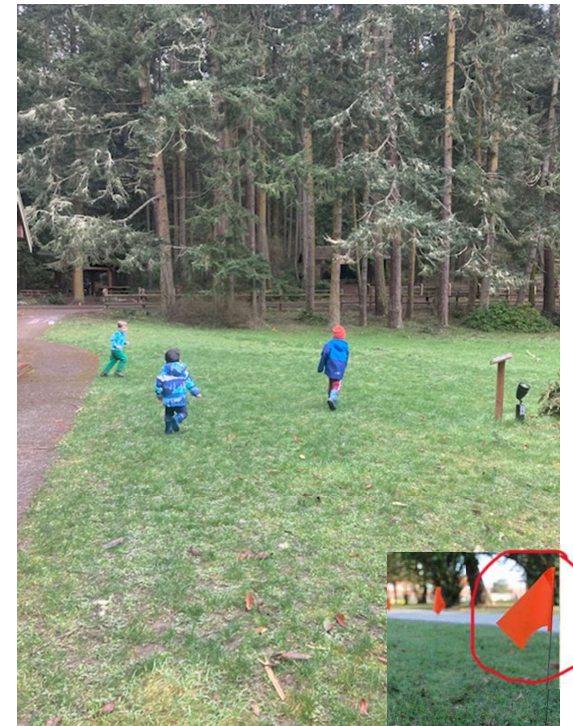




During free time I can play with my friends. We like to climb on the stumps and logs and pretend. Sometimes we sail to a far-off island on a treasure hunt. I'll wait my turn to sit in the front. I take turns driving with my friends. We can go anywhere when we pretend.



I can run, chase and play tag. I have a lot of space within the orange flags.



Sometimes I might need a break. My teachers can help me find a quiet space.



I am safe inside my special place. I take deep slow breaths and breathe with the trees. I place my hand on the bark and listen quietly. I hear the rustle of leaves as they dance in the breeze. I can hear birds calling high up in the trees.



I can sit on the forest floor and run my fingers across the needles and moss. I can trace the veins of the leaves, trace their shapes in the dirt, and feel their textures as I run my fingertips across.



When the time is up, I rejoin my friends. I am excited for our Adventure Hike to begin! We might go to the forest fort, the logs or the beach. There are so many things that the forest can teach.



I may learn about the weather and how to use plants. We may find crabs, clams, frogs, cool bugs or follow a long trail of ants.



Some things I can hold in my hands and some things I can touch. But I need to ask a teacher before I put anything in my mouth.





We might hike to the logs to balance and climb.



We may play in the mud. If I get dirty, it's fine.



We may go to “Fort Forrest” or build a fort of our own.



The beach is a muddy fun place to play. I can build sand castles or scoop with my hands. I might balance on logs and make forts with my friends.



I may just want to sit on the beach and have some quiet time by myself. When I feel the waves come in and out, I can time them with my breath.



Or the Rangers may come for a visit. They always have new information to share. There may be an activity, or things I can hold and compare. It's always a special day when they are here.



Or if the weather turns, we might need to go inside. We might paint a picture, play with the parachute or balance in an obstacle course. There are so many new things to try.



When Adventure Time is over, it's time for bathroom again.  
I'll try if I can. I can tell a teacher if I need to go again.



Bathroom for outdoor classroom



Bathroom for indoor classroom



It's lunchtime! I get my lunch and sit with the group. I might have food I can hold or food I can scoop. Everyone might have something different and like different things. At preschool, we don't share the food that we bring.



When I'm done eating lunch and have cleaned up my space, I may have more free time to play with my friends. I find more magical places the longer time that I spend.



Before Circle Time, we may take a few minutes to find a sit spot to be quiet and listen. I may hear birds, feel the wind or lean on a tree. It's something we'll talk about afterwards as we sip some warm tea.



It's time for Closing Circle. We talk about our day. All the new things we learned, our favorite things and all the new ways that we played. We might sing a song or act out a story. Everyday has something special in store for me.



When the closing song of Circle Time ends, I will see you with all the moms, dads, grandparents and friends...



who have come back with hugs to take us home again.