



Dear Chaperone,

Thank you for volunteering to accompany your child's class on their field trip to Meadowbrook Prairie on South Race Street in Urbana. The field trip will be held on:

Date:

Time:

This field trip is a combination of a little indoor and a lot of outdoor prairie activities. After an indoor introduction to the prairie, the class will move out to Meadowbrook Park and begin field studies. At this point, we will need your help in the following ways:

1. Help keep the group together by "bringing up the rear." Children have a tendency to dawdle; you can help by encouraging them to keep up.
2. Our programs usually include games and other activities. Please participate fully, when appropriate. A reluctant child may join in after seeing an adult having fun.
3. If you see a child straying away from the group, or picking up and collecting seeds, flowers etc. gently remind him/her that this is prairie and the rules are "stay with the group" and "do not pick".
4. If the leader is asking for answers or suggestions from the group, encourage the children to think and make guesses. Avoid giving them answers, even if you know them.
5. **Cell Phones:** A ringing cell phone interrupts the program and detracts from the 1855 prairie atmosphere needed for the program. **Please do not use your cell phones during the program. Please set your cell phones to silent mode and refrain from text-messaging during the program.** If you must take a call, please step away from the group.

Our goal during the field trip is for the children to have a positive and enjoyable experience in the outdoors, one that will increase their awareness and appreciation of nature. We wish this for you as well!

Thank you again for your interest!

Sincerely,

Chelsea Prahl

Chelsea Prahl
Environmental Education Coordinator