

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority

Outdoors Together Guardian Welcome Letter

An Outdoor Adventure is Waiting!

Greetings! Your child is getting ready to explore with us during our “Outdoors Together” program! The Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority protects and cares for open spaces throughout the Santa Clara Valley - places where wildlife and plants can thrive and people can experience and connect with nature.

Outdoors Together is an adaptable outdoor learning experience designed to help students build meaningful connections with the natural world. We recognize every student is unique and our goal is to provide a welcoming, supportive environment where everyone has opportunities to explore, discover and enjoy nature.

What Will They Be Doing?

During their visit, your child will have opportunities to experience the outdoors through engaging, hands-on activities and nature exploration.

Specific activities will vary based on the interests, abilities and needs of the participating group. Experiences may include sensory-based exploration, opportunities for observation and interactive discoveries about the natural world.

We believe there are many ways to connect with nature, and we celebrate the different ways participants experience and engage with their surroundings.

Help Your Explorer Come Prepared

We will be learning outside, so being prepared for the day will help your child be comfortable and ready to explore! Please make sure your child:

- **Wears comfortable, close-toed shoes** appropriate for walking on trails, uneven surfaces and getting dirty.
- **Dresses for the weather and wears layers** when appropriate. Long pants are recommended.
- **Brings a water bottle filled with water.**
- **Applies sunscreen before arriving, and brings sun protection**, such as a hat, when appropriate.
- **Brings rain gear, or other weather-appropriate clothing** when conditions call for it.

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority

Outdoors Together Guardian Welcome Letter

Before They Come...

You can help your child prepare by talking about their upcoming outdoor adventure in ways that are meaningful and comfortable for them.

Consider sharing pictures of natural places, talking about things they enjoy outdoors or exploring what they might encounter during their visit. If you'd like to watch together, this is an introductory video to our preserve: <https://tinyurl.com/4c2j8txr>

There is no preparation or prior knowledge required. We simply encourage students to come ready to experience nature in their own way.

We Can't Wait to Explore Together!

We're so excited to welcome your child to "Outdoors Together"! Creating opportunities for all of our community members to connect with nature is something we're truly passionate about, and we look forward to sharing this experience with your child.

We hope their visit brings moments of joy, curiosity and discovery while helping them build positive memories and meaningful connections with the outdoors.

We also hope this experience inspires you to explore nature further with your family. Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority offers plenty of opportunities beyond this program for you to continue discovering and enjoying nature together.

We can't wait to meet your child together in nature.

Most sincerely,
Your friends at Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority



www.openspaceauthority.org
education@openspaceauthority.org

