

SAMPLE LETTER FOR PARENTS

Dear Parents:

An exciting addition has been made to our academic program. In conjunction with Yosemite Institute (YI), we have developed a program of study and exploration in Yosemite National Park. YI is a non-profit organization that provides experiential field science programs in nature's classroom to inspire a personal connection to the natural world and responsible actions to sustain it.

We are planning this trip for the week of _____

YI staff is experienced in teaching young people and adults. All are college graduates with natural history backgrounds and interests appropriate to the national park setting. Small group instruction with trained leaders encourages an understanding of the basic principles of ecology through intimate association with a natural environment. We think this is an exceptional educational opportunity.

The cost per student is \$ _____

A deposit of \$ _____ is due by the deadline of: _____
(insert a deposit amount and a specific due date prior to your 90 day number deadline)

Make check payable to _____
(insert the name of your school account)

The deadline to return the registration form, student contract, and tuition fee is: _____
(insert a specific date, 2 months in advance of your arrival).

This cost covers transportation, tuition, room, and board. We hope to have 100 percent participation of the group. Some parents may wish to contribute toward the fee for a child other than their own so that we may offer assistance to those unable to afford the entire fee. Parents should encourage students to earn part or all of the expenses involved. Should there be any students who do not wish to attend this unique learning program, we will have a regular week of scheduled classes for them at school.

The weather in Yosemite can be anything from warm sunshine to snow, and the required clothing list is self-explanatory. Musical instruments are welcome, but we ask that students do not bring CD players, video games, etc.

In case of a medical emergency, students will be taken to the Yosemite Medical Clinic facility in Yosemite Valley, where a copy of each student's medical form will be on file. This facility is professionally staffed at all times.

You can also visit Yosemite Institute's website for more information about their program at www.yosemiteinstitute.org

Emergency messages can be left for students, but students cannot be reached directly. The numbers are:

Cards and letters may be sent to your child in Yosemite. Please allow four days for delivery.

Mail to:

Child's name (Group name included)

Yosemite Institute

P. O. Box 487

Yosemite, CA 95389

Should you have any questions about the program, please contact me.

Sincerely,