

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Below you will find a brief description of the classes we lead for groups through the OEE Program

Alpha Beta – This activity uses role play and investigation to challenge students’ openness towards new cultures or cultures that are different than their own. The class is split into two groups, the alphas and the betas, which have unique cultural differences. Students take turns visiting the other group to learn more about their neighbors. Instructors lead the class through a debrief to cover ideas such as diversity, inclusion, and openness.

Archery - Students get to channel their inner Robin Hood. In this class we start with safety both on and off the range. They will learn the basic techniques, then progresses to advanced techniques and competitions. We emphasize the positive ethics and safety around shooting sports. We have bows and arm guards to fit students of all sizes and abilities.

Atlatl – Head to the Marksmanship range as you and your students learn of the primitive weapons system that predates the bow and arrow. Under the supervision of trained camp staff, students will learn to launch 6ft darts at target in the same way ancient people hunted woolly mammoth and giant ground sloths.

Burma Bridge – As the name suggests, this type of Rope Bridge comes from the country of Burma (now Myanmar), a very mountainous country near Nepal, the home of Mt. Everest. The Burmese people found it easier to cross ravines by assembling and using temporary rope bridges rather than going down into the ravine and climbing the other side. With only a few pieces of rope, students will work together with the instructor to build a Burma Bridge of their own. Once it is complete, they will then get to cross it! For safety reasons, an adult from the group is required to be present for this class. Available in the Spring/Fall, and depending on the weather.

Canoeing & Voyageur History – Instruction in basic paddling skills for flatwater canoeing is combined with the history of the French-Canadian voyageur, a colorful figure in the history of the Great Lakes. Students will learn the parts of a canoe, the proper way to enter and exit a canoe, and the strokes needed to maneuver a canoe through the water. For safety reasons, an adult from the group is required to be present for this class. Available in the Spring and Fall, provided that there is no ice on the lagoon.

Creative Drama – Through a series of activities and role-playing situations, students will gain an understanding of the various forms and components of drama. Throughout the session, students will have opportunities to serve as both the performers and the audience members. Their final project is to create a skit as a team, and possibly perform it at the campfire.

Cross-Country Skiing – Many of us do not realize that winter is one of the best times to enjoy the outdoors. Cross-country skiing is a way for people to stay healthy and experience the beauty of the winter wonderland at the same time. Our instructors will take the students through a series of lessons (including how to properly fall down and get back up) that will cater to even those who have never been on skis before. After practicing a few basic skills, the students will be led on a short skiing excursion through the North woods. For safety reasons, an adult from the group is required to be present for this class. Available in the winter, provided that there is snow on the trails.

CSI: Tracking- Students will learn to use cognitive reasoning skills to decipher animal tracks and signs and the story they tell. They will learn about how animals walk and how it affects the tracks they leave. After some introductory activities the students will be led in teams to a complex animal track crime scene. They will have to work together and use what they just learned to solve the crimes.

Decomposition Cycle- The Northwoods is full of many colorful and intriguing decomposers on the forest floor. Through activities and guided hike, students will explore and investigate the decomposition cycle and new growth process that is occurring all around us. Available in the Spring and Fall.

Eco-Encounters – Ecology is the study of how organisms living together within a certain area interact with each other. Through a potpourri of activities and games, students will become aware of the many ecological systems of the Northwoods and what roles they serve in this environment. Students may find themselves playing the part of a hungry fox, a migrating loon, or a growing tree, or they may be able to taste some of the little known delicacies of nature.

From Roots to Leaves- A tree class that will study internal function and identification of the local trees at camp. This class is fun and interactive. Students will gain knowledge of the inner workings of trees as well as how to determine the age of a tree. They will then experience tree identification using a dichotomous key.

Initiatives – Students take on the challenge of U-Nah-Li-Ya's initiatives course through a variety of team-building and trust-building exercises. Each one of the obstacles presented to the students during this adventure offers a unique problem that the group must solve as a whole. The course is designed to promote self and group confidence, as well as communication and cooperation skills. For safety reasons, an adult from the group is required to be present for this class.

Leadership in Action- Participants learn what leadership is and how to incorporate those characteristics and qualities into play in peer and social settings. Emphasis is placed upon decision-making, communication, and leadership styles.

Micro World – Take a deeper look into nature and get up-close and personal with insects, plants, and anything else found in nature. During this class students will go and find things to

look at under the microscopes. They will be able to catch aquatic and terrestrial insects. They are also able to take leaves, rocks, sticks, and whatever else they find. They will also learn how to use a dichotomous key to determine the correct insect they have found.

Natural Senses – This session revolves around an environmental teaching approach called Acclimatization. Developed by Earth Educator Steve Van Matre, Acclimatization is the process of becoming re-acquainted with our environment through experiential sensory awareness activities. Students will use seeing, hearing, touching, smelling, and tasting to become physically involved with discovering the North woods.

Orienteering – The sport of orienteering was invented in Sweden in the year 1918. Its participants must use compasses to find their way through a series of targets. Students will begin the class by learning the parts and the use of a compass. These skills are then put to use on the orienteering courses set up around camp.

Outdoor Living Skills – Learning proper outdoor skills may come in handy on a camping trip or even in a survival situation. Our instructors follow the rule of, “Take only memories, leave only footprints,” in their minimum-impact camping demonstrations. Students can then apply these skills to constructing their own life-sized natural shelters and building “friendly” fires, as well as developing other hands-on skills.

Pollinator Parade- Without pollinators, we would have no fruits and vegetables to eat. Through activities and flower focused hike students will explore different methods of pollination and the ecological impact of pollinators. Students will end the lesson by creating seed bombs to spread pollinator-supporting plants.

Predator-Prey – The students will understand the characteristics and relationships between predators and their prey through a series of introductory activities and discussions. The class then culminates with a camp-wide game, where the students role-play animals that are struggling to survive in the world of “eat or be eaten.” Depending on your group size, this class may be delivered as one session taught to the entire group.

Primitive Fishing – With its many rivers and lakes, Wisconsin and fishing have always been synonymous. Today, many people enjoy it for recreation, and there is a whole variety of basic and technical equipment that you can purchase for this sport. Before all of this equipment was invented, though, how did the early people of Wisconsin use to fish? The instructor will demonstrate the different historical methods of fishing that have been used by the Native Americans and the pioneers. There will also be a discussion on the physical anatomy of different types of fish, and why knowing this information will help people grow their fishing skills. Students will then make their own “primitive” fishing equipment and try their luck with it on the water. **Primitive Ice Fishing** is available in the winter season.

Rock Climbing – This session will allow students to learn the techniques and participate in the challenge of safe rock climbing and belaying. This will allow confidence building and group support. For safety reasons, an adult from the group is required to be present for this class.

Science of the Spheres – Students will learn how the biosphere, geosphere, and hydrosphere interact with each other. They will learn each one in individual sections of the class and at the end put them all together. At the end each class will create a self-sustaining ecosphere and take it back to their classroom.

Snowshoe Hike – Students may discover winter in Wisconsin's Northwood's on a guided snowshoe hike led by one of our instructors. Snowshoes allow you to "float" on top of unpacked snow (where they work best), so expect to go off of the trail as you explore the beauty and stillness of our winter woodland. Available in the Winter, provided that there is snow on the ground.

Water, Water, Everywhere – Even though two-thirds of the Earth is covered by water, it is still a limited resource that we must protect. Why? This question will be answered through experiments, demonstrations, and discussions about water. We will also explore and identify what kind of life is present in our bodies of water here at U-Nah-Li-Ya through hands-on discovery. Available in the Spring, Fall, and depending on the weather.

Wolf Ecology- Students will learn about the history of wolves and their relationship with people from the time of the first European settlers in American up to today. They will come to realize the importance of opinions being rooted in scientific evidence as we explore human-wolf relationships, wolf pack structure, and the effects an apex predator has on an environment. This will be done through a mixture of discussion and interactive games.

World Games – Known globally as the "Great Melting Pot," the United States can claim citizens from almost every ethnic group in the world. Many of these people brought games with them that have evolved into games that we know and play today. Students will take a world tour during this session as they learn about a variety of countries and participate in games that maybe their own ancestors played in their homelands. Available in the Spring, Fall, and depending on the weather.

High Ropes Course or Zip Line (extra cost: \$12 per a participant):

The high ropes course offers challenging elements amongst the trees which promotes self-confidence, cooperation, and communication. Our instructors are professionally trained and ACCT certified to lead a safe and exciting high ropes experience. The duration of the course is dependent upon the number and ability of group members.

EVENING OPTIONS

Campfire – Performing skits and songs at a campfire is an enjoyable and fun U-Nah-Li-Ya tradition. Everyone from the visiting group and from the U-Nah-Li-Ya staff is invited to perform. We encourage groups to suggest that all of their students participate (either by table, cabin, homeroom, or study group), as this makes the campfire a worthwhile and memorable experience for them. If you can't think of any skit ideas, don't worry – we have lots of them!

Capture the Flag – This game comes to us from the Native Americans, who played it to develop hunting skills while having fun. After the students are divided into two teams, the goal for each team is to find, capture, and bring back the other team's flag to its own territory without getting caught. Camp also has a few versions of this classic game to offer: wells fargo, eagle's nest, capture the mattress, etc.

The Lorax – Our staff members will tell the story while your students act out Dr. Seuss's famous tale about not destroying our environment. This makes a good wrap-up after another evening activity.

Message to Garcia – The name for this game is based on an inspirational essay, "A Message to Garcia," by American writer Elbert Hubbard. His essay reflects the heroic deeds of a Cuban revolutionist, Calixto Garcia Iniguez, who cooperated actively with the U.S. Army during the Spanish-American War. The game itself is played by dividing the students into two teams and having each team send as many messages as possible to "Garcia" without the other team intercepting them.

Night Hike – Because most people sleep during the night, we often don't get the chance to be outside and enjoy this time. This hike takes advantage of the dark with games such as Bat & Moth, tricks such as the glow-in-the-dark Lifesavers, and many other neat activities for night. Flashlights are not permitted, as they will ruin night-vision and make it very difficult to see.

Ole Peterson Story – Gather around a fire and hear the legend of lumberjack Ole Peterson, who lived in this area during the late 1800's. Some groups may want to use the fire to make s'mores after the story-telling. This makes a good wrap-up after another evening activity.

Swamp Lady's Suitcase – This activity is essentially a reverse scavenger hunt, where the students collect items that they believe might be on a scavenger hunt list before they know what the items actually are. Once the items have been collected, the list is read and students possessing any of those items receive points for them.