**Jay Fieldtrips Summer 2017**

There is a weekly fieldtrip fee of $5.00
Theme: “All About Animals: Critters of the Northwest and Beyond”

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**Week 1 Fieldtrip, Friday, June 30th**
**Cascades Raptor Center and Hike**

We will start our day at the Raptor Center and meet a real raptor. After learning about them, we will tour the facility visiting all the residents! When we are done “birding around”, we will eat lunch at the Center. Then, we will hike down the hill on the Ridgeline trail to Frank Kinney Park, along the Amazon trail! On the way we will hunt some bird letterboxes!

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**Week 2 Fieldtrip, Friday, July 7th**
**William L Finley Wildlife Refuge**

This year we have a new adventure awaiting us at William Finley Wildlife Refuge. I’ve been in contact with the management at the refuge, they’ve told me we will have the opportunity to see many species of birds, pond turtles, and frogs. There are several short trails for us to hike, including a boardwalk through the ponds, and plans are still in the works to have the nature experts from the refuge help us explore for part of the day. The afternoon will allow everyone to pursue their personal interests, like further exploration of the refuge or painting a representation of the beauty that we see. We are very excited to share this beautiful site with the kids!

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**Week 3 Fieldtrip, Friday, July 14th**
**Fort Umpqua and Cottage Grove Lake**

This week we will spend time talking about butterflies and their life cycle before we go visit Fort Umpqua in Elkton. On this campus is the re-creation of the original fort and gardens, showing how the settlers lived back in the day. We will be exploring a Butterfly House on the property that does research on native butterflies! After eating lunch on the grounds, we will head up to Cottage Grove Lake for the afternoon for some relaxing and water squirter play! A perfect combo of Wildlife, History and Fun!

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**Week 4 Fieldtrip, Friday, July 21st**
**Mildred Kanipe Park**

This offering is new to us this year! This beautiful park, formally a working farm, was donated to Douglas County. It has hiking trails and a creek and pond that allow for the viewing of pond turtles which is what caught our eye! So during the week we will talk about turtles and then we will look for them at the pond!
Week 5 Fieldtrip, Friday, July 28th
Sea Lion Caves

In our quest to learn about many of Oregon’s native animals this week, we are headed over to visit the Sea Lion Caves. Once the kids get past the smell in the cave the magic of what they are seeing takes over! It’s an amazing place to view our sea lions and birds! After exploring the cave we will hike down the path to the ocean overlook where the sea lions like to hangout! After we finish at the cave, we will move over to the beach where we will have lunch and play in the sand.

Week 6 Fieldtrip, Friday, August 4th
McDowell Creek Falls and Faerie World

McDowell Creek is an enchanting place that always bring faeries to mind! During the week we will take time to create some faeries using a TBD art medium (we like to see what the kids are interested in). Also, we will talk about waterfalls and how they are formed as on our hike in the park we will walk by three beautiful falls! We have some fun lore that goes with this trip… the Faeries of Fall Creek always play jokes on us… usually “flying” a teacher away… and when we go to find him or her we find they have a surprise in store for us along the trail. It’s a great trip that provides lasting memories!

Week 7 Fieldtrip, Friday, August 11th
Shotgun Creek Letterboxing & Water Squirter Extravaganza

We have been going to Shotgun Creek for over 10 years now, and each trip is an adventure! Shotgun is a beautiful park outside of Marcola. It has a creek to explore, a bunch of letterboxes to find, a playground, horseshoes, picnic shelters, hiking trails, and a sandy swimming hole where we can build castles and play with our squirters! Each year is a little bit of a different experience because we build the day around the children’s interests.

Week 8 Fieldtrip, Friday, August 18th
Enchanted Forest

Our favorite end of the year fieldtrip, and a tradition for many years, is our trip to the Enchanted Forest up in Turner, OR! It may not be a real life forest, but it is a fun and magical one! We spend time through-out the summer fundraising for this by having a bake sale, and sometimes a car wash, so the children get to feel what it is like to contribute funds to their own fun!