

Costa Rica Trip

April Vacation

Young Achievers

7th Grade



Agenda

- ⚙ Update of Process
- ⚙ Trip Details
- ⚙ Funding Update
- ⚙ Next Steps



Process So Far...

- ⊗ Application Form & Essay
- ⊗ 11 Finalists selected based on the following criteria:
 - ⊗ Academics
 - ⊗ Effort & Progress
 - ⊗ Behavior
 - ⊗ Potential Benefit
 - ⊗ Application

Who's Going?

- ⊗ All 11 student finalists
 - ⊗ If families give permission
- ⊗ 2 Teacher Chaperones
 - ⊗ Kris Grymonpré, Grade 7 Math/Science
 - ⊗ Female YA Teacher (from 4th or 5th grade)
 - ⊗ Speaks Spanish
- ⊗ O² for Life Staff in Costa Rica

Trip Details

- ✿ Travel to Costa Rica over April vacation, plus 1-2 school days either before or after the vacation.
- ✿ Stay at O² for Life cabin
- ✿ Daily activities
 - ✿ Hikes through rainforest
 - ✿ Kayaking through mangrove forest
 - ✿ Interacting with local school children

Who is O2 for Life?

- ⚙ Staff of biologists who live in Costa Rica
- ⚙ Cabin in center of wildlife preserve
- ⚙ Host tourists in Costa Rica
- ⚙ Worked with Neighborhood Charter School in Boston to host middle school students.

Transportation

- ✿ Fly from Boston to San Jose, Costa Rica
 - ✿ Spend one night in hotel outside San Jose
- ✿ Bus ride towards reserve
- ✿ Boat ride to reserve
- ✿ Same transportation on way back



Where are we going?



What will we see?



What will we see?



What will we see?



What will we learn?

- ☼ Wildlife:

- ☼ Rainforest environment

- ☼ Animals & adaptations

- ☼ Biodiversity

- ☼ Experience of visiting a different culture

- ☼ Better understand impact of overconsumption

- ☼ How can I survive a week without cell phones, ipods, or television?!?!?!?

What will we do?

- ⊗ Hikes
- ⊗ Kayaking
- ⊗ Beach Time
- ⊗ Visiting Local Schools
- ⊗ Science Projects
- ⊗ Night Hikes
- ⊗ Birding
- ⊗ Hammock Time
- ⊗ Community Work
- ⊗ Playing Soccer



What will we do?

- ☼ Helping in the Kitchen
Preparing Regional
Foods
- ☼ Specimen Collection
- ☼ Collecting Wild Fruit
- ☼ Swimming in
Waterfalls
- ☼ Keeping a Journal
- ☼ Reading by the Water's
Edge
- ☼ Jewelry Making with
Rainforest Seeds
- ☼ Tasting "Jungle Foods"



Safety

- ⚙ All activities will be supervised by YA teachers.
- ⚙ Hikes and nature activities will be led by O² for Life biologists who are experts on the rainforest ecosystem.
- ⚙ Girls and boys will sleep in different rooms.
- ⚙ We will have first aid kits.
- ⚙ We will bring an international cell phone.
- ⚙ As much as possible, we plan on sending updates during our trip.
- ⚙ We will register our travel with the US State Department.

Funding

- ⊗ Initial grant of \$10,000 was declined
- ⊗ But we have managed to raise \$4,000 and expect an additional \$2,000
- ⊗ We will need to raise a lot more money, but we are confident we can do this through fundraising.
 - ⊗ We'll start right away and will continue through the entire school year, even after our trip.

How much will it cost?

- ⚙ Total cost will be about \$900 per child.
- ⚙ We ask for a family contribution of \$200 per child.
 - ⚙ Scholarships are available if you can not afford this.
 - ⚙ To help fund our scholarships for other students, please contribute more if you can.
- ⚙ Students will be required to fundraise an additional amount—up to an additional \$200 per child.
 - ⚙ We will organize this through Young Achievers.

Next Steps...

- ✿ Airline Tickets will make up more than half of our budget.
 - ✿ Before we book, we need to have confirmation of who's going.
 - ✿ Airfare will determine how much money we need to raise.

Paperwork Today

- ⊗ Basic Permission Slip

- ⊗ Commitment to going on the trip and fundraising.

Paperwork Later

- ⊗ More detailed permission slip
- ⊗ Photograph release form
- ⊗ International travel permission slip
- ⊗ Medical forms
- ⊗ Behavior contract

What we need from you...

- ⚙ Return confirmation form letting us know if you give permission for your child to attend.
 - ⚙ We need this by Monday.
- ⚙ Make sure your child has a valid US passport.
 - ⚙ Expedite application so that we will have it in time.
- ⚙ Soon, we will ask for a family contribution to help our funding.

What to expect from us...

- ⚙ Detailed itinerary
- ⚙ Contact information for both chaperones
- ⚙ Packing list
- ⚙ Fundraising information