

Passport to Outdoor Fun Transportation Grants

Take It Outside, NM! (TIONM!) is a group of organizations in southern New Mexico dedicated to engaging youth in fun outdoor experiences and interactions with the natural world.

Through a US Forest Service “More Kids in the Woods” grant, several outdoor TIONM! sites in southern New Mexico will distribute transportation funds to schools, on a first come, first serve basis for Passport to Outdoor Fun field trips.

All classrooms that participate in a Passport to Outdoor Fun field trip **AND** submit documentation of a completed classroom sharing project by Friday, May 16, 2014, will be entered into a drawing for gift certificate to buy classroom supplies.

Classroom sharing projects should:

- share the field trip experience with other students, family, or the public through an art, theater, writing, or musical activity, and,
- involve all students in the class either with individual student projects or with participation in a large classroom project.

Sharing projects *could* include the following, but if you and your kids have a better idea, go for it! Send documentation to your site contact (below) via photos, YouTube, snail mail or other appropriate method.

- Poetry flags
- Rap songs
- Skits
- Posters
- Written reflections
- Newspaper articles
- Power Point presentations
- Dioramas
- Art exhibits
- Murals

Following is a list of participating outdoor sites. Please contact the individuals listed for each site to inquire about a Passport to Outdoor Fun field trip.

- [Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park](#), Las Cruces. Check under the “Education” tab on their website for a list of available programs for your grade level (www.asombro.org). **All funds for this location have been dispersed.**
 - Contact Rink Somerday at rink@asombro.org, 575-524-3334.
- [Lincoln National Forest](#), Cloudcroft, Ruidoso, or Carlsbad areas.
 - Contact Peg Crim at pcrim@fs.fed.us, 575-434-7200.
- [Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park](#), Las Cruces.
 - Contact Jan Kirwan at janet.kirwan@state.nm.us, 575-523-4398.
- [Oliver Lee Memorial State Park](#), Alamogordo. Group size is limited to 60 individuals.
 - Contact Charles Wood at cwood@state.nm.us or Wendy Justice at wendy.justice@state.nm.us, 575-437-8284.
- [Prehistoric Trackways National Monument](#) or [Dripping Springs Natural Area](#), Las Cruces.
 - Contact McKinney Briske at mckinney_briske@blm.gov.
- [White Sands National Monument](#), Alamogordo. Visit their website to find all you need to know about bringing your students to the Monument and a fee waiver application for classes visiting the park for a curriculum-based activity. **All funds for this location have been dispersed.**
 - Contact Kathy Denton at kathy_denton@nps.gov, 575-479-6124 ext. 231.

Questions? Please contact Peg Crim at pcrim@fs.fed.us. See you outside!