



**COLORADO**

**Parks and Wildlife**

Department of Natural Resources

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Denver, CO 80216

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cpwsole.org

## 2020-2021 School Year Schools and Outdoor Learning Environments (SOLE)

Greetings!

Thank you for being part of the SOLE program this school year! Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and our funder, Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO), are proud to work with your school and community. The purpose of this letter is to outline the commitment we ask of our participating schools.

### Our Commitment to Your School

#### Colorado Parks and Wildlife Staff will:

- Meet via a phone conference with 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers and school staff to coordinate program as needed or requested.
- Fund a selection of **three** field trips for all 4<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms OR 3 virtual field trips OR a mixture of both. Depending on your school's plans we may be able to fund additional virtual programs, classroom materials, or other resources for your school.

The field trip selection typically includes:

- 1 trip to a Colorado State Park or other Colorado Parks and Wildlife property
- 1 trip to History Colorado Center or History Colorado Affiliate
- 1 trip to a SOLE partner location (listed at our website <https://www.cpwsole.org/partners>)

#### Covered field trip expenses include:

- District bus transportation fees.
  - Entry fees to field trip locations.
  - Program fees for partner-led programming.
  - Materials/associated costs with field trips.
- Fund **one in-class program** provided by SOLE partners and/or CPW staff.
  - Provide information/options on family engagement. We cannot guarantee Family Nature Nights. We are looking to provide other family programs and will keep you updated.
  - Collect success stories and program evaluation data to be publicized online, in newsletters, or other media forms.
  - **OPTIONAL:** CPW will train your P.E. Teacher in Basic Archery Instruction and provide one set of archery equipment through the Colorado Archery in the Schools Program.
  - **OPTIONAL:** Students will be invited to participate in the annual SOLE Art Contest.



## School Commitment to Colorado Parks and Wildlife

### As a participating school, your staff agrees to:

- Complete the Program Planner form which includes updating us on whether you plan to take field trips and other needs your school has. Please submit this Google form **no later than Oct. 23, 2020**.
- Schedule SOLE field trips and in-class programs with partners, telling them you are a SOLE school upon booking. If you are hoping to add on anything different from last year (e.g. turn a day trip into an overnight) you will need approval from School Programs Coordinator Erin Kendall.
- Arrange district transportation, obtain any required parental permissions, and reschedule field trips if needed. SOLE staff should be alerted if assistance is needed in scheduling a trip, or if there are program changes/cancellations.
- Respect our fiscal rules that we must follow. This means you will need to keep the School Program Coordinator (Erin Kendall) updated as to your plan and how much you plan to spend in funds for the year.
- Complete end-of-year grant survey to state how you used the funds given to your school from SOLE
- Complete end-of-year program evaluation survey
- Communicate SOLE events and display/distribute SOLE related materials to participating students and families as needed, such family program marketing materials.
- Report program status, staff turnover, and other changes/challenges to CPW staff.

CPW staff and our partners are committed to connecting the science and social studies curriculum in your classroom to outdoor learning experiences through the implementation of the SOLE program.

Please contact us with any questions or concerns. Our School Programs Coordinator can be reached at [erin.kendall@state.co.us](mailto:erin.kendall@state.co.us) or 720-618-1893. You may also reach the SOLE team at [dnr\\_cpwsole@state.co.us](mailto:dnr_cpwsole@state.co.us).