



Children's Environmental Education Programs in Florida State Parks

Holiday Greetings,

We believe environmental learning classes held outdoors has more impact on the student than those held at a desk in a building. This past year, as part of our Learning in Florida Environments (LIFE) program, we've conducted workshops around the state to bring school districts and park staff and volunteers together to organize and plan programs for school children and the next step in implementing the curriculum is obtaining equipment. It's important these kids have a real-world experience using actual scientific equipment, such as microscopes, water evaluation kits, seiche disks, dip nets, petri dishes, etc. Low tech items like ink and paper for the lesson sheets and pencils and clipboards to record the data are needed just as well.

There are 175 Florida State Parks and almost all conduct children's education programs. We anticipate there will soon be a minimum of 50,000 children who will pass through the LIFE program alone. That's a lot of needed equipment!

Working in conjunction with LIFE is our Yellow Buses in the Parks program. Many schools around the state are located in economically depressed areas and frequently neither the school district or the family can afford the bus transportation costs to and from the park. Sometimes just a hundred dollars can get an entire 4th grade class to a park.

Please consider these programs in your holiday and year end giving plans. Click the donation tab and specify either LIFE or Yellow Buses. Or, of course, you can choose any of our other programs.

100% of your tax deductible donation will go directly to the program you designate.



Sincerely,

Friends of Florida State Parks, Inc.



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