

## Vista Overnight 2011

### White Mountain Overnight - Camping at Barnes Field

Vista's overnight to Pinkham Notch in the White Mountains takes place on September 22 and 23. This is our first chance to do several important things: spend time learning from each other in small-group settings, take the opportunity to observe firsthand what we have been learning in our classes, see Mount Washington again and introduce it to the seventh graders, and challenge our bodies as we take various hikes in the Pinkham Notch area. The mountains will be our classrooms for two days.

We leave KRMS by 7:45 a.m. on Thursday morning and arrive at the US Forest Service Barnes Field at the Dolly Copp Campground around 10:00 a.m. to set up camp. Advisory groups hike on various trails in the afternoon to learn about the different flora and fauna of the Pinkham Notch area.

Each student needs to bring a lunch and appropriate snacks for Thursday. Dinner and breakfast takes place at the AMC Pinkham Notch Visitor Center. We camp in tents at Barnes Field. After breakfast on Friday, we journey across the street for a gondola ride to the top of Wildcat Mountain, do some hiking, and record our observations in our journals. We depart from Wildcat by 12:30 p.m. and return to KRMS in time for regular busses.

We have made every attempt to defray the cost of the trip. The price of the trip this year is \$60. Please make a check payable to KRMS. This includes camping fees at Barnes Field, dinner and breakfast at the AMC's Pinkham Notch headquarters, lunch on the second day, gondola ride to the top of Wildcat, and bus transportation to and from the White Mountains. If the cost for the trip presents a problem, full or partial scholarships are available please call one of the teachers on Vista as soon as possible so that arrangements for assistance can be made. No member of Vista will be left behind for financial reasons.

An equipment list is attached; it includes items essential for safe hiking in the White Mountains. In our experience, it is rarely necessary to purchase any of this equipment. In past years, students borrowed from friends, teachers, or relatives in order to outfit themselves for safe outdoor activities. If your child needs something, it is imperative that we know as soon as possible after he or she has made every attempt possible to borrow these items. Rain gear can be borrowed from the team for the entire year; your son or daughter has the sheet explaining the process. If you have extra equipment we can borrow, please indicate this on the permission slip.

It is important for you to understand that all of our Mount Washington experiences are conducted under very organized conditions. **Preparation is the key to safety.** If you have any questions regarding the safety of this or any trip, please call us immediately. We would not sponsor these activities if we were not completely comfortable with and confident about their educational merit and safety.

To ensure safety and comfort, three things are necessary: seam-sealed rain jacket and pants, a daypack, and hiking boots that cover the ankle. All three items are used throughout the year as we venture forth to make our weekly outdoor observations, hike, and conduct classes outdoors. Rain gear and hiking boots are essentials for our Spring Trip to the Presidential Range. Please sign and return the permission slip along with a check for \$60, **payable to KRMS.**

**KEEP THIS COPY AT HOME.**