



Sutter's Fort Mobile Living History - Trappers' Camp Teachers Preparation - 2017

Dear Teachers,

We request that you give your students some background in the Fur Trader Era and Sutter's Fort before they attend the Trappers' Camp to enhance their enjoyment and learning experience.

We portray the year 1846 which will allow us to talk about the political changes taking place in California including the Bear Flag Revolt and the Mexican-American War. The presenters will be in clothing appropriate to the period, and will generally act as if they are actually in 1846. At both the Colusa and Red Bluff sites, we present the students with the idea that they will be walking back in time as they move from their buses to the camp.

The Trappers' Camp at Colusa is in a public park with grass, trees and picnic tables/benches. However, the Red Bluff Camp is a more primitive site that requires a quarter mile (1/4) walk down a bumpy and dusty (or muddy) dirt road (wear appropriate shoes). During the walk, the presenter will highlight some of the natural history of the Central Valley and the 19th century uses of the plants that grow here.

Reminders for your students and chaperones:

- It is important that chaperones and children stay with their groups.
- Children should raise their hands to answer or ask questions.
- Children will be sitting on the ground on tarps during each presentation.
- Feel free to take photographs or video – you don't have to ask.

Reminders for the teachers:

- The show goes on – rain or shine. Please make sure everyone comes dressed appropriately for an outdoor presentation. In previous Octobers, we have encountered both 100^o heat and pouring rain.
- You will be greeted at or near your bus/cars. The greeter will make sure you know where to congregate before the presentation begins.
- We will have someone available to accept your final payment (if you haven't paid in advance) and provide receipts. However, this can be a little time-consuming so if you need a receipt please make sure you are a few minutes early.
- If you have to make a final payment, we accept checks and cash; checks are preferred. We cannot accept credit cards and cannot make change. Sorry.
- We will have a mini-trade store with items your students may purchase. We will let you know where the Trade Store is set up, so you can avoid it if you don't want your students to participate.
- Each child will receive a Trappers' Camp coloring book as a memento of the trip.
- You will be given an evaluation form which we hope you will fill out for us so we can continue to improve this program.



If you have any questions, contact Steve Beck at 916-323-7627 or steve.beck@parks.ca.gov before the Trappers' Camp – that is up to September 29th. During the event, from October 2nd – 14th, you may contact Steve by cell phone 916 612-7475.