

Impacts of Wilderness Inquiry Youth Day Trips

Wilderness Inquiry's Youth Day Trip program (aka "Canoemobile") is a "floating classroom" that brings students out on local waterways in 10-person canoes to learn about science, history, geography, and culture. The program travels around the country so that students from many backgrounds and communities have the chance to experience the nation's best outdoor field trip. In 2025, Wilderness Inquiry provided 388 day trip events serving 34,817 participants.

Day trips helped students broaden their outdoor perspectives



9 out of 10 students said they tried something new outside on the trip



84% said they belong more in nature since going on the field trip

"I liked the canoeing part because I had never been canoeing before and it was so much fun!"

– Youth day trip participant

Day trips provided environmental engagement opportunities for students



90% of the students are more interested in helping the environment since going on the Wilderness Inquiry day trip

"I learned about protecting wildlife and something [like] throwing your trash in the right garbage could help our ecosystem."

– Youth day trip participant

Day trips helped students build relationships with others



81% of students felt more connected to their classmates or peers since going on the Wilderness Inquiry day trip



97% of students said the Wilderness Inquiry leaders made them feel welcome

"I liked that the Wilderness Inquiry staff made me feel welcome. They were polite and funny. They were very kind and I would love to go again."

– Youth day trip participant

