



## Appropriate Interactions

We are extremely concerned that each student attending Great Basin Outdoor School feel well cared for, safe and secure. We are also concerned about you and your need to be sensitive to actions that could be misinterpreted by students. For this reason you are asked to read and be aware of the following behaviors considered appropriate when interacting with children.

- Generally a child's upper back and upper arm are acceptable areas for an encouraging touch. The area covered by a bathing suit is a good reference for what is accepted as a "do not touch" zone.
- We use a "buddy system" to ensure that an adult is never alone with a child. There should always be either two children with an adult or two adults with a child minimum.
- Intentional and unintentional "meanness" toward students such as critical, sarcastic or cutting remarks is never appropriate.
- Any action or remark, intentional or unintentional, which could cause a student to feel embarrassed, fearful, or insecure is not appropriate. This includes showering and nudity when students are in the cabin.
- Any display, physical or verbal, that is sexual in nature is unacceptable.
- Offering, allowing or encouraging in any way the use of inappropriate pictures, magazines, books, or paraphernalia is unacceptable.
- Participating in, encouraging or allowing inappropriate discussions or acts, particularly of a sexual or sexist nature is unacceptable.

We, as staff, are expected to protect the children in our care, therefore, it is imperative that you refrain from any potentially abusive acts – remember, use your intuition! We also ask that you be aware to the possibility of abusive situations going on around you. Your help in preventing and dealing with this sensitive issue promptly allows students to feel safe and secure. If you have any questions at any time, or have concerns or doubts on how to handle a situation, ask the Program Facilitator or Program Director immediately.

I have read the preceding and understand its content and will refrain from any act that could be considered inappropriate.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if under 18): \_\_\_\_\_