



**KEYSTONE  
SCIENCE SCHOOL**

# INFORMATION PACKET

For Parents & Students

Keystone Science School  
1053 Soda Ridge Rd.  
Keystone, CO 80435

(970)468-2098  
[Support@KeystoneScienceSchool.org](mailto:Support@KeystoneScienceSchool.org)



## INFORMATION PACKET CONTENTS

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**SINCE 1976**



## BACKGROUND

Since 1976, Keystone Science School (KSS) has taught scientific principles and leadership skills to young people, teachers, and community members through engaging hands-on field experiences. KSS was founded on the belief that leaders should approach decision-making with a healthy respect for scientific inquiry, collaboration, and civic engagement. Our programs prepare future leaders to address the complex issues our society faces.

Located at 9,200 feet on the site of Old Keystone Village in Keystone, Colorado, our historic 23-acre campus serves as the ultimate outdoor laboratory and is the home base for our diverse suite of programs. Our facilities include modern log-style dormitories, a central dining hall, an outdoor amphitheater, and a state-of-the-art observatory.

## OUR MISSION

With the outdoors as a backdrop for learning, Keystone Science School inspires curiosity and critical thinking through the lens of science to change lives and strengthen communities.



## DID YOU KNOW WE OFFER OTHER PROGRAMS?



### GIRLS IN STEM

**4 weekend Programs a year for Girls and non-binary students in 4th-8th grade.**

We believe in empowering girls by engaging them in hands-on, real-world activities to show STEM is relevant and fun in an ever-changing world. Female STEM professionals support each program and student by giving them guidance to navigate a male-dominated workforce.



### SUMMER PROGRAMS

**Day Camp, Pathfinders, Overnight Camp, and Adventures**

KSS Camp programs blend hands-on science with outdoor, experiential education to create the best summer camp experience. Our programs follow a progression that ensures that campers can return each year for a fresh, exciting experience with new things to learn.



### H2O OUTDOORS

**High school students in Colorado**

3-day program teaching high school students about the many uses of water and the policy which surrounds how Colorado's water is managed. Throughout the program students will be learning about careers within water management, conducting field-based research, and visiting several key locations.



### RETREATS & RENTALS

**Lodging, Meals, and Meeting Space**

KSS is a great location for your next retreat, meeting, or small conference. Our campus is situated in the Rocky Mountains with easy access to a variety of outdoor activities within Summit County. We are a short distance from I-70 and Denver International Airport is only 1.5 hours away.



We look forward to your student's visit to Keystone Science School! This information packet provides key details about your student's experience at Keystone Science School. Your student's teacher will be an excellent resource for this trip, as we have been in communication with them to plan the curriculum and logistics for their arrival. If questions remain unanswered, we are happy to talk with you directly to alleviate any concerns about sending your student to Keystone Science School.

## DORM-BASED PROGRAM

Students will stay in one of our log-style dormitories, featuring bunk beds, restrooms with showers, and a community space. There are two dormitories and both dorms are located in the center of campus. Each room sleeps four to five students and there are eight rooms in each dorm. Chaperones stay in a room with bunk-beds off of the community space.

## CAMPING-BASED PROGRAM

Depending on the location, students will either sleep in 4 person tents under the amazing Colorado sky or in rustic cabins (State Forest State Park location only). Each campsite has a short walk to bathroom facilities. Keystone Science School provides tents, kitchen gear, and sun/rain shelters.

## WHAT WILL YOUR CHILD DO DURING THEIR KSS TRIP?

Each Keystone Science School program is specifically designed to meet the goals provided by your child's classroom teacher. All programs include elements of team building, leadership, and an environmental science topic.

Throughout the day students will be in small groups of up to 13 students as they hike, snowshoe, or cross-country ski. In the evening students will do a large group activity with all their classmates.

## SAMPLE SCHEDULE

### Day 1

12:00pm: Arrival, Lunch & Orientations  
1:30pm: Field group activities  
4:00pm: All group activities  
5:00pm: Free time  
6:00pm: Dinner time  
7:00pm: Free time  
7:30pm: Evening programming  
8:30pm: To the dorms for bedtime\*

### Day 2

8:00am: Breakfast  
9:00am: Prep for the day  
9:30am: Field group activities  
10:30am: Off-campus field day  
3:30pm: Arrive back to KSS  
4:00pm: Activities  
5:00pm: Free time  
6:00pm: Dinner  
7:30pm: Evening programming  
8:30pm: To the dorms for bedtime\*

### Day 3

7:00am: Pack up and clean up dorms  
8:00am: Breakfast  
9:00am: Culminating group activities  
11:00am: Program wrap-up  
11:45am: Load buses for departure  
12:00pm: Departure -  
see you next time!

\*Bedtime might be earlier for younger students.



## STUDENT CONDUCT

KSS staff, teachers, and school chaperones will work together during the KSS program to communicate with students about behavior expectations and to address inappropriate behavior, as needed. If a student behaves in any way that is considered by KSS staff, teachers, or school chaperones to be detrimental to the quality and best interest of the program or other students, KSS reserves the right to dismiss that student from the program. If a child is dismissed from the program, parents or guardians of the child will be contacted by the lead teacher from the school and asked to pick up their child from the KSS program.

## STUDENT MEDICAL/LIABILITY FORM

Since 1976, Keystone Science School has provided the highest quality, dynamic outdoor learning experiences for students. We need information from parents to provide the best experience possible for your children. You will receive a link to an electronic general liability and medical waiver from your school. Please fill out the form completely.

**! Students who have not submitted a completed and signed general liability and medical waiver will not be permitted to attend the program with Keystone Science School.**

## RISK MANAGEMENT & STUDENT COMMUNICATION

All KSS school program instructors hold current wilderness medicine certifications and are trained in current risk management practices. In the event of an incident or medical emergency, students are initially treated by KSS program instructors. If professional medical attention is required, the KSS staff in conjunction with the lead teacher and the school's designated medical administrator will arrange transportation for the student(s) to the nearest medical clinic. The school's teachers or chaperones will notify parents of the ill or injured student as soon as the situation allows.

We understand that emergencies happen. If a parent/guardian needs to contact their child for an emergency, first please contact your school's lead teacher. If you can not get a hold of them you may call the Keystone Science School main office at (970) 468-2098. If it is after hours you will receive instructions for how to contact our night time emergency phone number. Please note that the lead teacher will be the one you will need to communicate with even if you call the KSS phone number.

## STUDENT MEDICATIONS

KSS staff are not permitted to administer student medications except in life threatening situations. Teachers and school chaperones from the students' school are required to follow their school's policies regarding handling and dispensing student medications. KSS will provide a secure location for medications to be stored. **If your student has food allergies or special medical or physical concerns, please describe these conditions thoroughly on the Student Medical Form.**

# FOOD, FOOD ALLERGIES, & DIETARY RESTRICTIONS

We play hard at Keystone Science School and we know fueling our participants is the most important thing we can do to keep them healthy, happy, and energetic!

Students will eat breakfast and dinner in our dining hall prepared by our KSS kitchen staff, and they will pack lunches and snacks for the day in the mornings. ALL students should bring a sack lunch for their first day. All other meals are provided.

**KSS is a nut-aware campus. Please send your student's food free of any nut products. This includes peanut or almond butter, trail mix, and granola bars with nuts.**

Meals and snacks are nutritious and prepared to manage common food allergies (nuts/tree nuts/dairy/gluten/etc.) Please note any food allergies or dietary restrictions in the General Liability and Medical Waiver. If you would like to speak with someone at the Keystone Science School about your student's specific food needs, please contact us directly at (970) 468-2098 or email [Support@KeystoneScienceSchool.org](mailto:Support@KeystoneScienceSchool.org).

To prevent rodents we don't allow any food or snacks in the dorms. If any student brings food for the trip it will need to be stored in a designated space in the dining hall.

## SAMPLE MENU

<b>Day 1</b> <b>LUNCH</b> Bring Your Own Lunch  <b>DINNER</b> Pasta, Sauce/s, Garlic Bread, Meat Balls, Vegetarian Meat Substitute, salad bar	<b>Day 2</b> <b>BREAKFAST</b> Eggs, Bacon, Hash Browns, and Breakfast Bar – Yogurt, Cereal, Fruit, Milk, Juice  <b>LUNCH</b> Sack Lunch – Sandwich, 2-3 Snacks, and Fruit  <b>AFTERNOON SNACK</b> Sliced Apples & Goldfish  <b>DINNER</b> Chicken & Veggie fajitas, white rice, black black beans, salad bar	<b>Day 3</b> <b>BREAKFAST</b> Pancakes, Sausage (meat and veggie options), and Breakfast Bar – Yogurt, Cereal, Fruit, Milk, Juice  <b>AFTERNOON SNACK</b> Sliced Oranges & Gardettos  <b>LUNCH</b> Sack Lunch – Sandwich, 2-3 Snacks, and Fruit
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★ The amount of clothing is representative of a typical 3-day stay and should be adjusted for longer or shorter trips.

Mountain weather can be unpredictable, we recommend students bring multiple layers to comfortably adjust to the changing conditions. When selecting clothing, we suggest packing synthetic and non-cotton items. Below you will find a recommended packing list consisting of items required to stay safe and warm during the trip with KSS.

**Please note:** Instructors will work with the students to ensure they are outfitted properly for mountain conditions. If students do not own the listed equipment, we will lend students items from our gear shed to ensure their comfort and safety during their visit.

## HOW MANY BAGS SHOULD BE PACKED?

- Overnight Bag** We recommend packing your student's gear, including their sleeping bag and pillow, in one duffel bag or an over the shoulder bag. Students will have to carry their gear from the bus to the dorm.
- Day Pack** Backpack with two arm straps, large enough to carry extra layers, lunch, and two water bottles.
- Lunch** Please pack a lunch for your student on the first day, preferably in a reusable lunch bag that fits in their day pack. **NO Nuts, as we are a nut free campus!**

### DAY PACK

- 2 Water bottles
- Sunscreen SPF 15 or higher
- Lip Balm (SPF preferred)
- Sunglasses
- Pencil or Pen

### OPTIONAL

- Money for school store
- Reusable lunch bag
- Bandanna
- Camp shoes
- Camera with extra batteries
- Binoculars
- Book

### OVERNIGHT BAG

- Sleeping Bag & Pillow
- Clothing (see clothing list)
- Towel and Washcloth
- Headlamp or flashlight
- Toothbrush / Toothpaste
- Shampoo / Soap
- Brush or Comb
- Other items as needed

#### Please DO NOT bring:

- Nuts
- Phones
- Pocket knives
- Weapons
- Your nicest clothes

## ! WRITE STUDENT'S NAME ON EVERYTHING

### CLOTHING

#### TOP

- 2 T-shirts
- 1 Long-sleeve shirt
- 1 Long underwear/thermal top
- 1-2 Synthetic fleece jackets or wool sweaters
- 1 WATERPROOF rain jacket or poncho
- 1 INSULATED winter jacket (Oct-May)

#### BOTTOM

- 3 Underwear
- 1 Long underwear/thermal bottom
- 1 Jeans or long pants
- 1 Quick-drying rain pants (FALL/SPRING) (optional)
- 1 INSULATED snow pants (Oct-May)

#### FEET

- Tennis shoes / Walking shoes
- Optional: Hiking boots (preferably waterproof)
- Snow boots (Oct-May)
- Winter socks (non-cotton)

#### HEAD AND HANDS

- 1 Warm hat
- 1 Hat with a brim (sun hat)
- 1 Pair gloves or mittens (warm and water resistant)
- 1 Scarf or neck warmer (optional)



We are dedicated to empowering young girls through active participation in real-world, hands-on activities that demonstrate the relevance and enjoyment of STEM in our constantly evolving world. Each program is bolstered by the guidance of female STEM professionals who provide support and assistance to students, helping them navigate through a predominantly male workforce. This initiative welcomes all female students currently in 4th–8th grade, offering engaging programs such as Snow & Avalanche Science, Medical Explorers, Film Fest, and Water in the West.

**Scan the qr code to learn more!**

*Free transportation from Silverthorne Elementary and  
Dillon Valley Elementary!*

**Offered on a sliding-fee scale**





## DISCOVERY CAMP

**1st-8th Grade**

Experience a traditional sleepaway camp or day camp in the Rocky Mountains of Keystone, Colorado mixing Science, Adventure, FUN!



## DAY CAMP

**K-6th Grade**

Offered in week-long sessions, our KSS campus day camp utilizes our 23-acre campus and surrounding areas to instill an appreciation for nature and the outdoors.



## PATHFINDERS

**1st-8th Grade**

Experience a traditional sleepaway camp or day camp in the Rocky Mountains of Keystone, Colorado mixing Science, Adventure, FUN!



## ADVENTURES

**1st-8th Grade**

Experience a traditional sleepaway camp or day camp in the Rocky Mountains of Keystone, Colorado mixing Science, Adventure, FUN!

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Through generous donations made by individual donors, corporations, and foundations we are able to offer financial aid to those who qualify.

**LEARN MORE  
& REGISTER**

