



Dear Prospective Chaperone,

Field trips to the Environmental Learning Center (ELC) are a high point in the school year for third grade students. Students will join our ELC Educators on an exploration of our mangrove-island campus. They will learn about nature by exploring the Indian River Lagoon ecosystem. Hands-on learning is emphasized, and activities take place outside. The goal is to provide a positive, outdoor experience that promotes awareness about the Indian River Lagoon and inspires students to be an environmental steward.

Chaperones play a vital role during ELC field excursions. Your role is to promote a safe, successful learning experience and to help where needed. The responsibilities:

- Be enthusiastic for all activities!
- Serve as a role model. We need your participation and assistance throughout the trip.
- Supervise children at all times, including bathroom and lunch breaks.
- Participate in all activities, including wading into our pond for scientific collection. You will get wet and dirty - but that's the most fun anyway!
- Dress appropriately including closed-toe and closed-heel shoes that can get wet.
- Keep class together.
- Help teachers and ELC representatives by unloading and transporting lunches.
- Keep cellphone distractions at bay - silence or turn off phone.
- Only bring students enrolled in class, no siblings or other family members allowed.
- Ensure the ELC campus remains smoke-free, no cigarettes or vaping allowed.
- Serve as an authority for behavior and respect, and help children follow rules:
 - Have FUN!
 - Be a helpful teammate
 - Make respectful choices, especially for animals and plants at the ELC
 - Listen and follow directions
 - Keep your shoes on ALWAYS!
 - Be aware of fire ants and splinters!
 - Have FUN!

Should you decide to accept this important position, please notify your child's teacher. Thank you for your help in this wonderful learning adventure! We encourage you to come back to the ELC with your child and allow them to be your nature guide! There are lots of great opportunities for you and your family to connect in nature! Head to Discoverelc.org to learn more.

Sincerely,
The ELC Education Team