



November 2018

Dear Prospective Chaperone,

The field excursion to the Environmental Learning Center (ELC) is a high point in the school year for third grade students. They learn about nature by exploring the Indian River Lagoon ecosystem. Activities take place at our dock, in our fresh water pond, and along our mangrove boardwalk. Hands-on learning is emphasized. The goal of the field excursion is to provide a positive, outdoor experience that promotes awareness and inspires interest in learning about the world around us. The excursion will also leave a lasting impression of good environmental ethics and stewardship.

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 full attention throughout the excursion.
- Supervise all children at all times. Should a child need to use the restroom, outside of scheduled breaks, an adult must accompany student.
- **Participate in all activities, including wading into the pond to help with collections. You will get wet and dirty. Dress accordingly and wear closed-toed shoes. Water shoes, sandals, and Crocs are off limits.**
- Serve as authority for behavior and respect, help children follow rules:
 - Have fun.
 - Make respectful choices.
 - Listen and follow directions.
 - Keep your shoes on. Always!
 - Watch for fire ants and splinters.
 - Have fun☺
- Keep students together, and close enough to hear the Naturalist.
- Turn cell phone to vibrate or turn off.
- Help ELC volunteers transport lunches off bus to our picnic area and in other aspects as needed.
- Do not bring children **not enrolled in the class**.
- ELC is a non-smoking campus.

Should you decide to accept this important position, please notify your child's teacher.

Sincerely,

The ELC Education Team