

Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program Classroom Visit Expectations

What you can expect from us:

Teachers should expect BEMP staff to be respectful of them, their students and their classroom/ classroom culture. BEMP Staff are both scientists and educators, and we pride ourselves on doing both with rigor, enthusiasm, and compassion. We will teach your students about the bosque ecosystem through place-based, hands-on, engaging curriculum. We will communicate with each teacher ahead of the classroom visit(s) to discuss classroom configuration, number of students in the class(es), other materials on hand, etc. BEMP Educators will bring enough hand-outs and materials for each student. We



usually do not have technology needs for presentations, but often a section of a whiteboard is helpful when explaining new concepts. BEMP staff will try to learn names of students, but if you have name tags or desk name-cards, these can help the BEMP educator build rapport with students even more quickly. Teachers are also encouraged to share with BEMP staff effective strategies for working with their student group. For example, if you have a unique way to get your class's attention, please let the BEMP Educator know, so we can use familiar language or signals with your students.

What we expect from you:

BEMP staff and educators have high expectations of respect for all members of the classroom, for guests, for the bosque, and for the equipment used on field trips and during presentations. We would love to know what your classroom norms and culture look like before we arrive. Please help us seamlessly integrate with your class by sharing this information in an email with the Education Coordinator. We ask for your support in ensuring students are acting appropriately, paying attention to lessons and protocols, and following instructions provided by BEMP staff. We see the classroom visits as an enriching educational opportunity, not a recess and we hope you will help frame it as such for your students.

We are excited about coming to your classroom, but are also looking to you, as the teacher, to keep students on task and focused throughout the duration of the classroom visit. Please do not disengage completely or leave the classroom during BEMP presentations and activities. This sends a signal to students that they do not need to uphold classroom norms during a guest speaker visit. Should any behavior problems arise, we expect you to oversee student discipline and take whatever measures you feel necessary to resolve the situation. Our staff will continue to lead the rest of the students in whatever activities are taking place while you handle the situation.



We also ask that you inform classroom aids, other support teachers, etc. of these expectations.