

# STOKES



**THE PLACE:** The place, Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp, which is in the heart of Sussex County's Stokes State Forest, provides a learning environment for our outdoor classroom. The facilities include sleeping cabins for all students, parents and staff, a well equipped and modern kitchen, a rustic dining hall with two great fireplaces, a pavilion perfect for square dancing, a craft shop, an infirmary, lavatory and shower facilities and finally, plenty of canoes. This is our "school" for four days.

**THE STAFF:** The staff is really what makes Stokes unique among all the environmental education programs we know of. Most of our staff are parents who, in close cooperation with the 6<sup>th</sup> grade professional staff, volunteer to serve the program as cabin leaders, cooks, recreation leaders, instructors, transportation coordinators, camp nurses, and more.



Stokes is a  
program made  
possible through  
the cooperative  
efforts of our  
school and  
community!

**THE PROGRAM:** The program provides students with 18 hours of instruction in such activities as pond studies, geo-caching, archery, mountain climbing, survival skills, arts and crafts and more during their four day stay at camp. Students attend classes in small groups. Each class is conducted by at least two instructors, thus ensuring the best possible opportunities for learning.

**THE COST:** The cost of Stokes is shared by the Board of Education and parents. The cost includes housing, food and transportation.





**THE KITCHEN:** Much of the success or failure of a resident program depends on the operation of the kitchen and dining hall. While students serve in the dining hall as “cruisers” to set tables, bring food to their tables, and to clean up after each meal, this area is really in the hands of a group of parents who prepare all the food, and they do it with great spirit and camaraderie. Always a fun time!

**THE PLANNING:** The planning is a cooperative effort between school staff members and parents. The process begins several months in advance to consider every detail of the program including instruction, schedules, food service, special programs, health services, transportation, staffing, equipment and materials, training of volunteers, and of course, costs.

**RECREATION AND EVENING PROGRAMS:** All is not work however. After classes are over for the day, recreational canoeing, swimming and sports activities fill the hour before dinner. In the evenings, activities include a presentation by an extraordinary ornithologist, the great fun of a “skit night” where everybody gets in the act and a camp dance where everyone lets loose and has some fun! Who has more fun? Students, or teachers and parents-it’s hard to say.



Interested in joining the  
camp staff this spring?  
Please complete the  
volunteer form or  
contact  
Andy Dougherty or  
Aimee Langa.

