



Dear Parent Chaperones,

Thank you for volunteering as chaperone at the upcoming field trip to the San Elijo Lagoon. The best way you can support the students is through genuine curiosity, engagement, and enthusiasm. We ask you to simply do what the students are doing, and do it enthusiastically.

The responsibilities of the chaperone include but are not limited to:

- Ensuring students follow the safety rules discussed by your walk leader.
- Helping keep students on the trail and with their group.
- Following behind the group to ensure students stay in front of you and behind the walk leader.
- If a student needs to use the restroom, please take him quietly without announcing to the group.
- If you notice students talking when they should be listening, try standing next to them, or putting a hand on their shoulder.
- If students ask you a question, it's usually best to not answer it (at least not right away) but to ask questions so they observe, think, and figure things out themselves.

Questions to support exploration

- What do you notice?
- What do you wonder about it?
- What does it remind you of?
- How might you explain that?

Follow-up questions

- Say more about that...
- What's your evidence for that?
- What do you think about?
- What else do you know about this?

Things to keep in mind...

- Please only take photos when approved by your walk leader.
- Please keep your cell phone on silent and put away. If you need to answer your phone, please step away from the group.
- We ask that you please not bring guests, siblings, or pets on the field trip. The field trip is designed to follow the class curriculum and we do not want to distract from the learning experience. We encourage you to attend the wide variety of free public programs the conservancy offers throughout the year. Ask your walk leader for details, or follow this link to view our calendar of events: <http://sanelijo.org>.

Thank you for taking the time to review the chaperone duties and for volunteering on this field trip. Your participation will ensure the students have a positive field trip experience.

Sincerely,
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