

## Meet the Mississippi- Day Trips

Single day trips on the Mississippi River introduce students to the ecology and history of the river. The focus of these trips is to encourage exploration of the environment, both natural and man-made and encourage students to draw conclusions from their observations.



Trips on the river are always different depending on the weather, time of year and water level but a typical day would follow this basic schedule.

8 am- Meet at boat ramp

8-8:30- Safety talk, introduction

8:30-9:30- Paddle to an island or secluded beach

9:30-11- Short lessons and exploration of the island (list of possible lessons below)

11-12 Swimming or hiking and lunch

12-1- Paddle back to the boat ramp

1- Leave boat ramp

Possible lessons: These are a list of some of our common lessons, we can easily adapt each to different grade levels. We are also able to create different lessons to meet your group's needs.

-Explore your watershed

-Nature Journaling

-Water quality testing

-History of transportation on the river

\*These lessons are part of our [River of Words Curriculum](#). Teachers are encouraged to use the lessons from this curriculum in their classes before and after the trip.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Is canoeing on the Mississippi River safe?**

Yes. All participants wear life jackets at all times and each boat carries safety equipment. We work with guides from Quapaw Canoe Company, who has been doing guided canoe trips on the Mississippi River for over 20 years. All guides are highly trained.

**What do we do in the event of bad weather?** Generally, we do not cancel unless there is severe weather. We encourage groups to come prepared for rain, cold or hot weather depending on the time of year. We carry extra rain jackets, hats etc but encourage you to bring your own. If there is severe rain or wind we will contact you to reschedule your trip.

**What should we bring?** We will send a complete list when you book your trip. We will provide all the necessary canoeing equipment, you should bring food, water, and personal items to protect you from the weather.

### **What age groups can come on the trip?**

Any age! We have life jackets for all sizes and lessons can be adapted for any age group.

### **How should I prepare my group for the trip?**

When you contact LMRF we will provide you with pre and post trip resources. Our educators are happy to work with your group to determine how the trip fits in with your curriculum or goals. We can also schedule an in-class visit by an educator prior to your trip.

**Contact Lower Mississippi River Foundation for more information**

**Shannon McMulkin- Program Director**

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