



The Outdoor Explorers Mentoring Program was formed in December 2010. A grassroots, volunteer effort with the intent of ensuring the kids in our area learn about and experience the beautiful, natural places Montana has to offer.

This program was created through mutual goals of various community organizations including: the Gallatin National Forest; Big Brothers Big Sisters of Gallatin County; Montana Wilderness Association; and Montana State University Wilderness Association and the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center.

Together, we can foster strong ties among our communities and the natural world surrounding them.

Program Partners



Other Supporting Partners:

REI Bozeman, Karst Stage,
Lee & Dad's Grocery, Montana Troutfitters



**OUTDOOR
EXPLORERS**
mentoring program



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Outdoor Trip Details

- All trips planned and led by Big Brothers Big Sisters Staff, Montana State University Wilderness Association members and a Gallatin National Forest representative.
- One new trip per month, in/around Gallatin Valley.
- Trips will focus on outdoor skill learning (i.e., snowshoeing, backpacking, climbing, etc.), land stewardship ethics, and informal learning about the natural world.
- Evaluations will be conducted to measure changes in attitudes and behaviors regarding the natural world among children and university students.

BLOG: bozemanoutdoorexplorers.wordpress.com/

Logistics:

Montana State University students and Montana Wilderness Association Intern are responsible for planning and leading outdoor trips for existing Big Brothers Big Sisters matches (Bigs and Littles) in/around the Gallatin Valley of Montana with support from numerous federal and local partners. All current Big Brothers Big Sisters matches have the opportunity to participate in these outdoor trips.

Goals:

- Improve awareness and sense of stewardship for public lands
- Teach transferable outdoor habits and skills through meaningful experiences
- Provide stepping stones for higher education and careers in natural resources
- Enhance knowledge and leadership growth among university students, increasing competitiveness for careers in natural resources
- Enrich relationships among generations, forming lasting networks of community
- Complete short-term restoration work, improving health and fitness of all participants

And most importantly— have fun!

Cost:

All outdoor trips are free of charge to Big Brothers Big Sisters matches.

Future Trip Ideas:

Cross country skiing at Bohart Ranch, Snowshoeing and forest service cabin exploration, Animal tracking with Montana Wilderness Association, Buffalo Jump State Park, Biking up at Hyalite, Fly fishing, Headwaters State Park with Lewis & Clark adventure stations, Madison River float, Yellowstone trip, Raptor exploration, Hunting /Archery trip, Night skies, Ice skating, Wild life crafts, Bird watching, Trail maintenance and conservation

Contact Information:

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"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children." - Haida Indian Saying