

YOUTH PROGRAMS

2023 Impact and Evaluation



Through immersive, multi-day outdoor experiences, Wilderness Inquiry's youth programs engage young people to build positive relationships, connect to nature and community, and thrive outside.

Social-Emotional Learning and Outcomes

In 2023, youth in Wilderness Inquiry's multi-day camping adventures and Outdoor Credit Recovery program reported experiencing positive connections and increased social-emotional learning (SEL) outcomes. Youth with strong SEL skills are more college- and career-ready, experience better mental health and social functioning, and report a greater sense of overall well-being. **Gains in SEL set youth on a journey to understand and cultivate their interests and talents in many aspects of life — laying a foundation for long-term success.**

100% of students surveyed* made statistically significant gains in one or more **Core SEL areas**

- *Self-Management*
- *Contribution*
- *Positive Identity*
- *Academic Self-Efficacy*
- *Social Skills*

97% of students surveyed* made statistically significant gains in one or more **Outdoor SEL areas**

- *Well-Being in the Outdoors*
- *Connections to the Outdoors*
- *Support for the Environment*

“**I don't think I have ever met with another organization that had 80% and above on all three Outdoor SEL capacities."**

— MARY WALLACE,
HELLO INSIGHT

Thriving Outdoors with Wilderness Inquiry

- Wilderness Inquiry programs scored in the **90th percentile nationally** compared to peer organizations
- Wilderness Inquiry youth participants reported **93% overall program satisfaction**

*Survey sample size = 33 multi-day camping participants and 28 Outdoor Credit Recovery participants. Response rates among youth who were surveyed was 18% for multi-day camping adventures and 100% for Outdoor Credit Recovery.



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