



Chaperone Tips

A group visit to the W.K. Kellogg Bird Sanctuary would not be possible without chaperones being an integral part of field trips and outdoor science programs! We're so grateful for your support.

How to participate

- **Be curious, engaged, & enthusiastic**
 - We're here to help students become engaged and curious about nature, science, their own ideas, and the ideas of others. You are role models, and students will notice what you do.
- **Interact with students**
 - Hang out with the students instead of adults. You might start by approaching a student who is lagging as we're hiking and engaging them by asking them questions.
- **Help refocus and support students**
 - We're here to support every student in the group, and different students need different kinds of support. Noticing how students are showing up can help us figure out how to support them.
- **Figure things out with students**
 - Our goals are for students to explore nature, notice things, become curious, come up with questions, figure things out, and discuss ideas.
- **Ask questions of students**
 - Focus more on the kinds of questions that could lead students to have a variety of responses, such as "What do you notice?" instead of questions that have one answer, like "What is it?"
- **Explore with students**
 - Be a co-explorer with students, figuring things out with them and participating mindfully in discussions.

Wrapping up. So, in general, please be curious, engaged, and enthusiastic. Interact with students and help refocus or support them in engaging in learning experiences. Be a co-explorer with students, figuring things out with them and participating mindfully in discussions. Thanks so much for helping us create the best experience for our student visitors!



A few rules for everyone's safety:

Always be safety conscious. You are responsible for monitoring your group's activities.

- Please **stay home if you are feeling sick** or showing signs of illness.
- **Please silence your cell phones** to ensure that you can devote your full attention to the important responsibilities of chaperoning and **restrict cell phone use to emergencies only**.
- **Properly dispose of trash and recycling:** We encourage groups to recycle. Trash and comingled recycling dumpsters are located in the picnic area and parking lot. (Recyclables include paper/cardboard, glass, plastic, and metal.)
- **Always be in a group of three** and not alone with a student.
- **No gum:** If it ends up on the ground or in the water it is a safety hazard for the birds

Michigan State University regulations prohibit:

- Possession or use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, fireworks, guns, and other weapons
- Violence of any kind
- Sexual harassment, sexual abuse, and other sexually inappropriate behavior
- Harassment in violation of the University Anti-Discrimination Policy
- Hazing and bullying (physical, verbal, or cyber-bullying)
- Misuse or damage of University property. Participants may be financially responsible for damage or misuse of University property.
- Use of cameras and other digital recording devices in showers, restrooms, locker rooms, and other areas where privacy is expected by participants.

Questions? Please email birdsanctuary@kbs.msu.edu or call the Sanctuary at (269) 671-2510.

Learn more about the W.K. Kellogg Bird Sanctuary by visiting birdsanctuary.kbs.msu.edu and find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

We hope you enjoy your field trip experience!