

YMCA Camp Grady Spruce Outdoor Education Program STAAR Assessment Journal Questions

Here are some ideas on how to craft an Outdoor Education Trail Journal question pertaining to individual TEKS that will be covered during your school's Camp Grady Spruce Outdoor Education Program.

1. Mathematics Assessment 5.11A – *Solve problems involving changes in temperature;*

Science Assessment 5.6A – *Explore the uses of energy, including mechanical, light, thermal, electrical and sound energy*

Measure and record the temperature of the water in the black roof water collection tank and the temperature of the water in the blue roof water collection tank. What is the difference in temperature between the two tanks? What is the cause of this difference in temperature?
(Man and the Environment)

2. Mathematics Assessment 5.3B – *Use multiplication to solve problems involving whole numbers*

Calculate your team's total score in archery, where each arrow that hits the white=1 point, black=2 points, blue=3 points, red=4 points, and yellow=5 points.
(Archery)

3. Mathematics Assessment 5.15A – *Explain and record observations using objects, words, pictures, numbers, and technology*

Mathematics Assessment 5.13 B – *Describe characteristics of data presented in tables and graphs including median, mode, and range;*

Science Assessment 5.4A – *Collect, record, and analyze information using tools...*

Record the data you collect at each Lake Ecology station and complete the chart below.

Station	Results (find mean if measured more than once)	How will results impact life in the lake?
pH		
Water Temperature		
Air Temperature		
Secchi Disk		
Dissolved Oxygen		

After analyzing your data, do you conclude that the lake is a healthy environment for plants and animals? Why or why not?
(Lake Ecology)

4. Reading Assessment 3A – *Compare and contrast the themes or moral lessons of several works of fiction from various cultures;*

Reading Assessment 3B – *Describe the phenomena explained in origin myths from various cultures*

What phenomenon was explained in the legend of Hell's Gate? What moral lesson do you take away from this legend? How does it compare to the moral lesson of the legend of Possum Kingdom?

(Devil's Island)

5. Reading Assessment 4A – *Analyze how poets use sound effects (e.g., alliteration, internal rhyme, onomatopoeia, rhyme scheme) to reinforce meaning in poems*

The Prairie provides many forms of inspiration and personal reflection time. We will take a moment to reflect by using a form of verse known as Alliteration. In alliterations, an initial sound, usually a consonant, is repeated in a series of words. Ex: Five flickering fireflies flew fast.

Create three alliterations of your own.

(Prairie Restoration)

6. Science Assessment 5.5D – *Identify changes that occur in the physical properties of the ingredients of solutions such as dissolving salt in water or adding lemon juice to water*

Describe the reaction that occurred between the limestone and the vinegar. Did the results of this experiment prove or disprove the theory that the limestone on Johnson's Peak contains Calcium? Why?

(Johnson's Peak)

7. Science Assessment 5.7B – *Recognize how landforms such as deltas, canyons, and sand dunes are the result of changes to Earth's surface by wind, water, and ice*

What forces in nature cause the fissures we find on Johnson's Peak? What are some effects of these forces on a larger scale?

(Johnson's Peak)

8. Science Assessment 5.7D – *Identify fossils as evidence of past living organisms and the nature of the environments at the time using models*

Draw and label one of the fossils you found at the Fossil Pit. What do these fossils tell you about what this environment was like millions of years ago?

(Johnson's Peak)

9. Science Assessment 5.9B – *Describe how the flow of energy derived from the Sun, used by producers to create their own food, is transferred through a food chain and food web to consumers and decomposers*

Using a producer, consumers (herbivore and carnivore), and decomposer that can be found at camp, draw and label a food chain in the space below.
(Man and the Environment)

10. Science Assessment 5.10A – *Compare the structures and functions of different species that help them live and survive such as hooves on prairie animals or webbed feet in aquatic animals*

Using your observations and what you have learned about cacti, what adaptations do cacti have that allow them to survive the Texas heat?
(Johnson's Peak)

For more ideas or help customizing your school's Outdoor Education Trail Journals, contact David Touchon, YMCA Camp Grady Spruce Outdoor Education Director.