What is Snowschool?

Snowschool is a national program run by the Winter Wildlands Alliance with 45 independent sites across the nation. As the national flagship site, Snowschool at Bogus Basin has been running at the Nordic Lodge since 2005. Developed as a winter education program, Snowschool accommodates up to forty-five 4th-6th grade students. Split into groups of no more than 10 students, volunteers guide students on snowshoe hikes and facilitate winter ecology and snow science activities.

Guiding Principles

Snowschool’s curriculum and goals are based off of 5 guiding principles

1. Encourage active lifestyles through exciting outdoor recreation
2. Inspire an appreciation for nature through direct experience
3. Provide relevant and engaging hands-on science education for local students
4. Serve all youth, especially underserved populations
5. Build community by connecting youth with local adult role models

*pictures from IdahoStatesmen.com

Experience

Lesson Planning/Time Management

- For each field trip group leaders were to incorporate the essential 3 activities within their lesson plan. Also had to plan a snowshoe hike before and after lunch.

Education

- Group leaders were responsible for groups with 5-10 children, including chaperons. Leaders had to be conscious of teaching on the trails and making sure all children were involved

Public Speaking

- Towards the end of the season I had the opportunity to give the introduction speech to groups up to 50 children and adults

Igloo Building

- I had the opportunity to build an igloo and learn about other snow shelters

Intern Project

For the first time, the Snowschool committee decided to have Interns create a pre/post trip lesson or a lesson to do during Snowschool. I decided to do a post trip lesson focusing the Health Education aspect of getting kids outside and active.