

Thank you for your interest in the Environmental Living Program at Sutter's Fort State Historic Park. This is a special program that allows California school children to "live" history. The participants, along with parent helpers and their teacher, spend 24 hours portraying characters of the 1840's and partake in various trade activities and entertainment of the era. Due to our limited overnight facilities a maximum of 40 students may attend the overnight portion of the program. Arrangements may be made to allow more students for the daytime portion.

Participation in the program requires application by the teacher. Applications are accepted during the months of February and March only. Each teacher must apply on a separate application, and are not transferable. Only one application will be accepted per class. Applications are selected in a random drawing at the end of May. If your application is picked and you are unable to attend, the next teacher on our waiting list will be selected.

Sutter's Fort ELP is a self-supporting program. Staff wages are paid by the program participants, ensuring that the program will continue regardless of state funding levels. The fee charged to each class is \$400. There are other costs (eg. food, carpentry project supplies, etc.) that you will incur. The exact amount depends upon what YOU wish to do with your ELP. Some choose to pay musicians to entertain in the evening, for example, while some are able to find talented parents to play. Some choose to tell stories and sing around a campfire.

All teachers must attend a mandatory training workshop in August, designed to provide an overview of the program. ELP dates will be selected at this time. Program days are Tuesdays or Thursdays, from November through May. A parent's training workshop will be held at a later time for both parents and teachers. It is mandatory that a minimum of one parent from each work station attend this training, with no exceptions!

A "Pre-Visit" (not mandatory but recommended) normally occurs about three weeks before the overnight and introduces students to the Fort. The students study the Fort intensively, then return to their classroom to study those parts of the Fort's history that most interested them.

The overnight program starts at 8:00 am on a Tuesday or Thursday morning and ends at 9:00am the following day. Students arrive dressed in costumes similar to the clothes worn by people visiting or working at the Fort in the 1839-1849 historic period, and perform many of the historic activities accomplished at the Fort. Carpentry, bread baking, butter-churning, spinning and weaving, candle-making, and rope making are a few of the activities they may elect to perform. At night, groups take turns keeping night watch, while the others sleep in sleeping bags or "bed rolls".

The program offers students a better perspective of history (and historic sites) than any book or movie can portray. In this program students learn through firsthand experience.

We welcome your interest in the Sutter's Fort Environmental Living Program and invite you to call if you have further questions. Applications are available December 1st at Sutter's Fort State Historic Park, or you may call to have an application sent to you. To receive an application or for more information, call (916) 323-8112 or email us at elp@parks.ca.gov.

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED FEBRUARY AND MARCH ONLY!

Sutter's Fort State Historic Park
Environmental Living Program
Application

SCHOOL NAME _____

TEACHER NAME _____

Please designate if your school is PUBLIC _____ or PRIVATE _____

APPLICATION FORM (One application per teacher please).

Teacher's HOME address:

Street _____

City _____ zip code _____

HOME PHONE _____

Grade level(s) _____ number of students _____

School District _____

Teacher's SCHOOL address:

Street _____

City _____ zip code _____

SCHOOL PHONE _____

Name of teaching partner, if you have one _____

Address and home phone of teaching partner:

Street _____

City _____ zip code _____

Phone _____

Send applications to:

Your email address: _____

Environmental Living Program
Sutter's Fort State Historic Park
2701 L Street
Sacramento, CA 95816

Telephone: 916 323-8112 FAX: 916 442-8613 EMAIL: elp@parks.ca.gov

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FEBRUARY AND MARCH ONLY!**