

CAMP MI-BRO-BE

Outdoor Education Program



Student/Parent Guide

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INTRODUCTION

This **Student/Parent Guide** serves as an introduction and orientation to an exciting program of outdoor education that is offered to all sixth grade students in the Berea City School District. The program name, **Mi-Bro-Be**, illustrates cooperation and unity among the communities of Middleburg Heights, Brook Park, and Berea.

While the name is important, the educational components of the program are what make this experience unique. For five days and four nights, learning comes alive for **Mi-Bro-Be** students. They gain new insights about science, new perspectives on health and safety, new understanding of language arts, art and music, history and math, and new respect for fellow students and teachers.

This guide provides a brief description of the **Mi-Bro-Be** experience. It will answer your questions about the history of the program, the purpose of outdoor education, the camp site location, staff and daily schedule of activities. An important checklist of clothing and supplies is also included.

Staff members at Berea Midpark Middle School and at the central office encourage your comments and questions. The administration of the Berea City School District is committed to providing your student with an enriching educational experience through the **Mi-Bro-Be Outdoor Education Program**.

Michael Sheppard, Superintendent

Jeffrey A. Grosse, Assistant Superintendent

Questions and Answers

WHAT WILL I LEARN AT MI-BRO-BE?

The purpose of the Outdoor Education Program is to provide a variety of experiences in many different subject areas. The outdoors is a vast laboratory where many of the facts, skills, and ideas you have learned in school are practiced. You will also learn more about yourself, other students, your teachers, and the world in which you live.

The Mi-Bro-Be Outdoor Education Program is living, working, and learning together in a natural setting. The goals of the program are to:

- Improve your understanding of the environment
- Help you to appreciate nature
- Allow you to study ecology
- Provide you with a chance to explore, discover, and solve problems
- Increase your knowledge in many subject areas
- Help you learn how to cooperate with others

WHERE IS MI-BRO-BE LOCATED?

Mi-Bro-Be is located at Camp Whitewood. The site is in Ashtabula County off Route 322.

WHEN IS THE PROGRAM OFFERED?

Each sixth grade student from Berea Midpark Middle School will attend the Outdoor Education Program for one week during September/October.

WHAT IS THE ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER AT MI-BRO-BE?



Students can receive mail at: (Student's Name)
Camp Mi-Bro-Be
c/o Camp Whitewood
7983 Wiswell Road
Windsor, Ohio 44099

Letters should be mailed as early as possible to ensure delivery. Your child may mail a letter home during the first few days of camp. This may or may not arrive home before the end of the week.

In an emergency situation, you may contact program personnel between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at 440-272-5275.

HOW WILL I GET THERE?

You will take the school bus from Berea Midpark Middle School on the Monday morning of your week at camp. The bus leaves at around 9:15 a.m., but your teachers will tell you what time to arrive at school.

On Friday, the school bus will return you to Berea Midpark Middle School around 12:30 p.m. You **MUST** arrange a ride home from school at that time.

WHAT ARE THE RULES?

Students at Mi-Bro-Be are expected to follow the guidelines in the Berea Midpark Middle School Student Handbook. Review the handbook before you leave for camp. You should behave in a way that is appropriate for school.

WHO WILL GO WITH US TO MI-BRO-BE?

You and the other sixth graders will be accompanied by teachers from your team, or in some cases, other certified Berea City School District teachers. High School students serve as camp counselors. The camp director, the assistant camp directors, the nurse, along with the staff of the campsite, will also be with you for the whole week.

WHERE WILL I LIVE AND EAT AT MI-BRO-BE?



You will sleep in bunk beds in a heated cabin with a small group of your classmates and your camp counselors. The cabins have electricity, and private shower and restroom facilities are right next door.

Meals are served in a large dining hall just down the trail from your cabin. It has a modern kitchen that can serve over 200 people at a time. Menus are chosen with students in mind. The food is served family style, and there is enough to satisfy even the heartiest appetite. There is no need to bring any food with you; it can attract animals and insects!

NO FOOD, CANDY, GUM, ETC., IS ALLOWED IN THE CABINS.

The camp site has over 100 acres of hills, streams, ponds, woods, and nature trails. There is even a river and a waterfall! You will have plenty of room for physical exercise on the athletic fields and volleyball courts. In case the weather is inclement, students will participate in activities inside large heated cabins.

DO I NEED SPENDING MONEY?

You should not bring any money with you to Mi-Bro-Be. Everything you need will be provided.

CELL PHONE POLICY

We have a strict policy that prohibits cell phones at camp. Please be sure that your child does not bring a cell phone to camp.



WHAT WILL EACH DAY BE LIKE?

DAILY SCHEDULE

Each day's instructional activities will vary.

7:15 a.m.	Wake Up
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m. – Noon	Instructional Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Hiking</i>• <i>Exploring</i>• <i>Problem-solving</i>
Noon – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Instructional Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Pond and stream study</i>• <i>Craft Projects</i>• <i>Native American games</i>• <i>Mi-Bro-Be history</i>• <i>Campfire Preparation</i>• <i>Olympics</i>• <i>Canoeing</i>• <i>Archery</i>
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Supervised Free Time
5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Dinner
6:00 – 10:30 p.m.	Evening Activities – Can Include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Instructional Activities• Square Dance• Language Arts• Letter Writing• Journals• Snack• Campfire
10:30 p.m.	LIGHTS OUT

WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

The following is a suggested checklist of equipment and supplies you will need for Mi-Bro-Be.

BEDDING

- 1 sleeping bag – or 2 blankets and 2 single sheets
- 1 pillow and pillow case

PERSONAL ITEMS

- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Soap and soap container
- 2 bath towels
- 2 washcloths
- Shampoo
- Comb and hairbrush
- Small box of tissues



CLOTHING ITEMS

- Old clean clothing (marked with your name)
- 8 pairs of socks
- 6 changes of underwear
- Heavy jacket
- 2 sweatshirts
- 1 sweater
- 5 pairs of jeans or pants
- Hat
- Gloves or mittens
- Rain coat or rain poncho
- Several pairs of shoes/boots
- Waterproof boots

MISCELLANEOUS

- Chap stick
- Moisture lotion
- Camera/film
- Stationery and stamps
- Hair dryer
- Plastic garbage bag for dirty clothes

***STUDENTS WILL BE
OUTDOORS RAIN OR SHINE!***

You must bring rain gear:

- *Coat*
- *Hat*
- *Waterproof boots*

HOW SHOULD I PACK MY THINGS?



All clothing and supplies should be packed in no more than two bags that you can carry. It's a good idea to roll up your pillow inside your sleeping bag or bedding. Please put the camper's name on each bag using tags, tape, etc.

Do not bring a lot of extra things, like toys or stuffed animals. You will be responsible for loading, unloading, and carrying your own gear.

DO NOT BRING FOOD ITEMS, CANDY, GUM, CELL PHONE, OR MONEY

WHAT HAPPENS IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY OR IF MEDICATION IS NEEDED?

Team teachers will give you medical information and permission forms to complete and return before you attend the outdoor Education Program. For our convenience, an Emergency Data/Permission Form is included in this booklet.

You should be sure the following forms are on file with your team teachers:

- Emergency Data and Permission Form
- Prescription and Non-Prescription Medication Form

EMERGENCY DATA AND PERMISSION FORM

This form verifies that you have your parent's or guardian's permission to attend Mi-Bro-Be. It also alerts the school system of any special health concerns, such as allergies, diabetes, etc.

The form gives the camp nurse permission to administer emergency medical treatment in the event that the parent/guardian cannot be reached.

PRESCRIPTION AND NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION FORM

If you need to take medication at camp, you must have a form completed and returned to the school nurse before you can attend Mi-Bro-Be.

ALL MEDICATIONS – OVER THE COUNTER, AS WELL AS PRESCRIPTION:



- Must have a doctor's signature as well as parent/guardian's signature**
- Must be in the original container**

Contact your school's Health Specialist for further questions.



HEALTH PERSONNEL

The Berea City School District provides a nurse in residence at the campsite 24 hours a day. Geauga Regional Hospital is about 15 minutes from camp (1-800-548-9738).

Although we have a nurse in residence 24 hours a day, we do not have a dispensary where campers can spend the night. If a camper becomes too ill or is otherwise unable to stay in his/her cabin, parents/guardians will be called to take the camper home.

CAN PARENTS VISIT STUDENTS AT MI-BRO-BE?

Parents are invited to visit the campsite and see the facilities prior to the student's attendance. An open house is provided for this purpose early in September. There is no parent visitation time during your child's week at camp.

HOW DO I PAY FOR MI-BRO-BE?

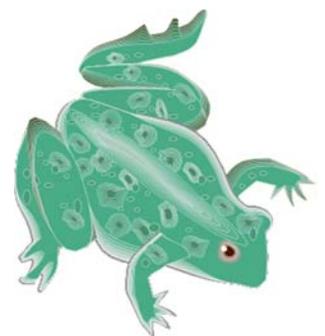
The cost for the program is \$200.00 per student. You may make a check or money order payable to the Berea City School District. It is recommended that you do not send cash with your child. Sixth grade team teachers will collect the payment, or you may deliver it to the main office at Berea Midpark Middle School. **The entire \$200.00 payment must be received in no later than August 31st.**

WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THE PROGRAM?

The philosophy of the Mi-Bro-Be Outdoor Educational Program is to provide growth experiences that will increase the students' understanding and appreciation of the natural environment they share with fellow human beings. The outdoors provides living and learning situations that extend and encourage application of facts and ideas learned within the regular setting.

The program curriculum includes specific learning goals. Students will be able to:

- Identify and classify trees, rocks and animals
- Study natural habitats and ecological principles
- Distinguish, describe, and demonstrate conservation and environmental practices
- Engage in problem-solving and discovery related to the natural environment
- Demonstrate personal responsibility and self-discipline
- Establish an appreciation of personal and cultural diversity by living with others cooperatively



HOW DOES THE OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAM FIT WITH THE SIXTH GRADE CURRICULUM?

Each curriculum area is considered when planning instructional activities at Mi-Bro-Be. The following are examples of possible activities in each area:

MATHEMATICS	Shapes in nature; finding area and distances; estimating time; estimating measurements.
LANGUAGE ARTS	Daily log; letter writing; poems and stories; skits; word for the day; "Today I learned . . . "; "Did you know?"
SCIENCE	Conservation; animal tracks and calls; stream and pond studies; observing constellations.
ARTS	Symbols and shapes in nature; silhouettes; paper making; art from natural materials.
SOCIAL STUDIES	History of the area and Mi-Bro-Be; mapping; economics; the environment in which we live; Native American games.
HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Sports, hiking; walking; games; dancing
MUSIC	Musical sounds in nature; camp songs; lyric writing
CITIZENSHIP	Cooperation; sportsmanship independence and interdependence; courtesy and manners; individual and group rights and responsibilities.

HOW DID MI-BRO-BE BEGIN?

In 1969, during the summer school session, the Outdoor Education Program was initiated in the Berea City School District. The class was called "Operation Conservation" and was designed to introduce the 120 participants to nature. The course was a great success and the Berea Board of Education encouraged teachers Wayne Baldwin and Elaine Migchelbrink to explore the possibility of establishing a comprehensive Outdoor Education Program to benefit all the students in the school system.

In 1970, Mi-Bro-Be was born with a pilot group of students who spent a week at Camp Craig near Hinckley. In 1971, a six week pilot program was established.

These pilot programs were evaluated positively by students, staff, and parents . . . the program was a success! The unique learning opportunities made available at Mi-Bro-Be prompted the Board to approve the program for all sixth grade students for the spring of 1972. Since then, Outdoor Education has been provided to thousands of sixth graders, to over a thousand high school counselors, and to approximately 50 of our professional staff each year.

Parents, students, and teachers report that there are intangible benefits that make the Mi-Bro-Be experience special. They are:

- Students learn in a stimulation environment.
- Students experience a closeness with nature.
- Communication and understanding is established between intermediate and high school students.
- Teachers and students develop positive and personal relationships.
- Students learn to live and work together.

WHAT DOES MI-BRO-BE MEAN?

Since its initial pilot program in the spring of 1970, the purpose of Mi-Bro-Be Outdoor Education Program has been to foster the student's growth and development in the areas of human understanding and cooperation. Students are encouraged to accept and respect the personal differences that exist among us all. Through working, playing, and learning together, students recognize that diversity can be a positive force when individuals are united by common goals.

In much the same way, the Berea City School District is a community of people cooperating and striving for increased individual understanding among its members. Each member contributes toward the common goal of providing the best possible education within our school system. To illustrate this shared goal, the initial letters from each of the three cities served by the Berea City Schools is incorporated into one word: **M**iddleburg Heights – **B**rook Park – **B**erea.



ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

Please feel free to call your student's team teachers, or the main office at Ford Intermediate School for answers to any other questions you may have. The administration and sixth grade staff of the Berea City School District is committed to providing your student with a positive experience through the Mi-Bro-Be Outdoor Education Program.

Berea Midpark Middle School – 216-676-8400

Berea Board of Education – 216-898-8300

WHAT DO I DO WHEN I RETURN?

Sharing your experiences with family and friends is an important part of the Mi-Bro-Be program. Talk to them about your experiences, the projects you made, and the outdoor activities in which you

participated. In school, many of your Mi-Bro-Be experiences will become a part of future lessons because your teachers will plan activities to follow-up on things you learned in a variety of subject areas.

Here are some suggestions for making the most out of the Outdoor Education Program:

- Set aside a special time to talk to your family about your week at Mi-Bro-Be.
- Invite some of your new friends over to your house.
- Display some of the work you did at Mi-Bro-Be in a prominent place in your home.
- Share stories about the people you met.
- Tell about some of the projects you made.
- Talk about the hikes, pond study, games, and nature walks in which you participated.
- Describe campfire activities, the cabin you lived in, and the jobs you did.
- Show your friends and family your Memory Log and sketches you may have made.
- Draw pictures or maps to explain your experiences.
- Demonstrate new skills you learned at Mi-Bro-Be.
- Apply new knowledge to activities at home, such as conservation and cooperation.

**BEREA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 REQUEST MEDICATION/TREATMENT GIVEN AT SCHOOL or EXTENDED CARE**

Student's Name _____ Date of Birth _____

School Attending _____ Grade ____ Teacher _____

No known medication allergies. Allergies _____

Give daily	Give as needed	Treatment/ Medication as written on bottle or package	Dosage in ml,mg,cc	Time actual hour of day	Route of delivery	Reason medication is given	Start & End Dates actual calendar dates

Special Instructions: _____

If inhaler: (please check one of the following options)

- Allow student to carry/administer own inhaler (recommended from 4th through 12th and capable)
- Do Not allow student to carry own inhaler, is to be administered and kept in clinic.

If allergy kit (please check one of the following options, 911 will be called if Epi-Pen is administered)

- Allow student to carry/administer own Epi-Pen.
- Do not allow student to carry own Epi-Pen is to be administered and kept in clinic.

Adverse reaction to be reported to physician: _____

I, the undersigned, am the physician for the above named student and request they receive medication during school hours or extended care hours as ordered above. The parent/guardian is responsible to notify the clinic or extended care if the medication, dose, route or time to be given are changed or the medication is discontinued.

Physician's Signature: _____

Physician office number _____ Fax number _____

Date: _____

I, the undersigned, am the parent of guardian of the above, named student, and I hereby request he/she received medication during school hours or extended care hours as ordered by his/her physician. **For the safety of my child and all other children I have read and agree to follow the requirements listed on the back of this form.** I understand that the school district and any of its personnel are absolved from any civil liability, which might be associated with the medication assistance.

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Telephone Number: _____

Berea City School District Medication Assistance Policy for Camp Mi-Bro-Be

Dear Parent/Guardian,

To promote safety and allow students to obtain medication during camp the following is required for all prescription and non-prescription medication. (This includes over-the-counter medication such as allergy/cold medication, Tylenol, Cough drops, lotions/ointments, etc.

1. The Medication Assistance Form must be completed & signed by physician and parent/guardian. A separate form is required for each and every medication your child will need while at camp.
2. Plan ahead--faxed orders will only be accepted for emergency changes (i.e., new antibiotic...).
3. All medication must be brought in by an adult the **WEDNESDAY** PRIOR TO LEAVING FOR CAMP.

Make sure that the medicine you bring in is what was ordered by your physician and not expired. For example, in the past we have several physicians order "Junior Strength Tylenol" and parents brought in "Extra Strength Tylenol". The doses are not the same—We must verify that all orders and doses match.

4. When bringing medication for camp we appreciate your placing the following in a "Ziploc" bag:
 - **Medication Request Form**
 - Medication—in original container labeled with student name, medication name, dose
 - **Photo of your child if your child is nonverbal**
5. If your child needs an aerosol medication you will need to supply the aerosol machine/tube/mask.
6. All medications (prescription & non-prescription) must be stored by camp clinic staff except:
 - Inhalers--To allow students to carry their own inhaler an additional form is required
 - Allergy Kits--To allow students to administer their own "Allergy Kit" an additional form is required. Allergy Kits ordered for students will be available for self-administration in the clinic, or with designated school staff if student is away from the clinic building at camp.
7. Upon returning from camp all "Camp Medication" must be picked up by the parent/guardian. The medication will be available from the clinic or teacher in charge. If medication is not picked up by the end of the return day it will be discarded.
8. Please send the clinic a note if you have any special requests regarding notification if your child should become ill/injured while at camp. Be sure to include all phone numbers we need to contact you.

Thank you for helping us provide a safe & healthy camp environment,

SWGHC School Health Specialists
BCSD Camp Administrators