

Johnston Ridge Observatory & Eruption Trail

11:00 Arrival Time

Before you leave

Gather chaperones and define your expectations for them during the field trip. Chaperones are responsible for helping students' complete their assigned activities and for supervising their student groups' behavior at all times. Leave your school and drive on I-5 to the Castle Rock exit #49.

Drive to the Johnston Ridge Observatory on State Route 504. Review the Monument's rules and regulations, and complete "Reading the Landscape" mapping activity en route.

11:00 to 11:10 A ranger will board your bus and review rules and behavioral expectations upon arrival the Johnston Ridge Observatory. If a ranger is not present have your students wait on the bus while a chaperone walks up to inform us of your arrival.

11:10 to 11:35 Students use information from exhibits inside the Observatory to complete the worksheet "Volcanoes Shake and Bake".

11:35 to 12:00 Watch the 11:40 showing of "Message from the Mountain," a 16-minute theater presentation on the May 18, 1980, eruption and subsequent dome building eruptions. **Theater doors close automatically at 11:40. No admittance after the movie begins, next show starts at 12:10.**

12:00 to 12:45 As students exit the theater direct them back to the bus to **eat lunch**. Due to problems associated with food scraps, litter and aggressive ground squirrels we request that school groups not eat lunch in the viewing plaza adjacent to the observatory.

12:45 to 1:45 Return to the viewing plaza and Conduct one of the "Eruption Trail" lesson plans posted on the teachers corner:

To learn about the impacts of the lateral blast conduct: "The Case of the Big Blast".

To learn about factors that influenced plant and animal survival and colonization conduct: "Survivor Volcano"

To discover how plant and animal recovery is linked to the type of eruptive impacts conduct: "Patterns of Recovery"

It has taken decades for plant life to gain a foothold on this shattered ridge. Explain the importance of students staying on the trail at all times and emphasize that the collection of any natural feature is prohibited. This trail ends in the parking lot; when students complete the activity, have them follow the trail back to the bus.

1:45 to Depart for your school. Conduct "Volcanoes A-Z" activity en route to your school.