



VōJP doh-yah-dee-tluh



OutdoorClassroom.org

Mission Statement: To positively affect communities from the kids up, by empowering innovators with STEM/Entrepreneurial habits, through repetitive exploration of a natural, living laboratory.

Performance Snap-Shot:
15 Months (Sept '22 – Nov '23)

Youth Served:

2022-23SY	2,409
Summer 2023	825
Fall (Nov 2023)	878

Total Youth:	4,112
Total Adults:	652

TOTAL: 4,764 (Adults + Youth)

Lifetime Youth Served: 23K+

Distinct Program Days: 165

Youth Impact: See Page 3

Districts & Schools Served:

- Tulsa Public Schools - FOCUS
- Union Public Schools
- Sand Springs/Broken Arrow
- Charter/Home Schools
- Learning Differences (ASD)

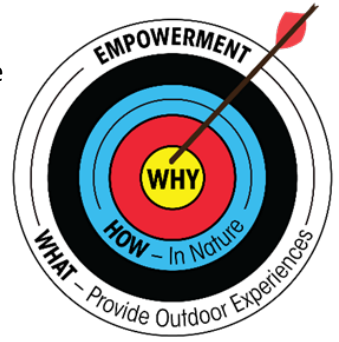
Executive Summary: The award-winning Outdoor Classroom is a hands-on, youth outreach initiative for nature-based STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) learning for Tulsa’s underserved and under-resourced educational communities and their families, primarily in North Tulsa. We are now proud to call Tulsa’s **Mohawk Park** our Base Camp as a **new stand-alone entity!**

“Outdoor Classroom is not merely an organization but a movement, a philosophy, and a transformative force in STEM education. Since its inception in 2015, Outdoor Classroom has been on a mission to develop and instill a STEM mindset in young innovators, teachers, and non-traditional educators. What sets them apart is their intentional and heartfelt commitment to inclusivity, ensuring that individuals with diverse learning needs and challenges are not only included but thrive in their programs.”

Jamie Walton, TRSA Spotlight DEC 2023

WHY— Outdoor Classroom: Our Cause

Too many kids in our community need to break the bonds of poverty and pains of hunger. Too many need to shake the atrophy that kills their creativity and purpose. Too many need to develop their natural curiosity, to learn how to dream big, to experience their ability to innovate, and to make a positive impact in their schools and community. **Help awaken this human potential!**



"Tell me and I forget,
teach me and I may
remember, involve
me and I learn."

Benjamin Franklin

HOW—STEM Occurs Naturally Outdoors

Outdoor Classroom – Tulsa brings young scholars' school-work to life. It helps the teachers inspire curiosity and continuous learning. The program offers students the opportunity to experience the scientific and natural phenomena in nearly 100-year-old, 2,800-acre Mohawk Park. The Outdoor

Classroom is an experiential problem-solving adventure with failures and retries, exploring real-world STEM concepts. Young innovators sow the seeds for workforce development and their own life journey. **Join us on this journey!**

WHAT—The school year outreach program for **5th and 6th graders** offers five-hour **field classes** that connect the Outdoor Classroom's nature-focused courses curated to each school's existing classroom curriculum. These lessons meet grade-specific state academic (OAS) standards for Sciences, Math and ELA, and incorporate [NGSS](#) (Next Generation Science Standards) curriculum.

After-School & Families: Outdoor Classroom offers Saturday STEM Adventure Camps for entire families to explore natural phenomena throughout Mohawk Park, including collaboration with the **Oxley Nature Center**. We created two **WildSTEM Explorer** Badging programs – see Orienteering on next page!



WildSTEM Explorer Badging Program: ORIENTEERING, an introductory Mastery of the related skill sets for Orienteering, Block Coding, and Drone Aviation

This badging program takes traditional orienteering skills several steps beyond, with the confluence of block code programming derived from map data to guide a drone on a course through our wooded Base Camp! This is a three-in-one, rigorous, and FUN nature-based STEM badge traversing multiple career and workforce pathways!



Young innovators will stretch and develop their observation skills beyond the length of their arms (at a smartphone) by exploring and charting our unique landforms and historic features at Mohawk Park. Then, like everything else digital in their world, they will translate their paces, bearings and starting points into computer block code, which in turn will lift a drone off the ground to fly a course they have created themselves.

We foster ambition!

HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS →

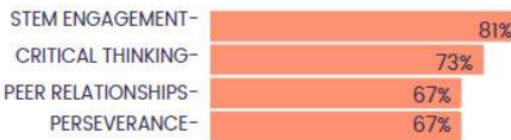
YOUTH IMPACT: 2022-23SY ↓



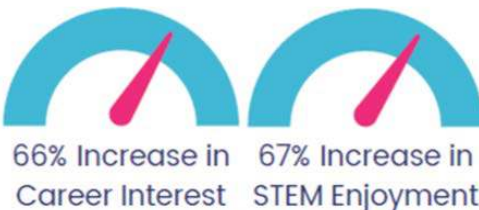
CENTER FOR APPLIED DESIGN THINKING

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TULSA

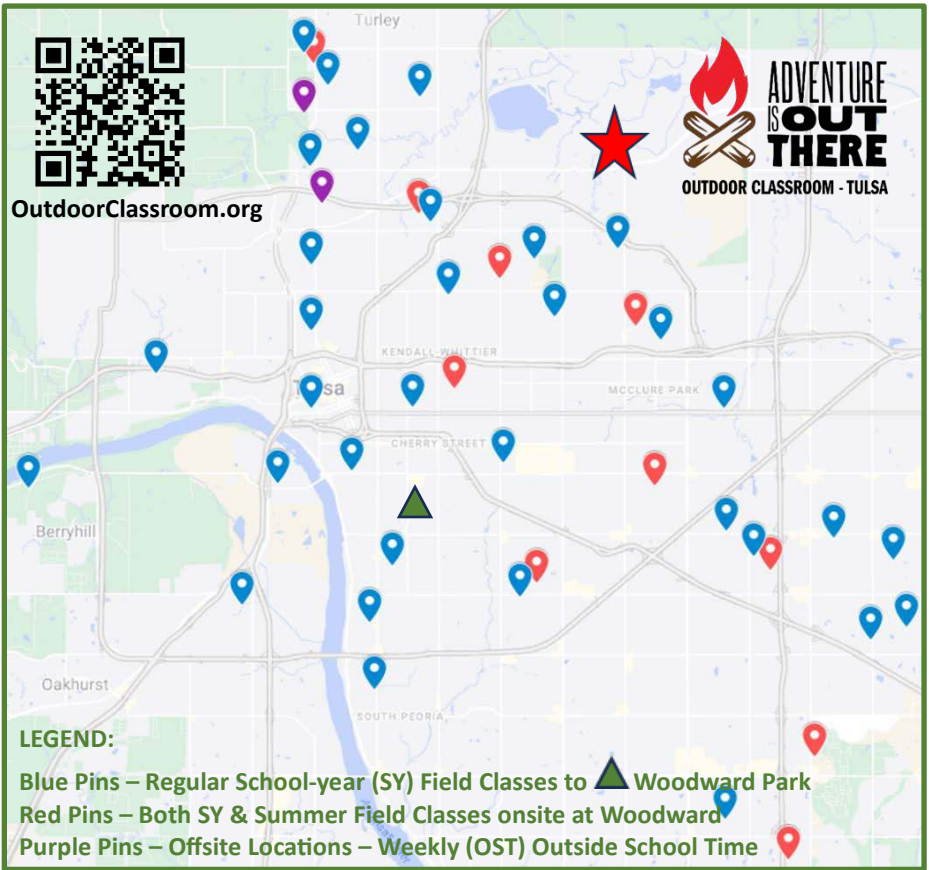
PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING POSITIVE CHANGE AFTER 4-5 HOUR FIELD CLASS



2023 Outdoor Classroom, source PEAR Institute



Tulsa Area Schools and Agencies served in 2023:



Measuring Success:

Our programs are empirically measured by assessment surveys evaluated by the **PEAR Institute**, formerly part of Harvard University, & paid for by TRSA!



EXPLORE ENGAGE EMPower