A Mountain Classroom
Leadership Development, Teambuilding and Outdoor Education Curriculum

Outdoor Education—Map & Compass

Objectives

- Students identify components of maps
- Students recognize different types of maps and their uses
- Students learn to interpret topographic maps and use them while hiking
- Students learn to use compasses to read and follow bearings
- Students practice using compasses for off-trail navigation
- Students learn how to combine map and compass skills for backcountry hiking

Key Concepts

- Map features and terminology
- Contour lines
- Compass use
- Reading and following bearings
- Declination
Outdoor Education – Map & Compass (cont.)

Activities may include

- Reading maps
- Creating maps
- Exercises and games to practice reading and following bearings
- Following an orienteering course in the woods
- Creating an orienteering course