Camp Oh-No!

Program Type: Classroom  Target Grade Level: ES/MS  Program Length: 1 hour

Theme
Treading lightly can help protect your favorite place.

Objectives
• Students will think about and draw their favorite outdoor place, and discuss why they enjoy this location.
• Students will be introduced to the ‘Tread Monster’ and discuss impacts that people can have on nature.
• Students will ‘experience’ what it feels like to have others ‘Tread’ on their favorite places.

Activities/Logistics

Explain to the students that Southern Nevada is full of beautiful places. Depending on your timeline, talk about some of these places. Tell students that you want them to think of their favorite outdoor place (5-10 minutes). If there is time, invite a few kids up to give an example of their favorite places.

Pass out paper and markers, and have them draw this place (10 minutes).

After students finish, have them share their favorite place. Again, this can be shortened/lengthened.skipped depending on time (10 minutes).

Tell students that we work hard to keep their special places clean, but the ‘Tread Monster’ can sometimes mess them up. Tell them that we try to teach people to Tread Lightly, but sometimes the tread monster escapes and damages nature. Ask them what kind of things tread monsters do. Be sure to mention: litter, driving off road, crushing plants, not avoiding sensitive areas, being loud or inconsiderate, etc. (10 minutes). Use visuals to illustrate examples as much as possible.

Have them pass their pictures to another student for a round. Tell the students that their job is to let the tread monster escape on this new picture. Tell them that their favorite place is entirely in the hands of someone else - that they can draw any tread monster activities they want on their classmate’s papers (within reason). You can also unleash the tread monster as a group with each round centered around a different Tread Monster behavior (ie litter, driving off road, crushing plants, etc.). (10 minutes)
The students will be obviously dismayed by this and some may be more sensitive than others. Take care to walk them through the way it feels to have someone else destroy their favorite place.

Challenge them that most places are someone’s favorite place - how will they ‘Do Their Part’ to make sure that these areas stay healthy? (10 minutes)

**Resources & Materials**
- Paper
- Pencils
- Markers/colored pencils
- Pictures of Damaged and non-damaged places or areas

**Vocabulary**
- Tread Lightly
- Impact