



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Outward Bound is very excited to partner with The PEAR Institute: Partnerships in Education and Resilience (PEAR), to promote the positive social-emotional development of our students. PEAR, a joint initiative of McLean Hospital and Harvard Medical School, conducts cutting-edge research to improve the ways schools and programs promote social-emotional development. There is increasing evidence that helping students feel good about themselves, their setting, and their relationships improves their learning and wellbeing.

Outward Bound staff plan to administer a survey to students on Outward Bound courses that includes PEAR's Holistic Student Assessment (HSA) plus several additional questions about their socio-emotional development and experience while on the course. As part of this effort, your child may be asked to complete a brief survey about him or herself at the end of the course. Your child's responses will be kept confidential and results will be reported in aggregate (as a group). Your child's name will never be used in any reports related to this research.

Outward Bound and PEAR will use data from this assessment survey for research and educational work. Only designated Outward Bound staff and Outward Bound's research partners will have access to these results.

If you have any questions about this effort or would like to see a copy of this survey, please contact Katie Dalbey, Director of Learning and Evaluation for Outward Bound USA, at kdalbey@outwardbound.org.

YOU ONLY NEED TO RETURN THIS FORM IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO COMPLETE THIS SURVEY.

If you do not return this form **before the first day of the course**, we will assume that we have permission for your child to complete the survey containing the PEAR Holistic Student Assessment with the additional questions as described above.

- I **do not** give permission for my child to complete the survey containing the PEAR Holistic Student Assessment with the additional questions.
(If the box is not checked, we will assume your child has permission to complete the survey)

Child's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (printed): _____

Parent/Guardian Phone: _____