



K/1 Summer Letter - SY '25-'26

Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning

1700 South Holly Street

Denver, CO 80222

303-759-2076

303-757-7442 (fax)

Welcome to RMSEL Kindergarten and First Grade

June 2025

Hello RMSEL Kindergartners, First Graders, and families,

We'd like to briefly introduce ourselves to you!

Kindergarten

Greetings crew! My name is Bailey, and I am the Kinder crew leader #1. This is my fourth year teaching Kindergarten here at RMSEL. I have my bachelor's degree in elementary education from MSU Denver. Over the past 7 years, I have worked in preschool, 1st grade, and Kindergarten. Primary school is my wheelhouse! When I'm not hanging with the youngest RMSELians, I attend concerts, play outside, or turn pages in a good book. I'm excited to meet you all and can't wait for this year's adventures!

Hi there! My name is Kylie, and I am the Kinder Crew Leader #2! This is my second year teaching here at RMSEL, and I can't wait to see what this year has in store for us! I am finishing my schooling to earn a bachelor's degree in elementary education. I have worked in preschool, Pre-K, and Kindergarten, and am committed to creating a fun and engaging learning environment. In my free time, you can find me exploring, reading, or anything else creative and outdoors. Welcome to RMSEL! :)

1st Grade

Howdy! I am Sims Jennings. This is my fifth year at RMSEL. I have my Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education, a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, and a minor in Education. I have been teaching for 7 years. I have taught preschool, 8th grade, Kindergarten, and First grade. I love to hike, ski, bake, read, and generally anything active and outdoorsy. I am originally from Lynchburg, VA, but have been living in CO for the past 6 years. I am really excited for the upcoming year!

There are some things you can do over the summer to help prepare for our start date of August 11th (1st Grade) or August 13th (Kindergarten). We will have many opportunities for you to volunteer, and it is extremely helpful for you to be bus driver certified. Information on the volunteer is found later in this packet.

Think you'd like to volunteer on fieldwork or crew trips? Each chaperone will need to help with all students and be committed to working with the whole crew (what is typically called a homeroom), not just your own



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student. At Back to School Night, you will learn about the Crew Trip Chaperone Selection Process, how we select chaperones, and how you “apply” to be a chaperone.

Classroom visits for Kindergarten will be scheduled for August 11th and 12th. First-grade open house classroom visits will be scheduled for August 8th. Watch your email for more details to come!

The classroom supply list is included with this letter. Please bring school supplies during your classroom visit, should you choose to attend, or on the first day of school. This will allow teachers to organize and inventory supplies before the first day of school.

We are looking forward to seeing each of you in August!

Bailey Strickland, Kindergarten Crew Leader

Kylie Connolly, Kindergarten Crew Leader

Sims Jennings, 1st Grade Crew Leader



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CLASSROOM SUPPLIES for all, not labeled

- (1) Sketch books (8½ by 11 or 9 x 12 only please)
- (1) **Primary lined** composition notebooks (8 ½ x 11)
- (1) Pack of Play-Doh
- (1) Tissue Box
- (2) 12-pack markers (one skinny and one fat)
- (1) 12-pack of bigger crayons
- (1) 10-pack of bigger pencils, **pre-sharpened**
- (2) pack of glue sticks
- (1) 12-pack of bigger colored pencils, **pre-sharpened**
- (2) Pack of **black** dry erase markers, (one skinny, one fat)
- (1) Scotch tape rolls
- (1) Disinfecting wipes
- (1) pronged folders, one purple
- (1) pack of cardstock- white
- (1) watercolor set
- (1) box of only red crayons

Last Name A-M:

- Ziplock bags (1 gallon and 1 sandwich)
- 1 pack sticky notes
- 1 pack of paint brushes

Last Name N-Z:

- 1 bottle of hand sanitizer
 - 1 Bottle of Elmer's Glue
 - 1 Index cards (white)
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PORTFOLIOS: Please make sure you purchase a high-quality portfolio (3-ring binder) as they easily break with so much use over the year.

- 1.5" **white** portfolio – please make sure the portfolio has a **plastic cover for an insert**
- 3 Packs of 50-page protectors

Kindergarten only

- 1" **white** binder
 - We will use a binder separate from the portfolio binder for our EL curriculum, so two binders will be needed in total.

Optional Donations:

- Colorful dry-erase markers
- Colored cardstock
- Packaging tape/Masking tape
- Tempera Paint
- Band-aids
- Erasers (pink pearl)
- Teacher felt-tip pens
- Healthy snacks
- Sharpies ultra fine and regular
- Regular black markers
- Paint sticks

VOLUNTEER Registration Process

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www.rmssel.org



We LOVE our Volunteers!

RMSEL's successful programming directly results from all the fantastic volunteers who have helped us whenever we need additional support. These volunteers do several things, such as:

- General Classroom Support
- Fieldwork Group Leader
- Activity Bus Driver
- Crew Trip Attendance

For the safety of our students and staff, all RMSEL volunteers who will have any direct contact with students must first be cleared through our volunteer registration process.

RMSEL Volunteer Packet

Step 1: Fingerprinting and Background Clearance

Step 2: Sign the RMSEL Volunteer Confidentiality Agreement

**If you also want to be a driver -*

Step 3: Provide a copy of your Driver's License

Step 4: Online Test

Step 5: Road Test - CLICK [HERE](#) to sign up for your road test on **July 14th & 15th, 2025**

- *Please note: Before signing up for your road test, you must complete your background check, DMV screening, and BOTH online tests.*

**If you have any questions, please contact the office at (303) 759-2076*

