



Bus Games -- Make shuttles fun!

–Natural History Quiz:

Call out questions about natural and human history, and reward answers with a group applause or a token gift such as a refrigerator magnet or piece of wrapped candy.

- 1) Who knows what force makes rivers flow downhill? (Gravity.)
- 2) Where does the water in this river come from? (From springs, rain, lakes and melting snow upstream, which come from clouds, which are created by evaporation from the oceans, which are fed by, yes, rivers!)
- 3) What do trees and plants do that is absolutely vital to the survival of animals and humans? (In addition to creating wood, food, shade, beauty, soil and habitat, and preventing soil erosion, they—and this is the indispensable part—absorb carbon dioxide and give off oxygen. Without trees and plants, there would be no oxygen and, hence, no animals or humans.)
- 4) Who knows why afternoon winds tend to blow up river? (Warm air rises.)
- 5) There are four fundamental causes of rapids. Anyone want to guess what these are? (Steepness, roughness, and constriction of the river channel, and sheer water volume. Each of these factors singly or in any combination can cause rapids.)
- 6) Rivers are rated on a difficulty scale that goes from 1 to 6. What is the difficulty rating of the river we will run/we ran today?
- 7) What foods are enjoyed by both bears and humans? (Fish, berries, honey.)
- 8) Water which bubbles up out of the earth in natural hot springs has been underground how long? (2,000 to 4,000 years.)
- 9) Are there more bald eagles alive today than were alive 50 years ago? (Yes! Fifty years ago bald eagles were an endangered species, and today they are thriving!)
- 10) Is it safe to drink directly from the river? (No, protozoa giardia spread mainly by beaver have made all unfiltered surface water in North America unsafe to drink. When properly filtered, however, it is safe.)
- 11) What is the nautical name for the front of a boat? (The bow.) The back of a boat? (The stern.) The cross tubes in the middle of a boat? (Thwarts.) The little door-like device we open to inflate a boat, and close to keep it pumped up? (The valve.)
- 12) What do guides call it when they work their way around an under-inflated boat pumping just enough air into each chamber to make the pressure drum tight? (Topping off.)
- 13) How many separate air chambers does a high quality inflatable boat have? (Counting the four perimeter tube chambers, the floor, and the thwarts, 8 or 9. Are these boats unsinkable or what?)
- 14) How can you tell if your life jacket is tight enough? (With all snaps fastened and straps pulled snug, it should be tight enough so that when you pull up on it, it stays put and will not slide up your chest—and you should still be able to breathe comfortably.)
- 15) Name the parts of a paddle? [The blade, the shaft, the throat (where the shaft meets the throat), and the grip (or T-grip).] 16) When you hold your paddle to take strokes, where should you grip it: (Inboard hand on the top of the T-grip, outboard hand well down the shaft.)
- 17) If your guide yells, “High side!” what should you do? (Jump to the downstream side of the boat.)