

taft times

Winter 2018

Northern Illinois University Lorado Taft Field Campus

Oregon, IL

Welcome Our New Staff



We are excited to welcome two new education staff members, Will and Megan, to Lorado Taft. We asked them to answer a few questions about themselves to help introduce them:

- 1) If you could be any animal, what would you be?
- 2) Where is your favorite place to travel to?
- 3) If you could have any superpower, what would it be?
- 4) What is your favorite color?

Will

- 1) Golden eagle. I would love to experience flight.
- 2) I would love to visit any place I have not been before, but the top of that list would be Spain. I would love to spend a month or two hiking El Camino de Santiago.
- 3) I would love to fly - whether through wings or telekinesis - it does not matter.
- 4) Ocean green. The color of a shallow ocean on a sunny day.

Megan

- 1) I would want to be a river otter because they are inquisitive, like to explore, and get to swim all day.
- 2) Anywhere in the mountains. I love all the mountain scenery and the snow.
- 3) I would want the power to freeze time, so I would be able to stop time and really explore everything around me.
- 4) My favorite color is orange.



Frosty Forts

It may be cold and snowy outside, but you can still keep warm by building the perfect shelter using the snow around you. Not only is it fun to build snow shelters, but it could also help you in a survival situation. Snow is an excellent insulator and will block the wind and hold in heat when packed together to form a wall. Many animals will crawl around or hibernate below the snow, in the subnivean layer, because it stays right around 30 degrees no matter how cold the air is above. Humans have been making shelters out of snow for thousands of years. Here are just a couple of designs for you to try. Be careful while digging and have fun.

Snow Cave

This is a great type to dig into snow banks or if you have a steep hill. Dig into the snow bank in an upward direction and hollow out the inside so that the ceiling is nicely rounded. As you dig, make sure to pack snow together up against the walls and ceiling for added support.



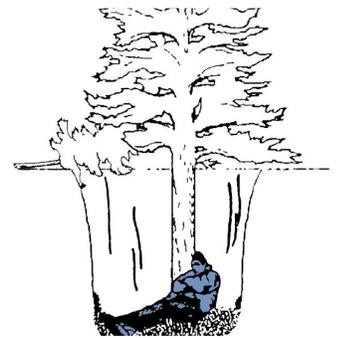
Quinzee

This type of shelter will take the most time to build, but will also last the longest. The result will be similar to an igloo. Start by making a very large pile of snow almost the size of a car (about 5 feet tall and 7 feet wide). If you can, try to let it sit for an hour or overnight so the snow can start to pack together. Start tunneling straight to the middle, throwing the snow you take out onto the top of the pile. Once you reach the middle, shape the inside so that it is like a dome. You can put some sticks inside to give extra support. Pack the snow as you smooth and shape the sides. If you make any holes, fill them in with more snow.

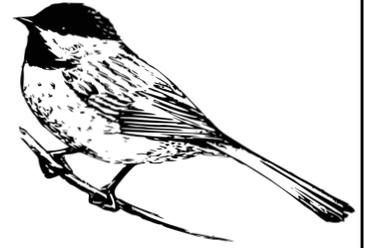


Tree Pit

If you are in an area with deep snow and pine trees, the tree pit is an excellent option. Dig down around a tree until you reach the ground. You may have to do this slowly to avoid snow falling into your pit. Pack snow up against the walls as you go to avoid more snow falling in. You can cover the bottom with leaves or pine branches. Lean more branches on the top up against the central tree to form a roof. Don't forget to leave an opening to get out.

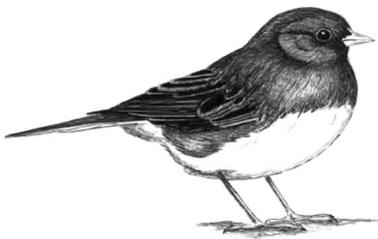


Snowbird Adaptations

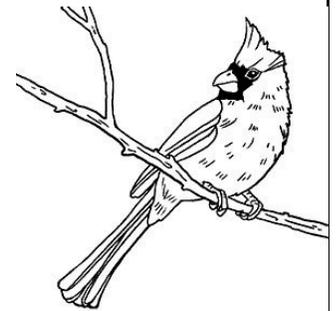


Did you know that...

- Black-capped chickadees will allow brain cells containing old information to die so they can replace them with new neurons, which allows them to adapt to changes in their flocks as well as the environment.
- Dark-eyed juncos are true snowbirds that spend the summer up in Canada and the Arctic. They have short wings that prevent them from traveling long distances and therefore have a hard time traveling as far as other birds.
- The northern cardinal looks the brightest red at the end of winter. When they grow their new feathers in late summer they have grey tips on them. During the fall and winter as their feathers get worn, the grey tips wear away and the birds are left with a vibrant red color.



For more information about these and other birds visit: <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/>



Fall Highlights

Follow us on Instagram @loradotaftfieldcampus for more updates about what we are up to.



THE ZERO ORT REPORT!!!

16	◆ St. Mary's
	◆ River Ridge
12	◆ St. Thomas of Villanova x6
	◆ Chicago City Day
8	◆ Oriole Park
	◆ DuJardin
4	◆ Westmont
	◆ Orangeville x3
0	◆ Galena x2
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Congratulations to all of our schools who got zero ort for at least one meal while at Lorado Taft! Many schools were very close, and we know the students worked really hard to achieve their goals. We hope that the idea of zero ort is something the students take back to school to share with their families and friends.

Watch out for Ort Man! Don't forget to continue the fight against ort at home. Here are just a few ideas to inspire you to eliminate food waste:

- 1) Shop smart and buy exactly what you need.
- 2) Check the fridge before you go to the store
- 3) Try pickling, canning, or compost the food you don't eat.
- 4) Don't forget to use those leftovers.
- 5) Educate others about ort!

WANTED

For the high crimes of environmental destruction, the wasting of energy, and stealing food from others.

ORT Man



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