

Gazebo School Gear List

Fall

Rain Coat - waterproof is better than water resistant

Rain Pants (we like Reima, Oakiewear, or Kamik rain pants. The Hatley ones are good and waterproof but the fit is really tight, so order up!)

Thin gloves or mittens for cool mornings in November

Blaze Orange hat for hunting season

Sneakers are fine for footwear

Transitional jacket or fleece or heavy sweatshirt

*Rain pants notes - we use these a lot for all seasons here at Gazebo. It's fine to size up because they have to fit over children's pants, and the tight cuff on the bottom generally keeps them up. We prefer a pants and jacket to the rain suits, but if you already have a suit, it's fine to bring it! The pants are more versatile for warmer weather, the suits get hot!

Winter

Snow suit, or bib style pants and coat - waterproof if possible, pant legs must have an internal gaiter (tight elastic to put over boots to keep the snow out)

Winter Hat

Mittens (Snow Stoppers are our favorite!)

Snow Boots

Balaclava or neck gaiter, something to keep the lower part of their face covered

*All winter gear must fit well, with no gapping between gloves and sleeves, or boots and pant legs. This might not be evident until children are really rolling and stretching in their gear - I'd advise putting it all on and having them roll down a hill or really climb something to be sure there is enough give. The Snow Stoppers gloves are great because they really cover up the sleeves.

**Winter gear really should be waterproof, to keep children safe and dry outside. If you are working with hand me downs, you can purchase a bottle of waterproofing, and try to do it yourself.

***We have found that the full snow suit is faster for children to put on, and much easier for younger children, especially for our Blueberries! If you opt for snow pants, please get the bib style rather than just pants - there is too

much gapping between the pants and the jacket when they slide. Also, just a heads up, the down suits tend to rip really quickly here - children are crawling all around in them and are soon trailing feathers.

****Now for the head! Sometimes it's helpful to be able to cover children's necks and heads - a good hood with a hat that fits well under a hood (no pompoms) works great, or a balaclava with a hat over the top works too. On really cold days we like to be able to cover the lower part of their faces, so a neck warmer or face covering like a turtle fur neck gaiter can be helpful.

*****Children should have at least two pairs of mittens (not gloves!) so you can switch them out as they get wet. Waterproof, warm, and a long cuff are what we look for!

Spring

Rain Coat

Rain Pants

Not required, but many of our families are getting the Reima waterproof mittens, which have been helpful for children who love to stick their hands in icy water. We have been amazed at how waterproof these are!

*Be prepared for mud! And wet gear!

**This is a time of transition for gear and footwear, thank you in advance for checking the weather and bringing everything!

Summer

Nothing special required, water shoes like crocs or natives are helpful because we do a lot of water play! It's also helpful to be sure to pack extra clothes and a wet bag.