



ELLIS ISLAND SIMULATION WEDNESDAY MORNING OCTOBER 23RD

Next Wednesday morning October 23rd, as the cars and buses roll into Little Fireweed Academy, the "ship's waiting rooms" (our homerooms) will be staffed to check in immigrant passengers who have booked passage for the S.S. America heading to "America". At 08:45 the S.S. America (the school bus) will set sail to carry the immigrants into the new land's entry point at "Ellis Island" (Big Fireweed).



Upon arrival to "Ellis Island" (Big Fireweed) the "immigrants" will wait to be admitted to the Great Hall of Ellis Island (school gym) to be "processed" in small groups as they move through the background, vocation, character and health stations and will finish with the Loyalty Oath or Deportation station and enter into "America" (the other side of the curtained gym).

As "immigrants" arrive in "America", we will visit with other "arrivals" to the new land, share some of our belongings and sing songs. We will then head through the cobblestoned streets of New York City (down the hall to the Big Fireweed classrooms) to enjoy an ethnic snack potluck in the "restaurants" of New York.



We will begin the simulation of Ellis Island with arrival at school. Each of the Fireweed students has a new identity for that day as an immigrant, Native American or Alaska Native. We are encouraging the children to come dressed as their immigrant or native self.



Immigrants can carry one small "suitcase", trunk or pillow case holding their worldly possessions from their "home lands". Perhaps an object of comfort, a memory object or two, some of the tools of their trade and a few pictures of family and friends "left behind". Your help at home with clothing and packing for our favorite "immigrants" is greatly appreciated and will enhance the fun and authenticity of this learning experience.

We welcome you to join us for any and all of this morning's activities celebrating ROOTS.
Join us as an immigrant! Bring foods for the potluck!

WAYS TO HELP BEFORE THE SIMULATION:

- Help your child choose and prepare clothing for the simulation.
- Help your child pack their "bag" for their travels to the "new land".
- Plan some ethnic food to bring to the snacks potluck at Big Fireweed.

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE ON THE DAY OF THE SIMULATION:

- Feed your "immigrant" a good breakfast and come on time, because the ship "sails" at 8:45!
- Help check immigrants in the morning of the simulation. Need: 3 "Officials"
- Come dressed as an immigrant your self and join in the fun!
- Bring an ethnic food item for the potluck.
- Plan a simple activity to do in "America". (Finger weaving, sewing, etc)
- Bring your musical instrument to play.

**Be a part of this Celebration and
Culmination of our study of ROOTS!**