

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How does Fireweed Academy differ from other schools?

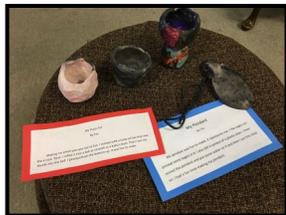
A: We have a limited number students and have a low pupil to teacher ratio, 18:1. We have multi-age classes with dynamic cooperative groups. Students are placed with the same teachers and students for several years. We use alternative methods and curricula.

Q: Does it cost to attend Fireweed Academy?

A: There is no tuition at Fireweed Academy. It is a public school in the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.

Q: What about scheduling and bus-ing?

A: We use the same district calendar and bus service so siblings are on the same schedule and bus.



Artists in Schools
ceramics projects

Visit our school at:
www.schools.kpbsd.org/fireweed



The Fall garden harvest at Little Fireweed.

Kenai Peninsula
Borough School
District

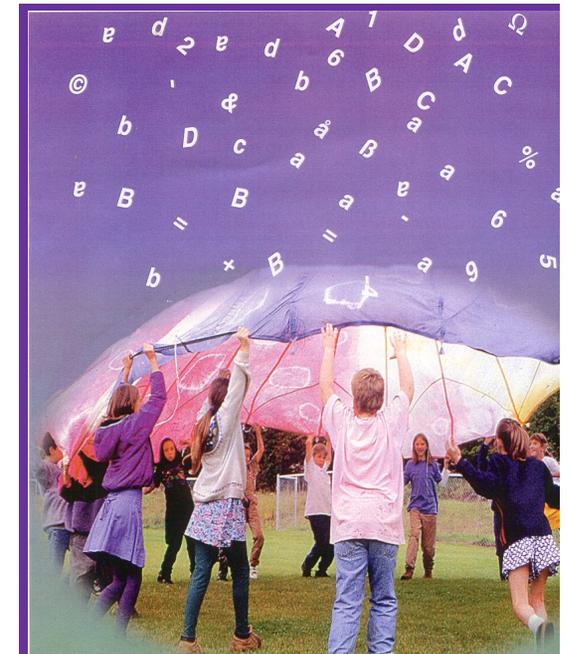
FIREWEED ACADEMY

Our Mission Statement

To provide a compassionate learning environment that gives students, parents, teachers, and community members opportunities to develop: Self-reliance, cooperation, creativity, reasoning ability, personal growth and academic achievement.

Fireweed Academy
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Kenai Peninsula Borough
School District
**FIREWEED
ACADEMY**
A tuition-free
public charter school.



*Fireweed Academy...a vibrant
community of readers, writers and
problem solvers for the 21st century.*

Fireweed Academy

A tuition-free public charter school founded in 1997.

Fireweed Academy, formerly the Homer Charter School, was founded in 1997 by parents just like you, by teachers in our community, and by members of the community who want the Homer area to have choices in educational opportunities. Although members of the public sometimes mistake it for a private school, it enjoys public funding just like other public schools, its teachers must meet state certification standards, and its students undergo the same standardized testing.

On the other hand, Fireweed Academy is operated by an Academic Policy Committee. Even though we are required to address state standards and meet state benchmarks, we have a flexibility that allows us to set our own goals and use alternative resources, methods and assessments.



Explorations in motion.

Among our Methods

Theme Immersion: Each quarter our students embark on an in depth study of a broad based theme. They generate essential questions to guide their study and all content is integrated into the theme. This interdisciplinary approach teaches students to think critically, solve problems and make connections.

Authentic Experiences: Each week we strive to have a guest speaker, mentor or field trip to tie our study to real life experiences. Kids see that learning is real and purposeful.



Project/Problem based Learning: Through the theme immersion, students are given opportunities to use a variety of methods and learning styles to complete simple and complex projects and problems.



Community service project at the Homer Food Pantry.

Socratic Seminars: Socrates taught us how to think by asking questions and listening to each other's responses. Students participate in formal discussion that develops their ability to cooperate, reason, and communicate.

Reading and Writing Process: We use a whole language approach to teach reading, writing, listening and speaking throughout our theme immersion studies.

Mathematics: We focus on concept development, applications, and problem solving. The foundation is the Visual Math program, a stimulating and challenging math curriculum. Core skills and problem solving are an ongoing emphasis.



Annual Link-Up performance.