

Old Baldy Foundation
Lighthouse Learners Scholarship
P.O. Box 3007
Bald Head Island, NC 28461

August 26, 2019

Dear North Carolina Fourth Grade Class:

Every year, hundreds of fourth graders take a field trip to Bald Head Island, North Carolina, to visit Old Baldy, the state's oldest standing lighthouse. Bald Head Island is a unique, historic barrier island that is only accessible via passenger ferry. Field trips to Bald Head Island are unforgettable educational experiences.

The Old Baldy Foundation subsidizes ferry tickets and admission fees for classes taking a field trip to Old Baldy Lighthouse through the Lighthouse Learners Scholarship Program. This scholarship program awards funds up to \$800 to qualifying, North Carolina fourth grade classrooms. Preference is given to Title I Schools; however, other schools may qualify. Scholarship funds are available through grants and private donations. The availability of scholarship funds varies year by year.

Within this packet is helpful information for planning a field trip to Old Baldy Lighthouse and completing your Lighthouse Learners Scholarship application. This packet includes:

- Sample field trip schedule
- Field trip station guide
- A "Frequently Asked Questions" Sheet
- Lighthouse Learners Scholarship application

Should you have any questions about the Lighthouse Learners Scholarship Program, please contact Travis Gilbert, Educator & Collections Coordinator for the Old Baldy Foundation. He may be reached via email at travis@oldbaldy.org or telephone at 910-448-1472.

Lighthouse Learners Scholarship Applications must be submitted via email by 5pm on December 6, 2019. Classes will be notified of their application's status by January 13, 2020. We appreciate your interest in visiting Old Baldy Lighthouse with your fourth grade class.

Sincerely,

Travis Gilbert
Educator & Collections Coordinator
Old Baldy Foundation

Sample Old Baldy Lighthouse Field Trip Schedule

9:30am	Ferry Departs Mainland at Deep Point Marina
10am	Ferry Arrives at Bald Head Island
10 – 10:15am	Walk From Ferry to Lighthouse Grounds
10:15 – 10:45am	Station Rotation #1
10:45 – 11:15am	Station Rotation #2
11:15 – 11:45am	Lunch Break
11:45am – 12:15pm	Station Rotation #3
12:15 – 12:45pm	Station Rotation #4
12:45 – 1pm	Buffer Time/Group Picture
1pm	Walk From Lighthouse Grounds to Ferry
1:30pm	Ferry Departs Bald Head Island for Mainland
2pm	Ferry Arrives at Mainland

- Ferry departure times may vary depending on individual school's needs
- Regardless of ferry departure time, Old Baldy field trips require 4.5 hours to complete

Old Baldy Field Trip Stations

(30 Minutes Each – 4 Rotations)

<i>Station</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>NC Standards Met</i>
Museum/Gift Shop	Students will complete a crossword puzzle using text and artifacts from the museum. After completing the puzzle, students will have time in the gift shop.	RL.4.1 RL.4.7 RI.4.1 RI.4.2 RI.4.3 RI.4.4
Old Baldy Lighthouse	Students will climb Old Baldy Lighthouse while learning about lighthouse technology, construction, and the lives of lighthouse keepers.	4.H.1.3 4.H.2.1 4.G.1.1 4.G.1.2 4.G.1.3 4.G.1.4 4.P.3.1 4.P.3.2
Fort Holmes Hike	Students will take a brief hike through Bald Head Island's maritime forest to explore the remains of Fort Holmes, a Confederate fortification from the Civil War.	4.H.1.3 4.H.1.4 4.H.2.1 4.G.1.4
Bald Head Island Conservancy	Students will discuss the ecology of a barrier island with a staff member from the Bald Head Island Conservancy. Students will have an opportunity to see native animals such as turtles.	4.L.1.1 4.L.1.2 4.L.1.3 4.L.1.4

Frequently Asked Questions about Old Baldy Field Trips

When may field trips to Old Baldy Lighthouse be scheduled?

Old Baldy Lighthouse field trips may be scheduled on Wednesdays or Thursdays between March 6, 2020 and June 18, 2020. Old Baldy Foundation staff will begin confirming field trip dates by January 13, 2020.

Where does the Bald Head Island Ferry Depart?

The Bald Head Island Ferry departs from Deep Point Marina, located at 1301 Ferry Rd SE, Southport, NC 28461.

Is there parking for busses at Deep Point Marina?

Complimentary bus parking is located at Deep Point Marina. A staff member will be on location to direct your bus drivers to the parking location.

How much are Bald Head Island Ferry Tickets?

Current ferry pricing may be found at baldheadislandferry.com

When will the ferry depart for Bald Head Island?

A 9:30am departure from the mainland to Bald Head Island is highly recommended for field trips. If your school cannot accommodate a 9:30am departure, Old Baldy Foundation staff will work with your school to schedule a ferry departure that is convenient for all parties.

Why is a 9:30am ferry departure highly recommended?

A 9:30am ferry departure time is recommended because it is likely that your class will have a private, chartered ferry. This ensures that your class remains together, and not split up between multiple public ferries. Additionally, chartered ferries cost one bulk rate, rather than purchasing individual ferry tickets.

How long are ferry rides to Bald Head Island?

Ferry trips to Bald Head Island take roughly 20 – 30 minutes.

How long are field trips to Old Baldy Lighthouse?

Schools should expect field trips to Old Baldy Lighthouse to take 4.5 hours, beginning from the classes' ferry departure and concluding when the ferry arrives back to the mainland. Schools must complete the entire 4.5 hour field trip to qualify for Lighthouse Learners Scholarship funds.

What is included during an Old Baldy Lighthouse field trip?

School groups will be broken into 4 sections and rotate through 4 stations that last 30 minutes each. These stations include visiting the museum and gift shop, climbing Old Baldy Lighthouse, hiking through a Civil War fort, and hearing a presentation from the Bald Head Island Conservancy. Each station meets NC curriculum standards. The Old Baldy Foundation asks that students refrain from using electronic devices during programming unless directed by a staff member or volunteer.

How are lunches facilitated during field trips?

Students should pack a lunch to Old Baldy Lighthouse. A 30 minute lunch break will be scheduled during the field trip for students to enjoy their packed lunch on the lighthouse grounds. Trash bags will be provided by Old Baldy Lighthouse, along with the disposal of trash.

What is the weather like at Old Baldy Lighthouse?

Regardless of the weather conditions, your class should expect to be exposed to these conditions during your field trip to Old Baldy. There are limited indoor facilities that provide protection from the rain or climate control from the temperature. Your entire class will not be able to fit inside the ferry cabin during your ferry rides. Please be knowledgeable of the weather predictions for Bald Head Island before your field trip and plan accordingly.

What about inclement weather?

It is the responsibility of the school to make the judgment call on whether to cancel due to inclement weather. The Old Baldy Foundation does not take responsibility for making this call. Please communicate any cancellations to Travis Gilbert at 910-448-1472 as soon as possible. Schools may attempt to reschedule their field trip or cancel indefinitely. Funds will be revoked if field trips are cancelled indefinitely.

How many teachers and chaperones will funding accommodate?

Only 1 teacher or chaperone per 12 students qualifies for Lighthouse Learners Scholarship Funds. Additional adults are not guaranteed to ride the same ferry as the class, are responsible for purchasing their ferry ticket, and will be charged standard admission fees at Old Baldy Lighthouse. Ferry information is found at baldheadislandferry.com.

Who is the Old Baldy Foundation staff member responsible for field trips?

All questions and concerns regarding Old Baldy Lighthouse field trips and the Lighthouse Learners Scholarship program should be addressed to Travis Gilbert, Educator & Collections Coordinator for the Old Baldy Foundation. Travis may be reached via cell phone at 910-448-1472, in the office at 910-457-7481, or by email at travis@oldbaldy.org.