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## River Classroom

River Classroom, now in its 6th year, is a place-based experiential education program in which NMWC staff engage students in a variety of place-based, hands-on, rigorous science lessons. We work with the same groups of students throughout the school year, over consecutive school years, with curricula based on Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and New Mexico Public Education Department's science standards. The curricula is developed in conjunction with the classroom teacher so that lessons augment what students learn in the classroom.

Studies conducted since the 1970's have clearly indicated that science is best taught in place-based, experiential curricula. Place-based learning makes science more relevant to students' experiences and greatly increases student engagement (Hellar et al. 2003, Gruenewald 2003, Akey 2006). Our programs relate science concepts to the places our students live and play so that students can better understand and apply this knowledge to their lives. Our unique teaching methods and robust evaluation techniques, allows us to effectively educate youth in New Mexico to address the challenges facing wildlife and habitats.

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## Details

**Ages:** Children and Youth

**Races:** All

**Genders:** All

**Intake Process:** Email

**Waiting List:** Limited Slots

**Minimum Age:** 4th grade

**Maximum Age:** 12th grade

**Contact:** Christy Wall

**Contact Email:** [christy@newmexicowildlifecenter.org](mailto:christy@newmexicowildlifecenter.org)

**Capacity:** 25 students per group

**Restrictions:** River Classroom is currently offered through schools.

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## Services

Education

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## Locations

## Parent Organization

### New Mexico Wildlife Center

New Mexico Wildlife Center works to conserve and restore native wildlife and their habitats through action-

oriented education, promotion of public awareness, strategic partnerships and responsible wildlife rehabilitation.

*19 Wheat Street  
Española, NM 87532*

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***Type:*** Nonprofit

***EIN:*** 850346210

***<http://www.newmexicowildlifecenter.org>***