



TRAILBLAZERS PLANNER



**2011/2012
Season**

GREETINGS!

Welcome to Trailblazers! We created this planner to help answer questions you may have about the program. To keep our programs fun and the learning curve high, please adhere to our long-standing policies and make sure you understand the program in its entirety.

Please feel free to contact us with any further questions. Thanks again for joining Trailblazers!

Best,

Youth Program Coordinators
youthprograms@coppercolorado.com
866.385.0144 / 970.968.3023





IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

General Information Line **866-385-0144**
Late Line **970-968-3263**

OVERVIEW

Ages 3 – 5, Trailblazers is a fun skiing/riding adventure which enhances your child's skill development, mountain awareness, and enjoyment. Throughout the season, children take part in on snow games and add lots of mileage on their skis. The program also includes a complimentary Copper Mountain and Flaik GPS tracking.

Ages: 3 - 5

Discipline: Ski & Snowboard (*Wednesdays Only*)

Days: Wednesdays or Thursdays Dec. – Feb.

Session Length: 4 Week Sessions each month
(December session is only 3 Weeks)

Ability Levels: All

Time: Morning 9:00 - 11:30;
 Afternoon 12:30 - 3:00
 Combo 9:00 - 3:00 (Age 5 Only)

PROGRAM DATES

Nov. /Dec. Wed/Thurs

Nov. 30/Dec. 7, 14/1, 8, 15

Jan. Wed/Thurs

4, 11, 18, 25 / 5, 12, 19, 26

Feb. /March Wed. /Thurs.

8, 15, 22, 29/ 9, 16, 23, March 1

SESSION TIMES

AM – 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

PM – 12:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Combo – 9:00 AM -3:00 PM (5 yr olds only)

SEASON PASSES

The Trailblazers program includes a **complimentary Copper Mountain Pass** valid at Copper Mountain. The included Copper Mountain Pass is valid all season long. You may get your child's picture taken and pick up their season pass **prior** to the first lesson at Copper's season pass office, located in Copper Sports at the Guest Service Desk, in Center Village. Or, visit www.skicolorado.com for a list of Denver area fall sales locations. **Please make sure your child has their season pass in-hand prior to the first lesson.**

ASSESS YOUR READINESS

Please consider the guidelines in this planner; they will help you and your child(ren) to have a successful and happy Trailblazer season. Please understand that this program is successful year after year because as a parent you understand the maturity and limitations of your child(ren) prior to the first day of the session.

Make sure you have talked about skiing and told your child(ren) that they will be taking lessons. Just like adults, being thrown into something you were





TRAILBLAZERS 2011-2012

unaware of can be scary. Talk about skiing and get them excited; this makes it much easier to teach your child(ren) and sets them up to have a positive first experience.

If your child(ren) is ready for Trailblazers you will be amazed at how far they can progress and will be proud of their interactions with instructors and other children in a fun skiing environment.

Not all children this age will be ready for skiing, please use your best judgment concerning your child(ren).

Has your child(ren) been in daycare, Headstart, or preschool prior to Trailblazers? If not, this may be adjustment for them and maybe for you as well.

Can you trust another adult that you do not know with your child(ren)? You need to trust our instructors and their teaching style. It may be different from what you are accustomed to. There can be up to five other children who need constant attention in your child(ren)'s group. The instructor's attention may be briefly diverted away from your child so that they can tend to another student. This does not mean we don't care or can't instruct five children at once.

Can your child(ren) follow directions and listen? Be realistic, as this is something they will need to do at Trailblazers.

Does your child(ren) take an afternoon nap?

Please consider your child(ren)'s current schedule. It may take a couple of classes to get them adjusted to this new routine.

Does my child have to be potty trained?

Yes! Fully trained, no pull ups, please. We recommend practicing getting snow pants/snowsuit up and down at home, ensuring success during lessons.

What are your goals/expectations for

Trailblazers? We cannot guarantee your child(ren) will be skiing off the chair lift in four weeks. This all depends on their motor skills and in many cases their social and developmental skills. Although we cannot base their success entirely on this, we do know it plays a factor. Some kids master skiing faster than others. In many cases it has nothing to do with athleticism. Every child learns at their own pace.

You know your child(ren) better than we do.

Please let us know ANY important information about your child(ren) on the first day of Trailblazers.

ABILITY LEVEL ASSESSMENT All classes will be established by age and ability. On hill assessment will be conducted by a Copper Ski and Ride School Supervisor.





SKILABILITY

Please review this to help determine where your child spends most of their day skiing comfortably.

Never Skied

1st experience

Terrain/lifts: Easy Rider / Slingshot

Skied / Not Stopping

Has not ridden a chair lift

Learning to turn to a stop

Terrain/lifts: Easy Rider / Slingshot / Green Acres

Green

Can make wedge turns and stops

Has been on a chair lift and skies without assistance

Explores green terrain

Terrain/lifts: Kokomo / Lumberjack / Highpoint / beginning to ski off the American Flyer

Green / Blue

Controls speed through linking turns

Round shaped turns

Beginning to match skis on easier greens

Terrain/lifts: Skiing all terrain of American Flyer / Rendezvous / Exploring Timberline

Blue

Matching skis through the middle of the turn on easy blue terrain

Steers skis with both feet

Exploring easy bumps and off piste' conditions

Working on hockey stops

Terrain/lifts: All terrain off Timberline / Exploring

Andy's Encore and Collage

EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

Equipment is **not** included with the Trailblazers program. Your child must have his or her equipment in hand before the lesson starts. If you do not have your own equipment, we highly recommend season rentals, which are available at most Front Range ski/board shops.

To ensure proper fit, make sure that you have your child(ren) try on their equipment before the program begins. **Also, be sure to label all of your child(ren)'s equipment. Copper Mountain is not responsible for lost or stolen belongings.** **Helmet – Copper Mountain Resort requires that all skiers and snowboarders in our youth programs wear helmets.** Remember that a helmet does not protect against all types of injuries, and is not a device which guarantees safety. Use your head and always follow 'Your Responsibility Code.' Please checkout www.lidsonkids.org for more information on helmets.

- **Hat** – A hat may be worn under the helmet for added warmth.





TRAILBLAZERS 2011-2012

- **Eye protection** – Goggles or sunglasses must be worn at all times.
- **Sunscreen** – SPF 15 or higher, waterproof sunscreen should be applied in the morning and carried in a pocket and reapplied throughout the day.
- **Long underwear** – This helps trap body heat and wick away moisture. No cotton.
- **Jacket** – A waterproof jacket with plenty of zippered pockets, make sure it is roomy enough to fit over several layers.
- **Gloves or Mittens** – Waterproof is a must! No cotton.
- **Socks** – One pair of synthetic or wool socks is all that is needed. No cotton.
- **Snow pants** – Waterproof snow pants or bibs are required.
- **Skis/boots/poles** – Beginner skiers do not need poles until advised by their instructor.

FLAIK GPS TRACKING

For industry-leading safety, confidence, and peace of mind Copper Mountain is in its third year of a partnership with Flaik™ for real time GPS tracking. This allows parents the virtual opportunity to participate in their child's lesson. Each day your

child will be fitted with a GPS tracker that will record their day including lifts taken, trails skied, elevation and speed. Please obtain your child's number at the end of each day from your child's instructor and then visit www.flaik.com to re-live the day and season with your child.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

To ensure the fun and safety of program members and supervisors, we ask that your child(ren) **be potty trained** and ready for a **peaceful separation** from parents.

CLASS DAY INFORMATION

Meeting time is **9:00 AM / 12:30PM**. Please allow plenty of time for your commute to Copper Mountain as well as your shuttle ride to Center Village. If you are late, (after 9:15 / 12:45PM), call the late line at 970-968-3263, then go to the meeting area. We will do our best to try to contact your child's class, but there are **no guarantees** (be there by 9:00 / 12:30). If you have forgotten your season pass, please go to the regular meeting area; we will have extra lift tickets.

Parking

The North Alpine lot is the FREE parking lot for Ski and Ride School Youth Programs guests. As our special guest, we want you to spend more time on the mountain and less time parking your car. There





TRAILBLAZERS 2011-2012

are also pay parking lots closer to the Villages if you prefer to base your day closer to the slopes.

Getting Here

Take I-70 West to exit 195 (Copper Mountain)
Follow Highway 91 and turn right at the Copper Mountain entrance
Follow Copper Road to Union Creek. 15 minute parking or the Union Creek Pay Lot
Park, gather equipment, and walk towards the Schoolhouse.

Meeting Area

December Trailblazers will meet in **Center Village** at the Easy Rider magic carpet next to the American Eagle Lift

Pick Up

Pick up times are 11:30 AM / 3:00 PM. Please be on time to pickup your children.
If you are going to be late, please call 970-968-3263.

Lunch

Combo (full day) participants are provided lunch. Please inform your child(ren)'s instructor of any special needs or food allergies.

THE FIRST DAY

When determining your child(ren)'s ability level, it should be where they are spending most of their day skiing or riding comfortably. Go to the sign that corresponds with their ability level. The instructors will do a "verbal split." They will ask you and your child(ren) questions about terrain, speed, comfort zone and the last time they skied to help determine classes. From this information the children are split based on ability, speed, stamina and goals. The school will then do an on-hill split. A Copper Ski and Ride School Supervisor will assess the groups to make sure that each child fits into their group correctly.

Make Up Days

If your child has missed a lesson for any reason, please call or email us at 866-385-0144 or youthprograms@coppercolorado.com. We can schedule a make-up lesson in our Group Lessons at the Schoolhouse *with a valid Doctor's note*.

Buddy Request

We make every effort to accommodate requests for friends to be in the same class. However, the students need to be of the same ability and age. If not, the older or higher ability level will have to move to the class level that best accommodates the younger / lower level. Make sure you remind the instructor of the request on the first morning.

