Sequence of children, young and older entering school buildings; studying; pictures of buildings.

Children on field trips — at air-field observing airplanes, etc.

NARRATION


Title:

The March of Time, in cooperation with National Camp and Life Camps presents —
Camping Education — a new and realistic program of purposeful living, outdoor experiences and community service.

Throughout the United States today millions of American youth, ages 5 to 17, trudge their way to all kinds of schools, public and private, city and rural, in quest of what our democracy guarantees as their rightful heritage — free education. This education is carried on in all kinds of schools — the one room schools, four-room schools, elementary and secondary school buildings many stories high, having enrollments up to as many as 10,000 children in one building.

Well over 90% of American youth spend hours a day, hours a year in rooms, searching through books and reciting their lessons in these standard school buildings. For the most part they follow a standard curriculum.

Founded originally on the premise that education was a preparation for life, they learn standard things early in life just in case some day they may have need for them.

But in recent years some schools, both public and private, have ventured into the newer philosophy of education, introducing contact with the community outside by field trips in an effort to bring children into contact with some realities of life as an essential part of their education, for education is life itself.

Title:

The Camping Education movement was founded by National Camp, July 9, 1949, based in general upon the camping movement and in particular upon the unique and revolutionary type of campsite procedure and decentralization developed in Life Camps.
AMERICAN SCHOOLS FACE REALITY

(Note: This is a preliminary treatment of the place of National Camp in American education. The growing interest in National Camp on the part of American educational leaders is evidence of the need for this type of training for American youth.)

Scenes

1. Away training camp, young men going through their paces.

2. Pilot school, youths learning ins and outs of flying.

3. Planes flying in formation.

4. Destroyers in formation, full steam ahead.

5. Aircraft carrier in action.

6. Tanks fighting in desert.

7. Trucks on China front.

8. Soldiers in Iceland.


10. Children pouring into large high school in city.

11. Teacher closing door after child in smaller school.

12. Children hanging up clothes in lockers in hall.

13. Close-up of youngsters taking off rubbers and coats.

14. Class finding seats in typical schoolroom.

15. Teacher opening book to start recitation.

16. Children working at blackboard.

Fadeout

Narrator

Today American youth are fighting for democracy in every part of the world. Whether our idea of life prevails in the future depends to a large extent upon the ideals and skills of these youth. Everything possible must be done to provide the young people of America with the tools they need to fight for the future.... they need strong bodies, keen minds, skillful hands, unconquerable ideals.... every dollar spent, every hour of training must pay dividends in the grim struggle for existence and post-war reconstruction.

Unfortunately, there are growing movements in the direction of more schools. Many teachers have the best interests of their students on their minds.

American schools are the best in the world. In America free education has become a reality for most every youth through high school. Today these schools face the greatest challenge of their existence. Can they train youth more effectively to maintain and extend democracy throughout the world than the schools of totalitarian nations? This is a question that every American must ask himself as 20 million youngsters trudge off to school every day. This is a tremendous investment in time, money and materials....does it pay real dividends?
American schools stand today as one of democracy's greatest accomplishments—a free education to all youth.

Twenty million American children trudge daily to these schools to prepare themselves for life in a turbulent world.

Encouraging in recent years has been the move to introduce more realism in education and give youngsters actual experience along with book learning.

Some schools, both public and private have introduced direct contact with life outside the school as a part of the curriculum so that during the school hours trips are taken to nearby places under teacher guidance.

But these instances are far too few for the vast majority of youngsters school is still confined to basic books and within the four walls of the classroom where they learn standard subjects in a standard way. Here the child meets the real things of life in their true perspective. How much more chemistry, biology and physics will mean to a youngster who has a rich background of first-hand experience and how much of these subjects are learned as they should be in relation to each other.