Grades PK-3

Spring Explorers

Students will explore how animals and plants leave winter behind them to reemerge anew each spring. Includes activities and discussion of adapatations.

Jurassic World

Travel back in time to the age of dinosaurs by digging for dinos and learning what the world looked like in prehistoric times.

Seed, Sprout, Grow

With games and an interactive craft, students will lean about the life cycle of plants and why plants are such an important part of our ecosystem.
Optionally, includes a pamphlet and discussion on identifying harmful local plants such as poison ivy

Spidey Senses

Students will learn what makes a spider a spider in this fun program that includes a spider web craft.

Grades 4-8

CSI: Critter Scene Investigation

In this completely interactive program students learn about footprints, scat, and the food chain while trying to solve the mystery of what happened to the Nature Center's prized birdhouses.

Radio Telemetry

Using the same equipment that field biologists use, students will track a radio collared stuffed animal hidden in the woods. Along the way, they will discuss radio tracking , how it works, and what scientists have learned from it.

The Physics of Nature

How does lightning form?
How do earthquakes shake the planet?
Demonstrations of physical principles with explanations of how they work in nature will bring physics into the forest.

Grades 4-8

Around the World in a Day

Students will learn about the 5 major climate zones and their unique ecosystems in this interactive program of maps, games, and habitats.

What's Wrong In Our Pond?

Students will be provided with a water sample and tools to test it. Could fish live in their water? They'll tell us in this guided lesson and experiment.
Tests may include pH, temperature, turbidity, nitrogen, and more.

Navigation Know How

Two options:
Map and Compass Course Or Geocaching
Students will explore navigation basics and then go on a treasure hunt, applying their new skills in a fun way.

Ice Age New York

Students will discover how the Ice Age created the state we know today, from land marks like the St. Lawrence River to the Adirondack mountains. What did the saber tooth cat see when he was stalking a woolly mammoth? We'll find out together.

Suitable for Any Grade

Who's Hoot?

A lesson in adaptations for hunting at night. Students will learn how owls are built to surive and hunt.
Includes owl pellet dissection activity.

Pond Scooping

Investigate life in a pond. Using nets students will search the pond for life, then have a chance to identify and learn about the organisms they discovered.

Nature's Engineers

Beavers were the orignal dam builders. Students will create and test their own dam in a tabletop activity, while learning about how beavers - and how humans - create dams and alter the landscape.

Cold Blooded Is Cool

What does it mean to be an ectotherm? Students will explore warm vs cold blooded creatures with a hands on activity and a meet and greet with some of the nature center's ambassador reptiles and amphibians.

Incredible Insects

Through a meet and greet with live insects, a bug hunt (weather permitting), and fun lesson, students will learn about the diversity and importance of insects.

Bats Are Where It's At

Bats are an integral part of the world's ecosystem but get a bad rap due to human fears. Students will discover the importance of bats while bat myths are debunked.

Sounds of Nature

Experience the sounds around us in new ways in this interactive program that helps students focus on what they hear - not just what they see - when exploring the outdoors.

Understanding Flight

How do animals fly? Students will participate in games and activities that showcase the different ways - and reasons - animals take to the air.

Mammals of the North Country

Explore mammal life in our region through animal sign (tracks and scat), furs, skulls, and other hands on elements.

Important Information

Not seeing a program that will fit your lesson plan?
Please contact us to discuss options for a program that will meet your group's educational goals.

High school/college programs available by request.

A second, outdoor based program may be substituted in place of the nature walk. (examples, pond scooping , navigation, or radio telemetry)

Walks will take place on snowshoes or skis during the winter season.

Skiing programs require 60-90 minutes, schedule will be adjusted accordingly

Schools may wish to combine a trip to the nature center with a trip to Hawkins Point Visitor Center or Eisenhower Lock Visitor Center. Contact us for more info on how to arrange a combined trip.