



**Great
Parks**

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

2025 – 2026

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Request a Program

Great Parks' school programs connect students with nature through a variety of immersive experiences. These hands-on adventures are designed with outcomes, objectives and concepts that are aligned with the Ohio Department of Education's Learning Standards. Programs are offered for student groups in pre-kindergarten through high school and cover the following content areas:

- Early Learning and Development
- Science
- Social and Emotional Learning
- Social Studies

After reviewing the school group programs:

1. Complete the **Program Request Form**
2. In your submission:
 - Provide up to three potential dates for your visit.
 - Select your preferred Great Parks destination. If requesting an off-site location, select "Other Location" and provide as much detail as possible such as location name and address.

Please allow up to 10 business days from the time of your submission for an education staff member to contact you.

Financial Assistance

When it comes to experiencing the natural wonders of the outdoors, Great Parks believes in accessibility for all. The Great Parks Scholarship Fund offers families and schools the opportunity to connect students with nature through financial assistance provided by Great Parks Forever, the philanthropic partner to Great Parks. To learn more, visit greatparks.org/programs/groups.

Payment & Cancellation Policies

- Full payment is due 30 days from the invoice date.
- For programs with a per-participant fee, free entry is provided for one adult per every 10 children. Additional adults will be charged full price.
- Mail or hand-deliver payments and invoices to:

Great Parks

Attn: Guest Relations

10245 Winton Rd

Cincinnati, OH 45231

- Make checks payable to Great Parks.
- Call 513-521-7275 to pay with a credit card by phone.
- Program fees include vehicle entry for all participants. Upon arrival, notify the booth attendant of your group's name and entry will be granted.
- Cancellations made 14 or fewer days prior to the program date will result in a \$25 cancellation fee.



Exploring Soil | September–October & April–May

Location: Glenwood Gardens

Cost: \$10 per participant

Explore the soil that makes up the earth. Discover some soil-dwelling and soil-making creatures while learning ways people can help create healthy soil. Explore the themed gardens and Discovery Tree playhouse at Highfield Discovery Garden.

Students will:

- Identify items found in compost.
- Describe an action to improve soil health.



Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards:

- Pre-K Science Inquiry and Application Strand (Inquiry) – Use simple tools to extend investigation.
- Pre-K Earth and Space Science Strand (Explorations of the Natural World) – With modeling and support, recognize familiar elements of the natural environment and understand that these may change over time.
- Pre-K Earth and Space Science Strand (Explorations of the Natural World) – With modeling and support, develop an understanding of the relationship between humans and nature, recognizing the difference between helpful and harmful actions toward the natural environment.
- Pre-K Life Science Strand (Explorations of Living Things) – With modeling and support, identify physical characteristics and simple behaviors of living things.

Fall Farm Changes | September–November

Location: Winton Woods | Farm & Equestrian Center

Cost: \$10 per participant

It's harvest season at the Farm! Explore the garden to see what's growing in the chilly air and learn how the animals prepare for colder weather. Take a wagon ride through the woods to see the fall changes up close.

Students will:

- Name basic traits of living things while meeting a farm animal ambassador.
- Investigate and observe the fall crops in the garden during harvest.
- Describe how fall weather affects crops and pastures while on a wagon ride.



Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards:

- SC 1.a – Explores and investigates objects and events in the environment.
- SC 1.b – Develops ability to reason about cause and effect.

Spring on the Farm | March–May

Location: Winton Woods | Farm & Equestrian Center

Cost: \$10 per participant

Spring is in the air at the Farm! Explore the garden to see what's sprouting and learn how the animals are getting ready for warmer weather. Take a wagon ride through the woods to see the spring changes up close.

Students will:

- Name the basic needs of living things with a farm animal ambassador.
- Describe how spring weather affects trees while on a wagon ride.
- Investigate and make observations on seed sprouts in the garden.



Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards:

- SC: 1.a – Explores and investigates objects and events in the environment.
- SC: 1.b – Develops ability to reason about cause and effect.
- SS: 1.b. – Develops a basic understanding of needs and wants.

Gardens & Animals | September–October & April–May

Location: Glenwood Gardens

Cost: \$10 per participant

Explore the themed gardens and Discovery Tree playhouse at Highfield Discovery Garden. Take a break in the workshop and meet creatures that live in gardens.

Students will:

- Identify the physical traits of animal ambassadors which help them survive.
- Describe behaviors which help some animals survive in the garden.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- K.LS.1 – Living things have specific characteristics and traits.
- K.LS.2 – Living things have physical traits and behaviors, which influence their survival.

Autumn & Adaptations | September–November

Location: Winton Woods | Farm & Equestrian Center

Cost: \$10 per participant

Plants and animals change with the season during autumn at the farm! Explore how animals prepare for colder weather and journey through the woods on a wagon ride to observe seasonal changes up close.

Students will:

- Describe adaptations of farm and wild animals related to their winter survival during animal encounters.
- Describe the environmental characteristics of autumn while on a wagon ride.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- K.ESS.1 – Weather changes are long-term and short-term.
- K.LS.2 – Living things have physical traits and behaviors that influence their survival.

Leaves for Little Folks | September–November

Locations: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve, Fernbank Park, Miami Whitewater Forest, Sharon Woods & Woodland Mound

Cost: \$8 per participant

Celebrate trees and leaves! Learn why foliage changes color and leaves drift to the ground during the fall season.

Students will:

- Sort leaves into similar groups with their class.
- Describe two ways leaves help organisms survive to their peers.
- Verbally identify two different types of leaves in a group.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- K.PS.1 – Objects and materials can be sorted and described by their properties.
- K.LS.1 – Living things have specific characteristics and traits.
- K.LS.2 – Living things have physical traits and behaviors that influence their survival.



Animals in Winter | November–January

Locations: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve, Fernbank Park, Miami Whitewater Forest, Sharon Woods & Woodland Mound

Cost: \$8 per participant

Build a bear den or a beaver lodge, meet a live animal and explore different habitats to learn about strategies animals use for winter survival.

Students will:

- Describe two reasons why animals migrate based on seasonal changes.
- Explore three ways winter-active animals change their behavior.
- Describe two characteristics which help animals hibernate in the winter.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- K.ESS.1 – Weather changes are long-term and short-term.
- K.LS.1 – Living things have specific characteristics and traits.
- K.LS.2 – Living things have physical traits and behaviors, which influence their survival.

Marvelous Maples | January–March

Location: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve

Cost: \$8 per participant

Learn how seasonal changes impact our native maple trees, how trees produce sap and why we've come to love it.

Students will:

- Discover how various parts of a tree help it grow through sugar production.
- Describe how weather affects the flow of sap while on a hike through the sugar bush.
- Learn three unique characteristics of maple trees.



Ohio's Science and Social Studies Learning Standards:

- K.ESS.1 – Weather changes are long-term and short-term.
- K.LS.1 – Living things have specific characteristics and traits.
- K.LS.2 – Living things have physical traits and behaviors, which influence their survival.
- History Strand (Historical Thinking and Skills) – Personal history can be shared through stories and pictures.
- Geography Strand (Human Systems) – Humans depend on and impact the physical environment in order to supply food, clothing and shelter.

Explore Spring | March–May

Locations: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve, Fernbank Park, Miami Whitewater Forest, Sharon Woods & Woodland Mound

Cost: \$8 per participant

Spring is a time of many changes in nature. Explore how the changing season impacts plants and animals with hands-on outdoor activities as we investigate the thriving local ecosystems, varying bird nests and more.

Students will:

- Describe how weather changes with the season.
- Identify two characteristics animals use to survive in the springtime.
- Explain how and why different birds have different types of nests.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- K.ESS.1 – Weather changes are long-term and short-term.
- K.LS.1 – Living things have specific characteristics and traits.
- K.LS.2 – Living things have physical traits and behaviors, which influence their survival.

Spring Has Sprung | March-May

Location: Winton Woods | Farm & Equestrian Center

Cost: \$10 per participant

New life is blooming at the Farm as the season shifts from winter to spring. Join us in exploring these changes by meeting some of our animals, roaming the garden and enjoying a wagon ride through the woods.

Students will:

- Describe traits of farm animals during animal encounters.
- Explain the life cycle of a plant with an activity in the garden.
- Describe one seasonal change observed in nature while on a wagon ride.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- K.LS.1 – Living things have specific characteristics and traits.
- K.LS.2 – Living things have physical traits and behaviors, which influence their survival.
- K.ESS.1 – Weather changes are long-term and short-term.

Fabulous Frogs & Toads | May

Location: Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve

Cost: \$8 per participant

Join us as we explore a frog's habitat and learn about its special characteristics.

Students will:

- Describe three unique characteristics of a frog.
- Observe the survival behavior of frogs in their natural habitat.
- Explain how frogs survive seasonal changes.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- K.LS.1 – Living things have specific characteristics and traits.
- K.LS.2 – Living things have physical traits and behaviors, which influence their survival.
- K.ESS.1 – Weather changes are long-term and short-term.



Living in the Garden | September–October & April–May

Location: Glenwood Gardens

Cost: \$10 per participant

Meet the animal ambassadors at Glenwood Gardens and discover their basic survival needs. Observe the critters that thrive in our themed gardens and have a play break in the Discovery Tree playhouse.

Students will:

- Describe how native animals meet their survival needs.
- Identify features of the garden which make it a good home for animals.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 1.LS.1 – Living things have basic needs, which are met by obtaining materials from the physical environment.
- 1.LS.2 – Living things survive only in environments that meet their needs.

Seasons & Survival | September–November

Location: Winton Woods | Farm & Equestrian Center

Cost: \$10 per participant

Fall is a busy time on the farm! Meet some barnyard animals and learn how they change for the season. Explore the garden for seasonal crops and discover how wildlife can use them too. Journey through the woods on a wagon ride to observe seasonal changes up close.

Students will:

- Describe weather patterns and seasonal changes observed in nature while on a wagon ride.
- Explain the overwintering strategies of animals with hands-on encounters and activities.
- Describe adaptations of organisms related to their winter survival to their classmates.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 1.LS.1 – Living things have basic needs, which are met by obtaining materials from the physical environment.
- 1.LS.2 – Living things survive only in environments that meet their needs.

Back to Basics | September–May

Locations: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve, Fernbank Park, Miami Whitewater Forest, Sharon Woods & Woodland Mound

Cost: \$8 per participant

Get back to basics during a discovery hike, meet some live animals and learn about their basic needs.

Students will:

- Describe how native animals meet their survival needs.
- Identify places in nature that make a good home for animals.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 1.LS.1 – Living things have basic needs, which are met by obtaining materials from the physical environment.
- 1.LS.2 – Living things survive only in environments that meet their needs.



Growing Up Maple | January–March

Location: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve

Cost: \$8 per participant

Did you know maple syrup is made from sap which trees need to grow? Practice the art of maple sugaring while learning about the environment in which maples thrive.

Students will:

- Describe how sunlight is transformed into sap and syrup in the sugar bush.
- Observe the three phases of water during the process of sugar-making.
- Explain to peers why maple sugaring occurs primarily in a small part of North America.



Ohio's Science and Social Studies Learning Standards:

- 1.ESS.1 – The sun is the principal source of energy.
- 1.ESS.2 – Water on Earth is present in many forms.
- 1.LS.1 – Living things have basic needs, which are met by obtaining materials from the physical environment.
- 1.LS.2 – Living things survive only in environments that meet their needs.
- Economics Strand (Production and Consumption) – People produce and consume goods and services in the community.

Farms, Gardens & Me | March–May

Location: Winton Woods | Farm & Equestrian Center

Cost: \$10 per participant

Explore the barnyard and garden to discover what plants, animals and people need to survive. Help in the garden and on the farm to learn about where our food comes from. Relax and journey through the woods on a wagon ride.

Students will:

- List basic needs of all living things in a group setting.
- Explain two ways that farms can meet our basic needs with hands-on activities.
- Describe to peers how farmers can meet the basic needs of a living organism.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 1.LS.1 – Living things have basic needs, which are met by obtaining materials from the physical environment.
- 1.LS.2 – Living things survive only in environments that meet their needs.

Survivor: Frogs | May

Location: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve

Cost: \$8 per participant

Explore a local ecosystem and interact with native amphibians which call Hamilton County home.

Students will:

- Explore how amphibians meet their needs in different life stages.
- Describe how amphibians meet their needs in three different aquatic habitats.
- Discover how native animals utilize unique characteristics to survive in their habitat.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 1.LS.1 – Living things have basic needs, which are met by obtaining materials from the physical environment.
- 1.LS.2 – Living things survive only in environments that meet their needs.

1803: Life on the Ohio Frontier | August–November & April–May

Location: Shawnee Lookout

Cost: \$8 per participant

Leap back in time to explore the frontier life of Ohio's early statehood and compare our lives today to those of the pioneers.

Students will:

- Recognize three technologies or events which have altered daily life.
- Identify three differences between life in Ohio today and the early 1800's
- Identify three similarities between life in Ohio today and the early 1800's.



Ohio's Social Studies Learning Standards:

- History Strand (Historical Thinking and Skills) – Time can be shown graphically on calendars and timelines.
- History Strand (Historical Thinking and Skills) – Change over time can be shown in artifacts, maps and photographs.
- History Strand (Heritage) – Science and technology have changed daily life.
- Government Strand (Rules and Laws) – There are different rules and laws that govern behavior in different settings.
- Economic Strand (Scarcity) – Resources can be used in different ways.

Weather & Farms | August–November & April–May

Location: Winton Woods | Farm & Equestrian Center

Cost: \$10 per participant

Heat, wind and rain, oh my! Why does a farmer care about the weather? Explore different types of weather and discover how weather conditions impact farms.

Students will:

- Measure temperature, wind and precipitation in the garden using weather instruments.
- Describe to peers how weather conditions and changing seasons impact farms.
- Describe how farmers prepare and plan for extreme weather in the barnyard.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 2.ESS.1 – The atmosphere is primarily made up of air.
- 2.ESS.2 – Water is present in the atmosphere.
- 2.ESS.3 – Long-and short-term weather changes occur due to changes in energy.

Who's in the Garden? | September–October & April–May

Location: Glenwood Gardens

Cost: \$10 per participant

Someone is causing mischief in the park! Take a hike and check out natural clues as you uncover who is lurking about. Also, meet live animal ambassadors and explore the themed gardens and Discovery Tree playhouse.

Students will:

- Compare different animals and how they survive.
- Describe how local animals impact their environment and the garden.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 2.LS.1 – Living things cause changes on Earth.

321 Impact | September–May

Locations: Embshoff Woods Nature Preserve, Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve, Fernbank Park, Miami Whitewater Forest, Sharon Woods, Shawnee Lookout & Woodland Mound

Cost: \$8 per participant

Every step we take impacts, compacts and transfers sediment around the globe. Get out on the trail and identify how humans compare to other organisms in the changing world around us.

Students will:

- Identify three ways living things impact nature.
- Identify three ways nature impacts our lives.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 2.LS.1 – Living things cause changes on Earth.

From Sap to Syrup | January–March

Location: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve

Cost: \$8 per participant

Explore the rich history of maple sugar production throughout history and across cultures.

Students will:

- Discuss how water moves through the tree while observing the process of making maple syrup.
- Experience three ways in which technology changed the world of maple sugaring with hands-on examples.
- Explore ways information is shared throughout history and across cultures.



Ohio's Science and Social Studies Learning Standards:

- 2.ESS.2 – Water is present in the atmosphere.
- History Strand (Heritage) – Science and technology have changed daily life.
- Geography Strand (Human Systems) – Interactions among cultures lead to sharing ways of life.

Amphibians Against the World | May

Location: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve

Cost: \$8 per participant

Examine how amphibians and their neighbors impact their ecosystem.

Students will:

- Share with peers three ways amphibians impact the environment.
- Discuss local examples of how introduced animals impact local ecosystems.
- Name three animals that create survival challenges for amphibians.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 2.LS.1 Living things cause changes on Earth.



Seasons & Cycles | August–November & April–May

Location: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve

Cost: \$7/participant

Discover the secrets of life cycles, adaptations and more through a hands-on pond study, monarch tagging and a seasonal hike to hone your observation skills.

Students will:

- Describe to peers the importance of citizen science.
- Explain how seasonal changes impact the life cycle of two different species.
- Use nature observation skills to determine three adaptations which help an animal survive seasonal change.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 3.LS.1 – Offspring resemble their parents and each other.
- 3.LS.2 – Individuals of the same kind of organism differ in their inherited traits. These differences give some individuals an advantage in surviving and/or reproducing.
- 3.LS.3 – Plants and animals have life cycles that are part of their adaptations for survival in their natural environments.

Built for Survival | September–May

Locations: Embshoff Woods Nature Preserve, Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve, Fernbank Park, Miami Whitewater Forest, Sharon Woods, Shawnee Lookout, Winton Woods | Farm & Equestrian Center, & Woodland Mound

Cost: \$8 per participant

From blooms and bugs to seeds and soil, parks provide the perfect outdoor laboratory to investigate it all. We'll explore the world around us with a discovery hike and a live animal program.

Students will:

- Describe the life cycles of plants and animals.
- Identify native plants and list traits that help ensure their survival.
- Describe how animals and their habitats are interconnected.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 3.LS.1 – Offspring resemble their parents and each other.
- 3.LS.2 – Individuals of the same kind of organism differ in their inherited traits. These differences give some individuals an advantage in surviving and/or reproducing.

Migrate, Hibernate or Stay & Deal | November–January

Locations: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve

Cost: \$8 per participant

Visit three different ecosystems and observe signs of winter survival.

Students will:

- Identify three survival strategies and inherited traits which allow animals to survive.
- Explain three ways seasonal survival strategies affect reproduction.
- Describe three physical and behavioral adaptations a bird of prey utilizes while meeting an animal ambassador.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 3.LS.1 – Offspring resemble their parents and each other.
- 3.LS.2 – Individuals of the same kind of organism differ in their inherited traits. These differences give some individuals an advantage in surviving and/or reproducing.
- 3.LS.3 – Plants and animals have life cycles that are a part of their adaptations for survival and their natural environment.

The Circle of Maple | January–March

Locations: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve

Cost: \$8 per participant

Learn how the mighty maple tree’s life cycle produces sap and the human implications of this resource.

Students will:

- Describe the process of how sap is made into syrup, either historically or currently.
- Describe the life cycle of maple trees.



Ohio’s Science and Social Studies Learning Standards:

- 3.LS.3 – Plants and animals have life cycles that are part of their adaptations for survival in their natural environments.
- History Strand (Heritage) – Local communities change over time.



Wild Wetlands | August–November & April–May

Location: Miami Whitewater Forest

Cost: \$8 per participant

Get down and dirty as we dip into our Shaker Trace Wetlands to discover the world of organisms thriving in this endangered habitat. Investigate how nature influences plant and animal populations through species identification and collection.

Students will:

- Explore and investigate the wildlife of a wetland through hands-on collection.
- Identify environmental changes that can alter an organism's chance of survival.
- Discover and identify two examples of erosion, deposition and weathering.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 4.LS.1 – Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.
- 4.ESS.2 – The surface of Earth changes due to weathering.
- 4.ESS.3 – The surface of Earth changes due to erosion and deposition.

1794: Conflict in the Ohio River Valley | August–November & April–May

Location: Shawnee Lookout

Cost: \$8 per participant

Turn your bus into a time machine and visit our frontier homestead. Interact with historical characters while you explore the turbulent times before Ohio's statehood.

Students will:

- Meet and interact with at least two figures from Ohio's frontier.
- Explore and identify three ways Ohio pioneers altered the landscape of Ohio.
- Investigate the relationships between settlers and Native Americans.
- Practice the historical traditions of throwing tomahawks and cooking with an open fire.



Ohio's Social Studies Learning Standards:

- History Strand (Heritage) – Various groups of people have lived in Ohio over time including American Indians, migrating settlers and immigrants. Interactions among these groups have resulted in cooperation, conflict and compromise.
- Geography Strand (Human Systems) – People have modified the environment throughout history resulting in both positive and negative consequences in Ohio and the United States.

Animals Then & Now | September–May

Location: Sharon Woods

Cost: \$8 per participant

Journey into Ohio's ancient past! From the tropical Ordovician era to the freezing ice age, discover the amazing ocean creatures and gigantic mammals that once roamed our area of Ohio.

Students will:

- Create a timeline of animals that lived in Hamilton County.
- Identify common Hamilton County fossils.
- Compare life forms and habitats over time.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 4.LS.1 – Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.
- 4.LS.2 – Fossils can be compared to one another and to present-day organisms according to their similarities and differences.

Movers & Shakers | September–May

Location: Sharon Woods

Cost: \$8 per participant

Witness geological history in action as the creek water continues to erode and redeposit the banks of our gorge, changing the surface of the park and our Earth.

Students will:

- Identify three forces that lead to a changing landscape.
- Show examples of erosion, weathering and deposition in our environment.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 4.ESS.1 – Earth's surface has specific characteristics and landforms that can be identified.
- 4.ESS.2 – The surface of Earth changes due to weathering.
- 4.ESS.3 – The surface of Earth changes due to erosion and deposition.

Wildlife in Winter | November–January

Location: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve

Cost: \$8 per participant

Animals are master adapters and must adjust to changes in season and climate. Visit three local ecosystems and meet birds of prey.

Students will:

- Describe how changing climates impacted survival strategies while engaging with birds of prey.
- Identify how seasonal changes in three different habitats impact animal survival strategies.
- Describe how changes in local ecosystems impact a native animal's survival.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 4.LS.1 – Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.

The Changes & Challenges of Maples | January–March

Location: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve

Cost: \$8 per participant

Assess how natural phenomenon and human activity impacts maple trees while taking part in the process of maple sugaring.

Students will:

- Explain how changing climate patterns impact maple syrup production while hiking through the sugar bush.
- Describe how a tree converts sunlight into sugar which we transform into syrup to fuel our bodies.
- Discover how managing a sugar bush has positive and negative environmental consequences.



Ohio's Science and Social Studies Learning Standards:

- 4.LS.1 – Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.
- 4.PS.2 – Energy can be transferred from one location to another or can be transformed from one form to another.
- Geography Strand (Human Systems) – People have modified the environment throughout history resulting in both positive and negative consequences in Ohio and the United States.

Farms & Food Webs | August–November & April–May

Location: Winton Woods | Farm & Equestrian Center

Cost: \$8 per participant

Discover the wonders of food webs fresh from the farm. Explore the barnyard, get your hands dirty in the garden and learn how everything connects back to us.

Students will:

- Explain to a classmate the impacts of human activity on food systems.
- Model how organisms interact with each other with a food web activity.
- Demonstrate energy transfer between organisms with a model.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 5.LS.1 – Organisms perform several roles in an ecosystem.
- 5.LS.2 – All of the processes that take place within organisms require energy.

Unearthing Ancient Cultures | August–November & April–May

Location: Shawnee Lookout

Cost: \$8 per participant

Grab your magnifying glass and keep your eyes peeled for ancient artifacts. Investigate with an archaeological team and uncover the cultures of the region's earliest people!

Students will:

- Explore a mobile archaeology unit.
- Participate in a mock dig.
- Test their skills with Native American survival tactics.
- Scout and investigate the design of prehistoric earthworks.



Ohio's Social Studies Learning Standards:

- History Strand (Early Civilizations) – Early Indian civilizations (Maya, Inca, Aztec, Mississippian) existed in the Western Hemisphere prior to the arrival of Europeans. These civilizations had developed unique governments, social structures, religions, technologies, and agricultural practices.
- Geography Strand (Places and Regions) – Regions can be determined using data related to various criteria including landform, climate, population, and cultural and economic characteristics.
- Geography Strand (Human Systems) – The variety of physical environments within the Western Hemisphere influences human activities. Likewise, human activities modify the physical environments.
- Geography Strand (Humans Systems) – American Indians developed unique cultures with many different ways of life. American Indian tribes and nations can be classified into cultural groups based on geographic and cultural similarities.

Window into Wetlands | August–November & April–May

Location: Miami Whitewater Forest

Cost: \$8 per participant

Get energized as we wade into the wetlands, where life is “eat or-be-eaten,” and investigate this rare habitat. See what it takes to survive in Ohio's most diverse ecosystem!

Students will:

- Explore and investigate the wildlife of a wetland through hands-on collection.
- Identify environmental changes that can alter an organism's chance of survival.
- Discover and identify two examples of erosion, deposition and weathering.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 5.LS.1 – Organisms perform a variety of roles in an ecosystem.
- 5.LS.2 – All of the processes that take place within organisms require energy.

Wild Webs | September–May

Locations: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve, Fernbank Park, Miami Whitewater Forest, Sharon Woods & Woodland Mound

Cost: \$8 per participant

From maple trees to mushrooms, explore how the food web goes with the flow to make a habitat thrive – or struggle to survive.

Students will:

- List at least three producers, three consumers and one common decomposer in a habitat.
- Explain to peers the relationship of organisms in a food web.
- Explain how energy from the sun moves through the food web as a group.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 5.LS.1 – Organisms perform a number of roles in an ecosystem.
- 5.LS.2 – All of the processes that take place within organisms require energy.

Managing Maples | January–March

Location: Farbach–Werner Nature Preserve

Cost: \$8 per participant

Observe the maple sugaring process while learning how energy is converted into a natural commodity.

Students will:

- Describe how trees use sap and contribute energy to their food chains.
- Identify the seasonal changes in energy consumption and movement within an ecosystem



Ohio's Science and Social Studies Learning Standards:

- 5.LS.1 – Organisms perform a number of roles in an ecosystem.
- 5.LS.2 – All of the processes that take place within organisms require energy.
- Geography Strand (Human Systems) – The variety of physical environments within the Western hemisphere influences human activities. Likewise, human activities modify the physical environments.



Building Team Culture | August–November & April–May

Location: Shawnee Lookout

Cost: \$8 per participant

Dig into your team and uncover the mysteries of cooperation, communication and teamwork as you explore earthworks and signs of ancient times. From field initiatives to hiking through an ultimate example of teamwork, look deep inside to unlock strategies for team success.

Students will:

- Work together as a team to complete different challenges.
- Adapt to different ways of thinking, individually and as a team.
- Identify ways teamwork enables people to accomplish tasks.



Ohio's Social Emotional Learning Standards:

- A3. 2.c – Develop and implement a plan of action, based on support or constructive feedback, that addresses challenges and builds on strengths.
- A4. 2.c – Recognize the importance of confidently handling tasks and challenges, while reframing negative thoughts and engaging in positive self-talk.
- B3. 1.c – Utilize strategies for persevering through challenges and setbacks.
- C1. 1.c – Determine if verbal and nonverbal cues correspond to the feelings expressed by others.
- C1. 3.c – Demonstrate empathy through understanding of others' feelings and acknowledgement of their perspective.
- D1. 2.c – Offer and acknowledge constructive feedback to strengthen connections and improve communication outcomes with others.
- D3. 3.c – Exchange ideas and negotiate solutions to resolve conflicts, seeking support when needed.
- E1. 1.c – Demonstrate critical thinking skills when solving problems or making decisions, recognizing there may be more than one perspective.

Operation Excavation | August–November & April–May

Location: Shawnee Lookout

Cost: \$8 per participant

The past is a mystery and we are left with buried clues. Put on your engineering hat, create your own theories to explore and hear the stories of ancient cultures.

Students will:

- Compare technology across ancient cultures.
- Recreate Native American tools and test their uses.
- Explore 2,000-year-old clues and facts to tell a cultural story.



Ohio's Social Studies Learning Standards:

- History Strand (Historical Thinking and Skills) – Historians and archaeologists describe historical events and issues from the perspectives of people living at the time to avoid evaluating the past in terms of today's norms and values.
- Geography Strand (Spatial Thinking and Skills) – Maps and other geographic representations can be used to trace the development of human settlement over time.
- Geography Strand (Human Systems) – Geographic factors promote or impede the movement of people, products and ideas.

Everything Connects: Ecology & Conservation | September-May

Locations: Sharon Woods & Woodland Mound

Cost: \$8 per participant

Learn about the roles living organisms and abiotic elements play in creating a healthy ecosystem. Discover a variety of factors that change the environment in unanticipated ways.

Students will:

- Use critical thinking skills to evaluate causes and predict implications of changes in the environment.
- Consider multiple viewpoints in conservation issues.
- Identify two actions to take that have a positive impact on the environment.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- 6.LS.4: Living systems at all levels of organization demonstrate the complementary nature of structure and function.
- 7.LS.2: In any particular biome, the number, growth and survival of organisms and populations depend on biotic and abiotic factors.
- 8.LS.1: Diversity of species, as result of variation of traits, occurs through the process of evolution and extinction over many generations. The fossil records provide evidence that changes have occurred in number and types of species.



Food Footprints | August–November

Location: Winton Woods | Farm & Equestrian Center

Cost: \$8 per participant

Do you know where your food comes from? Journey through the farm to follow the footprints of your food from its source. Along the way, learn how our food system impacts the environment, wildlife and people.

Students will:

- Trace their food from source to consumer and explore the connections with a group activity.
- Describe to peers the impacts of industrial food production on the environment, wildlife and people.
- Discuss the options for minimizing the impacts of industrial food production.



Ohio's Science and Social Studies Learning Standards:

- ENV.GP.7 – Food production and availability.
- World Geography (Environment and Society) – Human modifications of the physical environment in one place often led to changes in other places.
- Contemporary World Issues (Sustainability) – Sustainability issues are interpreted and treated differently by people viewing them from various political, economic and cultural perspectives.

Concerning Conservation | September–May

Locations: Sharon Woods & Woodland Mound

Cost: \$8 per participant

From long-ago herds of American bison to small, migratory lark sparrows, explore Ohio's wildlife through hands-on activities and park exploration. Learn the importance of conservation of wildlife and wild spaces.

Students will:

- Work as a team to discover the extinct, extirpated and endangered species of Ohio.
- Identify park conservation needs through outdoor exploration.
- Explore the role of conservation in their own lives and communities.



Ohio's Science Learning Standards:

- B.DI.1: Biodiversity
- B.DI.3: Loss of Diversity



**Great
Parks**

10245 Winton Road
Cincinnati, OH 45231

GreatParks.org