



WEHR
Nature Center

School Program Guide

Who We Are & What We Do



A Place For All Seasons, A Place For Everyone!

Our award winning programs make real world connections to your classroom learning, cultivate children's curiosity, and deepen their understanding and appreciation of the world they live in.

Our Educational Goals:

- Provide accessible, purposeful, developmentally appropriate learning opportunities for children ages 3 to 18
- Help children connect with nature in a fun and safe manner
- Encourage children to ask questions, work together, and follow their curiosity to deepen their understanding of the natural environment
- Integrate current learning standards and best teaching practices into all programming

Accessibility & Inclusion

We believe everyone deserves to have equitable access to nature. Wehr strives to make its visitor center, programs, and trails accessible to all visitors. For more information, please contact Emily Brown, Access Coordinator, at 414-425-8550 or emily.brown@milwaukeecountywi.gov

Places We Program:

We offer programs in a variety of locations to meet your needs.



Programs at Wehr Nature Center

Explore the amazing natural diversity of our wetlands, woodlands, prairie, and pond, all within a short walk from our accessible visitor center.



Programs at a Milwaukee County Park

Meet us at the park! Outreach programs utilize park pavilions (with restrooms) and the wonderful natural areas in our Milwaukee County Parks.



Programs at Your School

Can't fit in a field trip? Our in-school programs bring nature into your classroom, library, or daycare facility.



Programs for 3, 4, and 5 year olds

	K3	K4	K5	Season							Hours*	Location			Keywords
				F	W	Sp	Su					At Wehr	At Your School	At County Park	
Apple Antics			X								1 - 1.5		X	X	geography, measurement, seasons, senses
April Showers	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	water cycle, seasons, weather
Birds of a Feather	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	animal adaptations, life cycles
Caterpillar's Lunchbox	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	life cycles, animal adaptations
Cricket Song	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	animal adaptations, habitat
Frog Mystery	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	life cycles, adaptations, habitats,
Growing Apple Pies	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	plant life cycles, seasonal changes
Let's Get Growing			X								1 - 1.5		X	X	lifecycles, plant adaptations,, seasonal changes
Let's Talk Turkey			X								1 - 1.5		X	X	animal adaptations, life cycles, seasonal changes
Maple Magic I			X								1.5	X		X	plant adaptations, life cycles, seasonal changes
My What Large Antlers You Have	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	life cycles, adaptations, seasonal changes
Nature's Neighborhoods			X								1.5	X		X	habitat, needs of plants and animals, interactions
Owling	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	life cycles, adaptations, seasonal changes
Possum's Fall Adventure	X	X									1.5	X			adaptations, seasonal changes
Possum's Spring Adventure	X	X									1.5	X			animal and plant adaptations, seasonal changes
Possum's Winter Adventure	X	X									1.5	X			adaptations, seasonal changes
Puppet Show: Goose's Fall Adventure			X								1.5	X		X	plant & animal adaptations, seasonal changes
Puppet Show: Ladybug's Spring Breakfast			X								1.5	X		X	plant & animal adaptations, seasonal changes
Puppet Show: Weasel's Winter Coat			X								1.5	X		X	plant & animal adaptations, seasonal changes
Puppet Show: Willow Pond in Summer			X								1.5	X		X	life cycles, plant and animal adaptations, seasonal changes
Rabbit Tales	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	life cycles, adaptations, seasonal changes
Snow Clues			X								1 - 1.5		X	X	adaptations, habitat, seasonal changes
Spring is Just Ducky	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	life cycles, adaptations, seasonal changes
Squirrel Tales	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	life cycles, habitats, animal adaptations
Stories in the Snow		X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	seasonal adaptations, seasons
Super Salamanders			X								1 - 1.5		X	X	needs of plants and animals, animal adaptations, habitat cycles, seasons
T is for Turtle	X	X									1		X	X	life cycles, adaptations, habitat, seasons
Treerific Colors			X								1 - 1.5		X	X	life cycles, habitats, classification
Web Weavers			X								1 - 1.5		X	X	life cycles, habitats, adaptations
Who's in the Pond	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	life cycles, adaptations, habitat, classification, seasons
Wiggly Worms			X								1		X	X	animal adaptations, decomposition, habitats, recycling
Winter Sleepers	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	adaptations, habitat, classification, seasons
Winter's Gifts	X	X	X								1 - 1.5		X	X	seasons, senses, adaptations



KEY



Programs for 1st - 12th grades

	1 2 3 4 5					MS	HS	Season					Hours*	Location			Keywords
	F	W	Sp	Su	F			W	Sp	Su	At Wehr	At Your School		At County Park			
Apple Antics	x												1 - 1.5		X	X	geography, measurement, seasons, senses
Awesome Owls		x	x	x	x	x							1		X		animal adaptations, food webs
Backyard Invertebrates	x	x	x	x	x	x							1		X		life cycles, adaptations, food webs
Biodiversity Basics							x	x					2	X			diversity of life, ecosystem functions
Bugs on Stage	x	x	x	x	x								1		X		animal classifications, adaptations, life cycles, food webs
Buzz About Bees	x	x	x	x	x	x							1		X		animal adaptations, life cycles, pollination
Ecosystems				x	x	x							2	X			ecosystem interactions, diversity of life
Friends Underfoot	x	x	x	x	x								1		X		animal adaptations, habitats
If You Went to a Pioneer School	x	x	x	x	x	x							1		X		Wisconsin history
Insect Safari	x	x	x	x	x	x							1.5	X		X	animal adaptations, life cycles, plant/animal interactions
Investigating Watersheds						x	x	x					2.5	X		X	human impact on environment, watersheds, erosion
Keyed On Trees				x	x	x							1.5	X		X	plant adaptations and structures, life cycles, seasonal changes
Lake Michigan Treasures			x	x	x	x							2			X	habitats, Great Lakes, human impacts on the environment
Let's Get Growing	x												1 - 1.5		X	X	lifecycles, plant adaptations and structures, seasonal changes
Let's Go Climb A Moraine				x	x	x	x						2	X			landforms, glaciation, fossils
Let's Leave it to the Beavers!	x	x	x	x									1		X		adaptations, habitat
Let's Talk Turkey	x												1 - 1.5		X	X	animal adaptations, life cycles, seasonal changes
Make Tracks For Home	x	x	x	x	x								1.5	X		X	animal adaptations and structures, habitat,
Maple Magic I	x												1.5	X		X	plant adaptations, life cycles, seasonal changes
Maple Magic II		x	x	x	x	x	x						2	X		X	plant adaptations and structures, human use of natural resources, Wisconsin history
Nature's Neighborhoods	x	x	x										1.5	X		X	habitat, needs of plants and animals, interactions
One Butterfly...Three Countries	x	x	x	x	x								1		X		animal adaptations, lifecycles, migration
Paper Making	x	x	x	x	x	x							1		X		art, recycling, use of natural resources
Puppet Show: Goose's Fall Adventure	x												1.5	X		X	plant & animal adaptations, seasonal changes
Puppet Show: Ladybug's Spring Breakfast	x												1.5	X		X	animal and plant adaptations, seasonal changes
Puppet Show: Weasel's Winter Coat	x												1.5	X		X	animal adaptations, seasonal changes,
Puppet Show: Willow Pond in Summer	x	x											1.5	X		X	life cycles, animal adaptations, habitats
Rocks & Minerals			x	x	x	x	x						2	X			rock cycle, properties of minerals, human use of natural resources
Snow Clues	x												1 - 1.5		X	X	animal adaptations, seasonal changes
Soil Secrets	x	x	x										1.5	X	X	X	erosion, soil components and properties, changes to land
Sssensational Snakes	x	x	x	x									1		X		animal adaptations and structures
Stories in the Snow	x												1 - 1.5		X	X	animal adaptations, seasonal changes
Super Salamanders	x												1 - 1.5		X	X	needs of plants and animals, animal adaptations, habitat
Tales of Tracks and Trails		x	x	x	x								1		X		animal adaptations, food web
Treerific Colors	x												1 - 1.5		X	X	plant adaptations, seasonal changes, life cycles
Trees & Me	x	x	x										1.5	X		X	plant adaptations, life cycles, seasonal changes
Water Explorers	x	x	x	x									1.5	X		X	needs of plants and animals, animal adaptations, food chains
Web Weavers	x												1 - 1.5		X	X	life cycles, habitats, adaptations
Weeds in the Wild			x	x	x	x	x						2	X			human impacts on environment, environmental change, plant adaptations
Welcome to the Night	x	x	x	x									1		X		animal adaptations, food webs
Wiggly Worms	x												1 - 1.5		X	X	animal adaptations, decomposition, habitats



KEY

Program Offerings

Apple Antics

K5 – 1st • 1-1.5 hours



Children take an imaginary trip around the globe to gather ingredients to bake an apple pie. Marjorie Priceman's book *How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World* acquaints children with the fact that their food comes from all over the world before it arrives in the grocery store for them to buy. Children will taste a variety of apples and compare and contrast their findings. You may choose for the children to make a potpourri pie or a real mini apple pie (additional fees apply for real pies).

April Showers

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



Eric Carle's story *Little Cloud* introduces children to the water cycle. Using dramatic play, children become raindrops to better understand the water cycle. Weather concepts are also discussed as part of the program. Each child creates a special 3-D cloud.

Awesome Owls

2nd - MS • 1 hour



Students delve into the nocturnal world of Wisconsin's owls and discover facts about the feathers hearing, and night flying of these beautiful "Tigers of the Sky." They learn to listen for owl calls right in their own backyard. An owl pellet lab is available for an additional fee.

Backyard Invertebrates

1st - MS • 1 hour



Students enjoy a costume comparison of insects, spiders, and other animals without backbones. Students will discover live creatures as they search through soil and wood samples.

Biodiversity Basics

MS & HS • 2 hours



Discover the diversity of life that lives in the forests, grasslands, and wetlands of Wehr Nature Center. Students work in teams to survey the plant, animal, and invertebrate life in two ecosystems and use plot samples to quantify the biodiversity index for each location. Data on abiotic factors such as temperature, wind, and soil are measured and compared.

Birds of a Feather

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



Using the book *The Remarkable Egg* by Adelaide Holl, children find out that birds come in many shapes and sizes. They learn about how birds' feathers, beaks, and feet have adapted to various environments as the whole group "builds" a bird. Artifacts and supplemental materials provide further information. The children decorate their own home made binoculars to try out in their own backyard.

Bugs on Stage

1 - 5th • 1 hour



This unique program combines two things that are irresistible to kids: theater and nature. Children will put on a puppet show about insects and their creepy, crawly relatives based on the book *The Bugliest Bug* by Carol Diggory Shields. Some students will be transformed into "naturally" fashionable invertebrates. Live critters provide an up-close and personal experience for the students.

The Buzz About Bees

1st - MS • 1 hour



This program introduces students to the complex lives of honey bees, beekeeping, and the essential role they and other pollinators play in our world. Children don costumes to participate in an interactive story, "A Day in the Life of a Honeybee", examine hive equipment to learn what it takes to be a beekeeper, and get a taste of local honey. Live honey bees may be brought using a demonstration hive, depending on the season and weather.

When & Where Programs are Offered



Fall Winter Spring Summer



At School



At Wehr



At County Park

KEY

Caterpillar's Lunchbox

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



The classic book, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle, is the basis of this program focusing on the life cycle of a butterfly. Scientific support is provided with mounts and other props to help children understand insects and their feeding habits. The children interact in the story and make finger puppets of a caterpillar and butterfly.

Cricket Song

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



The *Very Quiet Cricket* by Eric Carle is brought to life through the use of puppets and insect sounds. Live crickets will be in attendance to help children learn about the insect world and contrast them with other animals. Each child will create a noisy cricket in a cup.

Ecosystems

4th - MS • 2 hour



"Why is there so much grass in the prairie?" "Why do pill bugs live under logs?" Children are challenged to observe and question like scientists as they explore Wehr's forest and prairie. Students compare the kinds of plants and animals found in each environment and use instruments including thermometers, wind meters, and soil probes to collect data about the abiotic conditions. An emphasis is placed on observation, measurement, questioning, and critical thinking skills. The data generated can be analyzed using post-trip materials.

Friends Underfoot

1 - 5th • 1 hour



Did you ever want to "dig a hole to China" when you were a kid? Join us as we dig deep into the world beneath our feet. Children will meet chipmunks, ants, earthworms, and more in this interactive, underground adventure. Children will get up close and personal with earthworms or beetles and participate in a variety of activities that allow them to see what it's like to live in the world beneath our feet.

Frog Mystery

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



Children learn about the mysterious changes that happen as a tadpole grows and becomes an adult frog. *Fish is Fish* by Leon Lionni is the story that is the basis for this metamorphosis mystery. Children will create a "froggie" face complete with a retractable tongue to help them think and act like frogs. Park programs include a hike to search for frogs and their wetland neighbors.

Growing Apple Pies

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



Children learn about apple trees with *The Apple Pie Tree* by Zoe Hall. They will explore the apple tree as it changes throughout the seasons and meet the animals that visit it during the year. Children will taste a variety of apples and compare and contrast their findings. Each child will create a potpourri apple pie. Park programs include a hike to search for fall foods and other signs of the season.

If You Went to a Pioneer School

1st - MS • 1 hour



Take a step back in time and experience life in a one-room pioneer school. A naturalist in character will conduct a typical day in an early Wisconsin school house. Some of the interactive activities children will do include: writing with quill pens and ink, using slates and slate pencils, playing pioneer games, and learning about classroom "discipline".

Insect Safari

1st - MS • 1.5 hours



Discover and visit with the little creatures that run our world. Students learn how to identify invertebrates by watching classmates in costumes model characteristics. Invertebrate life cycles are discussed using models and live animal examples. A discovery hike gives students a safe close-up experience with backyard invertebrates using collection tools and magnifiers. Children study adaptations by looking at legs, body parts, and wings of awesome crawly creatures they collect on their hike.

"We love Wehr. Your organization, communication, and creativity are excellent."

Trinity Lutheran School Caledonia K5/1st grade teacher

Investigating Watersheds

5th - HS • 2.5 hours



Students become environmental detectives as they work to solve the mystery of Wehr's yucky lake. The program begins with an interactive introduction to watersheds and how humans impact them. Groups then rotate through stations where they collect data on the water quality within Wehr's own Tess Corners Creek watershed. Students use scientific sampling methods and tools such as a biotic index, turbidity tubes, and water chemistry kits to determine the source of pollution impacting Mallard Lake.

Keyed on Trees

4th - MS • 1.5 hour



In this program, students learn how to identify common Wisconsin trees using a "kid-friendly, living" dichotomous tree key. After learning tree vocabulary and practicing with the "living" key, students venture out into the woods to try out their new learned skills of tree identification. Measurement and a mathematical equation are also used to determine tree ages.

Lake Michigan Treasures

3rd - MS • 2 hours



Students discover the "treasures" of our own Lake Michigan as they explore the beach, ravines, and bluffs of Grant Park's famous Seven Bridges Trail. Children track waves, sift sand, and find fossil rocks along the shore. Groups collect data about water quality and the beach using a turbidity tube, thermometers and wind meters.

Let's Get Growing

K5 - 1st • 1-1.5 hour



During an interactive telling of *Jack's Garden* by Henry Cole children search for and observe plants and seeds. The children take an imaginary journey to the garden that Jack grew. Time is spent learning about what all plants need to survive and observing different types of seeds, from the poppy seed to the coconut. Children make their own "magic" bean bag necklace.

Let's Go Climb a Moraine

4th - HS • 2 hours



Students travel over moraines and kames as they investigate the impact of the Ice Age on our southeast Wisconsin landscape. A power point presentation and interactive models introduce the process of glaciation and geological time before we head outside in small groups to "Climb a Moraine". The hour long walk allows students to get a "foots-on" understanding of landforms as we explore the geological features of Whitnall Park.

Let's Leave it to the Beavers!

1 - 4th • 1 hour



Beavers are one of nature's big time builders. They have their own built in kit of teeth, paws, and tails. Using a combination of two beaver tales, *Batholomew the Beaver* by Ruth Dixon & *Beaver Pond, Moose Pond* by Jim Arnosky, children are introduced to the extraordinary lives of these master builders. Through interactive theater, simulations, and real beaver artifacts, participants will learn about the beaver's amazing adaptations which they use to create their perfect home.



Wehr Nature Center has transformed Reagan High School's Group 4 Project and has helped us create powerful experiences for students, working together in nature to do science. The different ecosystems, expert volunteers, and a shared love for developing meaningful activities for kids has created a wonderful partnership between Reagan and Wehr Nature Center.

Ronald Reagan High School teacher

Let's Talk Turkey

K5 - 1st • 1-1.5 hour



In the book, *Little Tom Turkey* by Frances Bloxam, children discover what the real lives of wild turkeys are like. They learn about hens, toms, poult, caruncles, wattles, and snoods using natural artifacts. Children will perform the turkey strut and the turkey call. Each child will create a terrific turkey out of natural objects.

Make Tracks for Home

1 - 5th • 1.5 hours



Students learn about wildlife including their habitat needs: food, water, shelter, and space. Students will see a power point to help identify animal tracks and signs. They also make a plaster cast of an animal footprint before taking a hike to discover animal clues and track stories.

My What Large Antlers You Have

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



Children help the naturalist recreate parts of the story, *Imogene's Antlers* by David Small. It's fun to imagine Imogene's problems with her new headgear. A hands-on look at real animal antlers and horns is included along with natural history lessons about Wisconsin's White-tailed Deer. Children create their own pair of antlers to wear. Park programs include a hike to search for signs of deer, their food, and other features of the seasons.



Maple Magic I

K5 - 1st • 1.5 hours



Come celebrate the sweet Wisconsin tradition of maple sugaring! Children meet "Maggie The Maple Tree" during an interactive story that discusses tree life cycles and seasonal changes. During a walk to Wehr's sugar bush children identify trees, measure trunks to find the perfect sized tree, use hand tools to drill tap holes, and taste and collect sweet sap drips. Students see how the clear sap is transformed into golden syrup at our boil down station and enjoy a treat of maple sugar on a stick. The Maple Syrup Challenge tests your taste buds as you compare "fake" pancake syrup to real maple syrup.

Maple Magic II

2nd - HS • 2 hours



Come celebrate the sweet Wisconsin tradition of maple sugaring! Students take a trip through time as they participate in a play about the history of maple sugaring from its Native American origins to the maple syrup farmers of today. During a walk through Wehr's sugar bush, children identify trees, measure trunks to find the perfect sized tree, use hand tools to drill tap holes, and taste and collect sweet sap drips. Students learn how the clear sap is transformed into golden syrup at our boil down station and enjoy a treat of maple sugar on a stick. The Maple Syrup Challenge tests your taste buds as you compare "fake" pancake syrup to real maple syrup and everyone becomes a tree part in our "Human Tree Factory" activity that models how tree physiology impacts maple sugaring.

When & Where Programs are Offered



KEY

Nature's Neighborhoods

K5 - 3rd • 1-1.5 hours



Habitat is more than a home; it is the place where you find the food, water, shelter and space you need to survive. Like people, animals and plants get what they need to survive from their "neighborhoods". Children will explore these natural neighborhoods as they visit forest, wetland, and grassland habitats. Students learn about wildlife as they search for a "Dream Home" and "Groceries" for a variety of local critters.

One Butterfly...Three Countries

1 - 5th • 1 hour



Children take an imaginary journey with the Monarch Butterfly as they participate in a life cycle story about the Monarch's travels to Mexico.

Owling

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



Younger children participate in the telling of *Goodnight Owl* by Pat Hutchings and older children hear Jane Yolen's *Owl Moon*. Children explore the adaptations of these nighttime prowlers using mounts and artifacts. Everyone creates an owl puppet for a "hooting" good time. Park programs include a hike to search for signs of deer, their food, and other features of the season.

Paper Making

1st - MS • 1 hour



Students learn the process of papermaking through history of fibers and a demonstration using recycled paper fibers. Each child will make one or two pieces of recycled homemade paper. Children learn the importance of recycling while creating a homemade project inspired by creativity and sustainability.

"All naturalists worked well with the 2nd graders, and they were very patient. The students were able to explore the various habitats and learn many new things."

Cooper School 2nd grade teacher

Possum's Fall Adventure

K3 - K4 • 1.5 hours



Celebrate fall with a harvest party! Children will explore what is happening in nature in fall through an interactive story time, a sensory walk, visits with live animals, and time in the Early Childhood Play Space.

Possum's Spring Adventure

K3 - K4 • 1.5 hours



Spring is worth singing about! Children join in the spring time chorus as we explore the awakening natural world in spring. Students learn about spring happenings through an interactive story time, a sensory walk, visits with live animals, and time in Wehr's Early Childhood Play Space.

Possum's Winter Adventure

K3 - K4 • 1.5 hours



Snow is cold, sparkly and fun! Children discover the beauty of winter and the challenges it poses to animals through an interactive story time, a sensory walk, visits with live animals, and time in Wehr's Early Childhood Play Space.

Puppet Show: Canada Goose's Fall Adventure

K5 - 1st • 1.5 hours



In this original puppet show, children follow Canada Goose as he spends his fall in Wisconsin trying to decide what to do for the winter. Children go on a fall nature discovery hike that helps reinforce Goose's adventure.

Puppet Show: Lady Bug's Spring Breakfast

K5 - 1st • 1.5 hours



Lady Bug awakens from a winter sleep to discover she is very hungry. She visits her friends in search of her favorite food, aphids. A hike which engages children in discovery and wonder of spring secrets follows this original puppet show.

Puppet Show:

Weasel's Winter Coat

K5 - 1st • 1.5 hours



A clever but slightly confused Long-Tailed Weasel discovers the benefits of camouflage and winter adaptations in this original puppet show. A seasonal sensory hike engages children in discovery and wonder.

Puppet Show: Willow Pond in Summer

K5 - 2nd • 1.5 hours



In this original puppet show, miraculous changes happen to a tadpole as he transforms into a toad. Toad meets many other animals living in and around Willow Pond who are changing and growing faster than you can say "metamorphosis." A seasonal hike follows the show.

Rabbit Tales

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



Children help a cottontail rabbit family explore the world and encounter new adventures with the charming book, *Rabbits and Raindrops* by Jim Arnosky. Children will learn about the life cycle and habits of this common neighborhood animal. Park programs include a hike to search for signs of rabbits, their food, and other features of the season.

Rocks and Minerals

3rd - HS • 2 hours



Explore the properties of earth materials with Wehr's outstanding collection of rocks and minerals. Students learn the properties and uses of minerals and identify hand samples using a scientific key. Building on their new knowledge of minerals, children explore how rocks are transformed during the rock cycle using hand samples of minerals, sediments, and rocks to create their own models. A rock and mineral scavenger hunt allows children to apply their knowledge as we explore Wehr's fieldstone building and nearby outdoor areas (weather permitting).

Snow Clues

K5 - 1st • 1-1.5 hours



Using *In the Snow, Who's Been Here?* by Lindsey Barrett George and a representational map, children utilize animal tracks and other clues to see who has been out and about on a snowy day. Feeding habits and seasonal activities of animals are emphasized. Children create an animal sewing card.

Soil Secrets

1 - 3rd • 1.5 hours



Students become soil scientists as they study the ingredients, properties, and importance of soil. They use sieves to explore soil textures, hike to find soil critters and signs of erosion, and discover how soil made their breakfast.

Spring Is Just Ducky

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



Spring is an exciting time. Is it cold or warm? Is it sunny or cloudy? Is it raining or snowing? Children help bring spring to life with the story *Cold Little Duck, Duck, Duck* by Lis Westberg Peters. Children will make a spring windsock craft to take home. Park programs include a hike to search for ducks, other animals becoming active in the spring, and other features of the season.

Squirrel Tales

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



Children join in the telling of this squirrel tale using *Nuts to You* by Lois Ehlert. They will learn how squirrels' behavior and homes change with the seasons. Artifacts are used to teach about Wisconsin's "nutty" friends. Each child makes a squirrel puppet in a leafy nest.

Sssensational Snakes

1 - 4th • 1 hour



"I'm a grassy, grassy, sassy, sassy, flashy, flashy, tail twisting, tail turning, tail snapping green snake." These fun rhyming words from Libba Moore Gray's book, *Small Green Snake* will help introduce children to the world of the often misunderstood snake. Learn about astonishing adaptations and visit with a live snake from Wehr Nature Center.

Stories in the Snow

K4 - 1st • 1-1.5 hours



Children help fill a giant mitten with animals during the reading of *The Mitten* by Jan Brett. Discovery time uses puppets, animal skins, mounts, and pictures to share information about animal adaptations for winter. Each child creates a mitten with the story characters so they can retell the story themselves. Park programs include a hike to look for signs of animals in the winter landscape and other winter wonders.

Super Salamanders

K5 - 1st • 1-1.5 hours



The Salamander Room by Anne Mazer is used to help children learn about what an animal needs to survive and thrive. The life cycle of an amphibian is also covered. A live salamander is brought (if weather permits) for the children to observe. Each child creates a stenciled salamander piece of artwork. The program includes a hike to search for salamander habitats and foods and other signs of the season.

Tales of Tracks and Trails

2 - 5th • 1 hour



Children discover the tales told by our wild animal neighbors. The program includes an engaging slide show of animals and their clues, an interactive wildlife mystery story, and an opportunity for each child to create their own wildlife track guide

Other Nature Learning Opportunities:

We will work with you to support your students learning. Contact us at wehreducation@gmail.com to learn about:

- High Interest Day & Science Night activities
- Professional development for teachers & staff
- Customized school partnerships
- DNR Forestry Education trunk for loan
- Field trip scholarships and bus stipends

"T" is for Turtle

K3 - K4 • 1 hour



Children learn about turtle and tortoise adaptations with the Eric Carle story, *The Foolish Tortoise*. Participants will explore how a turtle's home is different from his shell. A live Wisconsin Box Turtle will visit (weather permitting). Each child will make a turtle craft. Park programs include a hike to search for turtles, their habitats and foods and other seasonal signs.

Tree-rific Colors

K5 - 1st • 1-1.5 hours



Children enhance their awareness of seasonal changes and enjoy the colors of autumn with Zoe Hall's *Fall Leaves Fall*. They participate in helping a tree change into its fall dress, and acquire vocabulary related to trees and autumn. Everyone creates a special tree with fingerprint leaves.

Trees and Me

1 - 3rd • 1.5 hours



Children will create a living tree as they learn how a tree grows. They will hike out to learn how to identify forest trees and discover the many benefits of trees from summer shade to maple sap.



Water Explorers

1 - 4th • 1.5 hours



Students will be amazed by the life they find in and around the pond! Children will peer into the private lives of the tiny creatures that are the backbone of the pond food chain as they use scoops and hand-held microscopes to collect and observe macro-invertebrates. Students discover the diversity of plants and animals that live in wetlands along the pond's edge as they play "Wetland Bingo". Costumes are used to model the amazing adaptations of aquatic creatures and how everything is connected in the pond food chain.

Web Weavers

K4 - 1 • 1-1.5 hours



Children use a room-sized spider web and Eric Carle's *The Very Busy Spider* to better understand spiders' weaving and varied use of webs. Supplemental materials emphasize the diversity in size and habitats of spiders. Participants make a spider craft to take home.

Weeds In The Wild

5th - HS • 2 hours



What are weeds and how do they change an environment? Students learn about plant adaptations and how humans can impact the environment for better and for worse. An interactive game models competition for resources and demonstrates how quickly invasive plants can change native landscapes. Children become environmental stewards by pulling garlic mustard/ buckthorn under the guidance of Nature Center staff & volunteers.

Welcome to the Night

1 - 4th • 1 hour



Students explore the night through a lively bat story learning about echolocation. Students visit the Bat Lab to study bat adaptations and biology and the Night-time Visitor station to explore owls, fireflies, and flying squirrels.

Who's in the Pond?

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



In creating an "indoor pond", children get up close and personal with some pond critters. Frogs, beavers, geese, and dragonflies are just a few of the animals we appear in and around the pond. The program is based on *In the Small, Small Pond* by Denise Fleming. Park programs include a hike to the pond in search of aquatic animals and other seasonal signs.

Winter Sleepers

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



Children enjoy a story about a bear at rest in Karma Wilson's story, *Bear Snores On*. This enchanting story engages children in learning about animals looking for shelter. Children learn about hibernation and how some animals spend the winter. Participants will create a paper plate cave for the story's animals. Park programs include a hike to search for signs of animals that are out and about in winter and search for shelter for them.

Winter's Gifts

K3 - K5 • 1-1.5 hours



Children will help gather the colors of the winter season as Little Bear meets different animals in *The Snow Tree* by Caroline Repchuk. To celebrate the holiday spirit, children will decorate a winter evergreen tree. Park programs include a hike to search for signs of animals that are out and about in winter and search for other seasonal happenings.

Wiggly Worms

K5 - 1st • 1 hour



Wiggle and giggle with worms while exploring their underground world. Linda Glaser's book, *Wonderful Worms* has great worm facts that adapt to an appealing felt board story. Children can touch, examine, and measure live worms as well as to create original art with rubber worms and hike to discover worms in the wild.

"Great questions and prompts to engage and challenge student's thinking."

Hales Corners Elementary K5 teacher

Booking Information



Request Your Program Today!

Complete the online program request form at www.friendsofwehr.org. Our registrar will contact you via email to confirm your program request. Reservations for the following school year can be made beginning April 1.

We recommend requesting your program as soon as possible, but we require at least one month prior to your preferred date to schedule and confirm. If you have questions, please contact us at (414) 425-8550 or email the registrar wehreducation@gmail.com

Confirmation and Billing

A confirmation letter and invoice will be sent to the emails of both the teacher and office contact for billing provided on your request form within five business days of booking.

Payment

Payment is due 30 days prior to your program date. Payment can be made with cash, credit card, or check.

Cancellation Policy

Wehr Nature Center does not cancel field trips based on weather. Alternate, indoor activities will be conducted if dangerous weather prevents outdoor activities. If your school has a weather related cancellation, Wehr Nature Center will make every effort to accommodate rescheduling.

If you cancel, refunds are as follows:

30+ day prior = full refund

15-29 days prior = refund minus \$35 fee

0-14 days prior = no refund

If you cancel within 29 days and have not yet paid, you will be charged a \$35 administrative fee.

Chaperone Policy

Chaperones help cultivate a safe and encouraging learning environment. Wehr Nature Center requires a minimum of one adult (teacher, aide or parent) to accompany every 10 children at our outdoor field trips. Three adults per ten children are free. Additional chaperones beyond this ratio will be charged at the child rate.

Chaperone responsibilities are fully detailed on the next page (page 13).

Chaperone Information



Chaperone Information

Thank you for taking the time to be a chaperone for this outdoor learning adventure with Wehr Nature Center! Our nature programs promote active learning. We need your help as a chaperone to keep children engaged in and enjoying their experience with nature.

We ask that you:

- **Dress for the weather including proper footwear.** Sturdy, close-toed shoes should be worn. Rain or snow boots can be worn as appropriate. Programs continue rain or shine, so wear weather appropriate layers that you don't mind getting wet and/or dirty.
- **Follow all instructions and nature center rules, and help students do the same.** Be a role model for students. Demonstrate good behavior and encourage the same of students. Model respect for nature by not destroying or collecting plants or animals.
- **Help facilitate the supervision of children.** Together with the teaching naturalist, chaperones are responsible for cultivating a safe learning environment. Keep the group together, help children use equipment, facilitate restroom visits, and intervene to keep students on task and engaged in positive behavior.
- **Have fun! Be an active and enthusiastic participant.** Be ready to get down on your knees and explore with the kids. Help students make their own discoveries and come to their own conclusions. We love to hear your "adult" questions and will be happy to answer them at the conclusion so we can maximize the learning experience for the children.
- **Refrain from using cellphones.** Cellphones should be silenced and stowed away. You are welcome to use them for photography at appropriate times, but please don't allow them to be a distraction! You'll need your hands and mind free to work with the children.
Group photos should only be taken at the end of the program.

Please Copy And Share This Page With Chaperones.

Next Generation Science Standards

Programs Offered At Wehr Nature Center

Next Generation Science Standards	Biodiversity Basics	Ecosystems	Insect Safari	Investigating Watersheds	Keyed on Trees	Let's go Climb a Moraine	Make Tracks for Home	Maple Magic I	Maple Magic II	Nature's Neighborhoods	Puppet Show: Goose's Fall Adventure	Puppet Show: Weasel's Winter Coat	Puppet Show: Ladybug's Spring Breakfast	Puppet Show: Willow Pond in Summer	Rocks & Minerals	Soil Secrets	Trees & Me	Water Explorers	Weeds in the Wild
	Life Science																		
LS1: From Molecules to Organisms																			
LS2: Ecosystems																			
LS3: Heredity																			
LS4: Biological Evolution																			
Earth/Space Science																			
ESS2: Earth's Systems																			
ESS3: Earth & Human Activity																			
Science Practices																			
Asking Questions																			
Using Models																			
Carrying Out Investigations																			
Analyzing & Interpreting Data																			
Mathematical Thinking																			
Constructing Explanations																			
Arguing From Evidence																			
Communicating Information																			

Next Generation Science Standards

Programs Offered At A Milwaukee County Park

Next Generation Science Standards	Apple Antics	Insect Safari	Keyed On Trees	Lake Michigan Treasures	Let's Get Growing	Let's Talk Turkey	Make Tracks for Home	Maple Magic	Nature's Neighborhoods	Puppet Show: Goose's Fall Adventure	Puppet Show: Weasel's Winter Coat	Puppet Show: Ladybug's Spring Breakfast	Puppet Show: Willow Pond in Summer	Snow Clues	Stories in the Snow	Super Salamanders	Treerific Colors	Trees & Me	Water Explorers	Web Weavers	Wiggly Worms
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Arguing From Evidence																					
Communicating Information																					

Next Generation Science Standards

Programs Offered At Your School

Next Generation Science Standards	Apple Antics	Awesome Owls	Backyard Invertebrates	Buzz About Bees	Friends Underfoot	If You Went to a Pioneer School	Let's Get Growing	Let's Leave it to the Beavers!	Let's Talk Turkey	One Butterfly...Three Countries	Papermaking	Snow Clues	Ssensational Snakes	Stories in the Snow	Super Salamanders	Tales of Tracks and Trails	Treerific Colors	Web Weavers	Welcome to the Night	Wiggly Worms
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