

Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources



Group Nature Programs



RALEIGH Parks,
Recreation *and*
Cultural Resources
parks.raleighnc.gov

Scheduling Procedure

Early planning and scheduling are advised if you would like a spring program.

To schedule a program, call 919-996-6856 well in advance of your chosen program dates.

Please have the following information ready when calling to schedule a program:

- * Program topic
- * Grade level of students
- * School name, address, and phone number
- * Number of students in each class and number of adult chaperones
- * Program dates and times with at least two alternate dates and times
- * Name, email address, and phone number of group contact

A contract will be mailed to you at the time of booking.

Payment is due six weeks before programs.



Contact Information

Nature Programs
919-996-6856
Nature.programs@raleighnc.gov

Nature Programs
2401 Wade Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27607

Chaperones/ Groups Size

To provide an exceptional, hands-on experience, one adult chaperone for every 5 students is required for all outdoor programs. For programs held indoors or at a school, one adult chaperone is required for every 10 students. Maximum group size per program is 30 elementary students or 20 preschool students.

Attire/Footwear

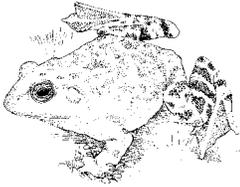
Closed-toe shoes are required for outdoor programs. Clothes and shoes that can get wet/dirty are highly recommended.

Cancellation/Inclement Weather Policy

Programs will continue in any weather condition that is safe, including rain showers. A decision to run or cancel programs will be made at 7:30am the day of your scheduled programs. If severe weather warrants cancellation by the Nature Program Office, programs will be rescheduled pending availability or payment will be refunded. Only cancellations made by the Nature Program Office warrant refund or rescheduling; if you choose to cancel your programs within 14 days of the scheduled date, you will not receive a refund and your programs will not be rescheduled.

Science Afield Programs

Science Afield Programs are hands-on outdoor experiences in City of Raleigh Parks on nature topics that take advantage of natural environments.



Program length: One hour
Maximum group size: Not more than one school class of up to 30 students
Chaperones: At least one adult for every 5 students
Cost: \$50 per program



Amazing Avians

Give your class an opportunity to learn all about these fantastic fliers. Students will learn about body structure, feathers and behavior of these animals. We will then take to the field, and learn to identify some local birds by sight and sound.

Seasons: All
Grades: K-5th

Adventures in Aquatic Life

Limited scheduling available during the spring

Explore the pond in search of tadpoles, crayfish, water scorpions and dragonfly nymphs. Your students will create an aquatic food chain, see pond critters at different life stages and discover how these animals are adapted to life in an aquatic environment.

Seasons: Spring, Summer, & Early Fall
Grades: K-5th

Busy Beavers

Come out to Durant Nature Park to discover the life history and adaptations of these unique animals. We will hike to search for beaver evidence such as tracks, dams, lodges, and felled trees.

Seasons: All
Grades: 3rd-5th

Ecosystem Connections

Ecosystems include the interaction of living and non-living things within their environment. By engaging in a series of activities and games, your students will become aware of the delicate balance of these components within ecosystems.

Seasons: All
Grade: 5th

Exploring Ecosystems

Students will actively gather ecosystem data including soil quality, soil pH and temperature to understand how these abiotic factors impact plant and animal life.

Seasons: All
Grades: 3rd-5th

Habitat Hunt

Explore what animals need to survive in our local ecosystems and discover the intricate relationships between living and non-living things in these systems.

Seasons: All
Grades: K-5th

Investigating Insects

Your group will take to the field to catch moths, dragonflies and grasshoppers, explore for beetles and ants, and search the shrubs for leaf hoppers. Students will investigate characteristics, habitats, and adaptations of insects.

Seasons: Spring, Summer, & Early Fall
Grades: K-5th

Night Hike

Come experience nature after dark and learn how nocturnal animals are adapted for survival at night. Participants will identify owl calls, look for bats and listen for beavers, frogs, and insects.

Seasons: All
Grades: K-5th

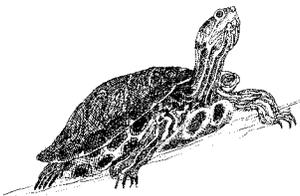
Trek Through the Trees

Students will have the opportunity to learn more about trees, their many parts and how to identify the different varieties. They will have a chance to identify species in the park through a tree trail hike.

Seasons: Spring, Summer, & Early Fall
Grades: K-5th

Schoolyard Science

Schoolyard Science programs bring nature and science to you. These programs teach science through hands-on activities on your school grounds.



Program length: One hour

Maximum group size: Not more than one school class of up to 30 students

Chaperones: At least 1 adult for every 10 students

Cost: \$50 plus round trip mileage to your school



Animal Adaptations

Animals have developed specialized ways to live in their environments, including how they eat and protect themselves from predators. Students will be able to explore and discuss the differences through hands-on activities and meeting a few live animals.

Grades: 1st-5th

Exploring Soil

Your students will become soil scientists and investigate the properties of soil. Through hands-on experiments and demonstrations, your students will have the opportunity to explore the basic components of soil including: the color, texture, and particle size of different soil types.

Grades: 3rd-5th

Protecting Our Planet

The earth is the only place we have to live and it is important we make good choices to protect it. While engaging in games and activities, your students will discover how people can protect our planet.

Grades: K-5th

Reptiles

Explore the amazing diversity of reptile lifestyles and characteristics. Discover many similarities and differences between reptiles and other animal groups including humans. Help your students to overcome fears and demystify reptiles as they meet some fascinating live examples.

Grades: K-5th

Seed Science

Do your students have a hard time understanding seeds? This program is a great way for students to explore the diversity of seeds. Through discussion and games, they will learn where the seed is found on the plant, how seeds are dispersed and explore the parts of the seed. Your students will also plant seeds that you can watch develop in the classroom.

Grades: K-5th



Preschool Programs

Preschool Mini Critters

Your students will get up close and personal with some “creepy crawlies.” A story time will be enhanced by the opportunity to meet and touch a few intriguing live critters.

Preschool Birds

Basic backyard birds will be the focus as we talk about their different colors and songs. In addition, your students will have the opportunity to see and touch examples of nests, eggs, and feathers.

Program Length: 45 minutes

Age: 4 & 5 year-olds

Maximum group size: 20 students

Chaperones: At least 1 adult for every 10 students

Cost: \$50 plus round trip mileage

Other Programs

Critter Stop

This event is perfect for school science nights, festivals, and community gatherings. This program allows visitors to stop by our booth to ask questions and touch live animals during your special event.

Age: All

Program Length: Two hour minimum

\$35/hour (Expected event attendance less than 100)

\$50/hour (Expected event attendance more than 100)

Birthday Parties

Does your child love science and nature? What would be a better gift than one of our exciting programs at his or her birthday party? Programs can be held at your party location or at one of Raleigh's parks. Several parks offer indoor and outdoor facilities for rental.

Age: 5 years & up.

Program Length & Cost: Vary by topic

Most of our program topics can be adapted for a birthday party setting.



Scout Programs

Program Length: One hour
Chaperones: At least 3 adults
Maximum Group Size: 20 scouts
Cost: \$40 per workshop

Brownie Girl Scouts: Naturalist-Bugs

Give your Brownie Girl Scouts an opportunity to learn all about bug bodies, bug behaviors and bug homes.

Meets requirements 1, 3, 4 & 5

Junior Girl Scouts: Naturalist-Flowers

Junior Girl Scouts become botanists as they uncover the mystery of seeds. They will plant seeds to take home and watch grow.

Meets requirements 1 & 2

Webelos Scouts: Naturalist

Give your Webelos a chance to learn about aquatic food chains and wetland environments. Scouts will explore the pond to find tadpoles, insect larvae, water scorpions and more.

Meets requirements 9 & 11

Bear Cub Scouts: Elective 15-Soil and Water Conservation

Your Bear Cub Scouts will have the opportunity to explore the properties of three different kinds of earth by conducting hands-on soil experiments.

Meets requirement B

Wolf Cub Scouts: Elective 13-Birds

Your Cub Scout group will learn ten different birds that live in North Carolina and then have a chance to observe some wild birds.

Meets requirements B, D & E

Nature Hike

You can choose a topic that meets the needs of your group. Or we can take a generalized hike and see what we find along the trail.



Looking for service hours? Call our office for opportunities (919) 996-6856.

Correlation to NC Science Curriculum

	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Animal Adaptations	K.L.1.1 K.L.1.2				4.L.1.1 4.L.1.2 4.L.1.3	
Aquatics	K.L.1.1 K.L.1.2	1.L.1.1 1.L.1.2	2.L.1.1 2.L.1.2 Ex.2.L.1 Ex.2.L.2.1 Ex.2.L.2.2			
Birds	K.L.1.1 K.L.1.2					
Ecosystem Connections						5.L.2 5.L.2.1 5.L.2.2 5.L.2.3 EX.5.L.2.3
Exploring Ecosystems				3.L.2 3.L.2.2 3.L.2.4		5.L.2 5.L.2.1 EX.5.L.2.1 EX.5.L.2.2 EX.5.L.2.3
Habitats	K.L.1.1 K.L.1.2	1.L.1.1 1.L.1.2				5.L.2.1 5.L.2.2 5.L.2.3
Insects	K.L.1.1 K.L.1.2	1.L.1.1 1.L.1.2	2.L.1.1 2.L.1.2 Ex.2.L.2.1 Ex.2.L.2.2			
Protecting Our Planet		1.L.1 1.L.1.3				
Reptiles	K.L.1.1 K.L.1.2					
Seed Science		1.L.1.1 1.L.1.2		3.L.2.1 3.L.2.2 3.L.2.3		
Soil Exploration		1.E.2.1 1.E.2.2		3.L.2.2 3.L.2.4		
Trees		1.L.1.1 1.L.1.2		3.L.2.1 3.L.2.2		

Program Sites

Durant Nature Park
8305 Camp Durant Road

Laurel Hills Park
3808 Edwards Mill Road

Powell Drive Park
740 Powell Drive

Program Topics	Durant	Laurel Hills	Powell Drive	Your Site
Amazing Avians	•	•	•	•
Aquatic Life	•	•	•	
Busy Beavers	•			
Ecosystem Connections	•	•	•	•
Exploring Ecosystems	•	•	•	•
Habitat Hunt	•	•	•	•
Investigating Insects	•	•	•	
Night Hike	•			
Trees	•			
Animal Adaptations	•	•	•	•
Protecting Our Planet	•	•	•	•
Reptiles	•	•	•	•
Seed Science	•	•	•	•
Soil Exploration	•	•	•	•
Pre-K Mini Critters	•	•	•	•
Pre-K Birds	•	•	•	•
Facility Amenities				
Picnic Shelters	•	•	•	
Playground	•	•	•	
Rental Facilities	•	•	•	
Hiking Trails	•			
Grass Play Field	•	•	•	