

Hancock Park District Educational Programs

2016-2017 School Year

Hancock Park District programs immerse students in nature and history through hands-on and experiential activities that are closely aligned with Ohio Academic Content Standards. Our professional staff is dedicated to promoting a better understanding and appreciation of the local culture, history, flora, and fauna.

Please schedule at least **one month in advance** by calling Michelle Rumschlag, Naturalist, between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM. weekdays at 419-425-7275 or e-mailing her at mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

Please have the following information ready before you call or e-mail:

- _____ Name of school
- _____ Contact person's name
- _____ Contact person's phone number & email
- _____ School address
- _____ Grade/Age of students
- _____ Number of classes and students
- _____ Preferred program title/topic
- _____ First and second choice of dates
- _____ Are you eating lunch in the park?
- _____ Special needs

- Minimum of 6 participants for any program.
- Invite us to your next staff meeting for a 15 minute presentation on the Hancock Park District's educational programs.
- You are welcome to plan your own day at our parks, taking advantage of hiking trails, picnic areas, playgrounds, volleyball courts, etc. Please notify HPD if you plan your own day so that we can facilitate a good experience.



(419) 425-7275

www.hancockparks.com



HPD Education Programs

Programs are held rain or shine. The Park District will NOT cancel your program unless there is a safety concern such as thunderstorms, tornado watches, or high wind warnings. Due to the popularity of our programs we cannot schedule a rain date. If there is severe weather we will try our best to reschedule the program, but in the case of just rain, we will conduct the program.

Each program is designed with 30 minute stations, unless otherwise indicated. The number of stations per program is listed after the grade. You may choose to do as many stations as your time allows and can pick them to fit your curriculum needs.

Park Key:

ARA - Aeraland Recreation Area
LMW - Litzenberg Memorial Woods
ONP - Oakwoods Nature Preserve
RRA - Riverbend Recreation Area
OR - Outreach

One adult for every 10 children is recommended. *Due to space limitations, we ask that chaperones DO NOT bring other aged siblings.*

- **Hancock county groups** are free, unless noted in program description. Teachers and chaperones are always free.
- **Out-of-county groups** are charged *\$2 per student*. If less than 25 participants, a minimum program fee of \$50 is charged. If there is a charge for a program for in-county students, the out-of-county student rate will be prorated.

PAYMENT METHOD - If there is a charge for the program, we will be invoicing you AFTER the program with the number of students that attended that day. Please DO NOT send payment in ahead of a program and we CANNOT TAKE PAYMENT ON SITE

History Programs - All programs take place at Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Back in the Day

Grade 1

1-3 stations

Find out how pioneers lived in Hancock County 168 years ago! Take a tour of the 1847 McKinnis house and meet a pioneer to see how their lives are different than yours. You'll also get a chance to tour the wagon shed and workshop and play some pioneer games.

Communities

Grade 3

1-3 stations



Get your bartering shoes on as we head to market to trade our extra goods. See what the McKinnis family will be getting around in the house to take to store. We will also look at maps now and then to see how the community has changed over time.

Jobs of Yesteryear

Grade 2

1-3 stations

Meet pioneers with a job you might be familiar with today, but see how they varied in the 1840s. A teacher, housewife and work smith will tell you about their trades and have you help them too.



Native American Life

Grade 5

1-3 stations

Learn what local Native American tribes were found in Northwest Ohio. Hike to the encampment to see how they lived and participate in some games and activities to see if you have what it takes to be a great hunter!

Pioneer Pen Pal

Grades 3-4

Take your class back in time through a historic letter exchange. Each month as a class, you will write one letter to an early Hancock County resident from 1847. The resident will respond with a period correct letter answering your questions and discussing their life. After your letter exchange, you have the option of meeting with your pen pal either at your school or the McKinnis House.

OR



Pioneer Tyke Hikes

Grades Preschool & Kindergarten

Program time: 1 hour

What was it like to live as a pioneer? Come out and tour the 1847 McKinnis homestead to discover some of the jobs pioneers had during the fall. It will include hands on activities such as grinding corn, pressing apples, churning butter, and looking in the garden to see if anything is



ready to be harvested. After each stop, you'll be rewarded with a small taste of the past for your hard work. This program is provided in cooperation with the University of Findlay's College of Education.

Program Fee: \$0.50 per student

Program Offered: October 3-7, 2016

What Freedom Means to Me

Grades 4-6

1-3 stations

Experience what immigration to the United States of America was like through the eyes of an immigrant! Interact with a pioneer as they share their family's journey from Ireland and see what precious few possessions were brought over in the family's basket. Then become an immigrant yourself and face peril, starvation, and death as you role play your journey to America. Discover what reasons motivated these people to uproot their lives and leave family and friends to travel thousands of miles to an unfamiliar land.

LMW, OR

Nature Programs

Adapting for Survival

Grades 3 & 4

1-4 stations

Explore how plants and animals use their body adaptations to survive, obtain food, and escape from predators. Learn about predators, prey, camouflage, body coverings, defenses, and instinct through activities, games, and a nature hike.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR



Amazing Animal Senses

Grade 1

1-3 stations

Discover how animals use sight, sound, and smell through hands-on activities and experiments. Then take a nature hike and use your senses to explore the natural world.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

Back in Time

Grade 2

1 hour

Learn what animals used to live here in Ohio, but don't anymore. Are there relatives that still exist today? An investigation of fossils will also take place.

OR

Discovery Stories

Grades Preschool & Kindergarten

30 minutes

Through stories, songs, and hands-on activities, students explore nature and science. A new topic is offered each month:



Nov. - Where do Bees go in Winter?

Dec. - Barn Owls

Jan. - Flying Squirrels

Mar. - Bats

ONP, OR

Earth's Resources

Grade 3

Time to get your hands dirty as you get to do some soil and rock sampling, play a popcorn activity to learn about renewable resources and see how reducing waste and recycling are the way to go.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

1-4 stations



Earth's Living History

Grade 4

See how animals survive in their ever-changing environment through hands-on activities, discover how the landscape in Ohio looked at various times throughout the past and compare and contrast fossils and animals living today.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

1-3 stations

Fabulous Food Webs

Grades 1&5

Explore the roles of producers and consumers in the food chain through games and activities. Compare skulls of Ohio herbivores,



omnivores, and carnivores. Go in search of local producers, consumers, and decomposers on a nature hike and classify them.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

1-3 stations

Habitats

Grades 1-3

Investigate local animal homes by immersing students in nature on a hike. Familiarize students with the basic animal needs of water, food, living space, and shelter through games and activities.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

1 - 1½ hours

Insect Investigations

Grade 1

Learn what makes an insect an insect while we turn you into one! Explore how different kinds of insect mouthparts help these bugs eat their food. Go on an insect hunt to discover the great variety of insects that live in Ohio.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

1-3 stations



Landforms

Grade 4

Find out how much water we have on Earth and what's available to us, see what glaciers were all about, and participate in hands-on activities to see what erosion and weathering do to the landscape.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

1-3 stations

Life Cycles

Grade 3

1-3 stations

We will explore the ways animals live and dive into metamorphosis of amphibians and insects. See the variety of birth months and litter numbers when it comes to birds and mammals. We won't forget our plant friends and see how they work too!

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR



Nature Hike

All ages

Explore Ohio plants and animals first hand with the park district program staff as your guide. Discover seasonal surprises by visiting the parks each season to investigate how plants and animals adapt to the changing weather conditions. We will also come to you to help you investigate nature in your own backyard. Hike may be a general nature hike or you may choose from the following topics: Food Chains, Habitats, Insects, Plants, or Seasons.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

30 minutes - 1 hour

Nature's Recyclers

Grade 2

Through a story, you'll discover how the world's best recyclers complete the circle of life. Learn about decomposers and scavengers as you search for them on a nature hike. Then get dirty with some of the best composters, worms!

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

1-3 stations



Owls

Grade 5

Explore how owls are specifically adapted as excellent nocturnal predators. Take a closer look at an owl's role in the food chain.

Optional: Unravel the mystery of what owls eat by dissecting owl pellets. \$2 fee charged per pellet.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

1-2 stations

Plants

Grade 1

Discover what plants need to survive, explore how the parts of a plant help it survive in its environment, and investigate how seeds travel in different ways. Investigate Ohio plants on a nature hike, taking a closer look at where they live and what animals depend on them.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

1-3 stations

Puppet Show: The Night Train

Grade Preschool & Kindergarten

Get on board the night train as it travels through the countryside to pick up neighborhood animals. We will do some singing afterwards and make a craft too!

ONP, Richard "Doc" Phillips

Discovery Center

Program Offered: February 13-17, 2017

1 hour



Rocks & Minerals

Grade 6

An in depth look at minerals, igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks' characteristics, formation and everyday uses. Soil sampling will also be done.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

1-4 stations

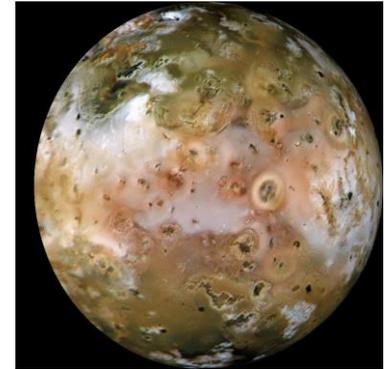
The Solar System

Grade 5

Length: 1 hour

Join us in our portable planetarium to explore our solar system including the sun and other celestial bodies that orbit the sun. Find out the unique characteristics of the planets.

ONP, RRA, OR



The Sun, the Moon, and the Stars

Grade K

Length: 30 minutes - 1 hour

Join us in our portable planetarium to explore the sun, the moon, and the stars. Discover how the moon changes shape and may appear at night or during the day. See how the sun changes position during the day and observe some of the stars that you can see at night.

ONP, RRA, OR

Room Requirements for Planetarium Dome: A room at least 20' W x 20'L x 12'H is required with a clean floor. A gymnasium works best. Room will be needed 30 minutes before and after program for setup and tear down. An adult must be present in planetarium with students.

The World Outside

Grade K

An exploration of what's going on outside with the weather and a look at the seasons as we do hands-on experiments and observations.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

1-3 stations



Up in the Air

Grade 2

We will explore the air around us and in our atmosphere and conduct some experiments to see what's really going on in the sky.

ARA, LMW, ONP, RRA, OR

1-3 stations

Water, Water Everywhere

Grade 1

Water will be on our minds as we take a closer look at the different properties of water and see how fresh water and salt water differ. We will visit a body of water to investigate further and learn about heating from the Sun and even do some solar cooking!

ARA, ONP, RRA, OR

1-3 stations



All Day Programs

History Comes Alive

Grade 4

Program Time: 10 AM - 1:45 PM

Step back in time to experience pioneer life and participate in hands-on activities. See the importance of folk music in local culture and the functionality of pioneer clothing and help spin wool. Assist a hard working farmwife with butter churning and clothes washing and discover the hardships of traveling to Hancock County. Investigate the many uses of Ohio plants on a nature hike and get hands-on with tools and visit the workshop. This program is provided in cooperation with the University of Findlay's College of Education.

LMW

Program Fee: \$2 per student

Program Offered: September 18-22, 2017



Maple Sugarin' Days

Grades 2-5

Program time: 10:30 AM - 1:15 PM

Step into nature and history as you explore the history and production of one of North America's sweetest products. Upper track will cover wildlife and sap, modern production and the 1847 McKinnis House to visit with a costumed interpreter. Lower track will take you on the trail to cover sap science, maple sugaring in American Indian culture and a busy pioneer working in the sugar bush.

LMW

Program Fee: \$0.75 per student

Program Offered: March 13-17, 2017



Nature Comes Alive

Grade 5

Program Time: 10 AM - 1:45 PM

Immerse yourself in science and nature through a day of hands-on activities in the great outdoors. Explore the transfer of energy through ecosystems and food chains, including a live raptor presentation. Search for producers, consumers, and decomposers on a naturalist-led hike. Learn about light with hands-on activities with prisms and mirrors. Study plants and how they tie into our survival, then head into our portable planetarium to look at stars. This program is provided in cooperation with the University of Findlay's College of Education.

RRA

Program Fee: \$2 per student

Program Offered: April 3-7, 2017

