

**HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT AUGUST 2022 PROGRAMS – TO REGISTER YOU MAY GO TO [WWW.HANCOCKPARKS.COM](http://WWW.HANCOCKPARKS.COM) OR VISIT US AT 1424 E MAIN CROSS M-F 8:00AM - 4:30PM. FOR QUESTIONS CALL 419-425-7275.**

**AUGUST**

**1 Monday**

**Spectacular Spiders**

Spiders have found a place in nursery rhymes and have been feared by some. For those children who love them, this is the program for you. Children will learn why spiders are important, get a close look at their body parts, and learn how they differ from insects. We will then go hiking in search of spiders, their webs, and their close relative – the daddy long legs.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 2-4 PM

Ages 11-14. Free; but register by 9 AM on Monday, August 1.

Minimum: 3/Maximum: 20

Michelle Rumschlag [mrumschlag@hancockparks.com](mailto:mrumschlag@hancockparks.com)

**2 Tuesday**

**Teen Kayaking**

Here is a chance for teens to take a guided kayak trip on the Blanchard River and enjoy the scenic view along the way. If we are lucky, we might see turtles sunning themselves and the great blue heron flying along the river corridor. There will be a brief talk about boating safety and how to maneuver your kayak before we get started.

Riverside Park Waterfront, Zonta Landing 9-11 AM

Ages 13-18. Register with \$10 per person by 4 PM on August 1.

Minimum: 2/Maximum: 12

Chris Allen [callen@hancockparks.com](mailto:callen@hancockparks.com)

**2 Tuesday**

**Little Hands Nature Club – Brilliant Birds**

We're going on a bird hunt outside the Discovery Center. Bring your preschoolers out to the park to learn about the feathered creatures that fly around our area. Hands-on stations will include moving like a bird, trying out different bird beaks, and making your own paper bag bird puppet. Afterwards, enjoy a scavenger hunt to see how many different types of birds you can find at Oakwoods. Adult companions must remain with children for this program.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 10-11 AM

Ages 3-6, with an adult; other ages siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

Christine Patterson [cpatterson@hancockparks.com](mailto:cpatterson@hancockparks.com)

**2 Tuesday**

**Paper Making for Adults 50+**

Learn about the art of paper making. We will discuss the history of paper, the modern-day industrial process, and the hobby of paper making, including the supplies that you need and the process of turning pulp to paper. Each participant will make one sheet of white paper and some cookie cutter shaped colored paper.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 3 PM

Ages 50 and up. Free; but register by 9 AM on Tuesday, August 2.

Minimum: 2/Maximum: 12

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

**3 Wednesday**

**Wiggly Worms**

Worms are a favorite among children who like to get their hands dirty. They may seem gross, but worms play an important part in healthy soil. Your kids will have a lot of fun visiting different stations where they can investigate the parts of a worm, learn about their habitat, and create their own bookworm pencil topper.

Riverbend Recreation Area, Oxbow Bend Activity Area, Shelter 5 6:30-7:30 PM

Ages 5-10, with an adult; other ages siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

Christine Patterson [cpatterson@hancockparks.com](mailto:cpatterson@hancockparks.com)

**3 Wednesday**

**Discovery Story: Night in the Country**

What kind of noises are being made when its nighttime out in the country? Join us for a story, nocturnal animal activities like Owl Ring Toss and make a raccoon mask to take home. Furs and feathers of nighttime animals will also be out to touch.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 6:30 PM

Ages 3-5 with an adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag [mrumschlag@hancockparks.com](mailto:mrumschlag@hancockparks.com)

### 3 Wednesday

#### Cooking with Paper Bags

A simple brown paper bag is an excellent tool for cooking a wide variety of food around a campfire. Before we start, we will discuss the basics and safety of outdoor cooking. Our first two courses will be made in our paper bags and cooked over the fire. First, we will make eggs and bacon, and then pop some popcorn. We will then finish off with dessert by making some doughnuts and using the bags to add sugar and or cinnamon.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods, McKinnis House, 7 PM

Ages 11-14. Register with \$5 per child by 1 PM on Tuesday, August 2.

Minimum: 3/Maximum: 12

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

### 4 Thursday

#### Archery Instruction – Teens

##### *Leisure Education Initiative*

Come out for an archery class led by a certified archery instructor. All necessary equipment and targets will be provided. You'll have the opportunity to learn the basics of archery along with safety measures, while shooting arrows at several targets with a compound bow. How close to your target can you get? Sign-up and find out.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Dold Lake 6:30-7:30 PM

Ages 14-17. Register with \$10 per person by 4 PM on Thursday, August 4.

Maximum: 10

Michelle Rumschlag [mrumschlag@hancockparks.com](mailto:mrumschlag@hancockparks.com)

### 5 Friday

#### Archery Open Shoot

Have you taken one of the Hancock Park District's introductory archery courses? If so, and if you want more archery practice, then here's your chance. A certified archery instructor will supervise the archery practice session. All necessary equipment and targets will be provided.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Dold Lake 6:30-7:30 PM

Ages 9 and up. Register with \$10 per person by 4 PM on Friday August, 5.

Maximum: 10

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

### 6 Saturday

#### Richard S. "Doc" Phillips Discovery Center Open House

The Discovery Center will be open for visitation. Visitors can choose to participate in unstructured and/or structured activities.

Activities and attractions include bird watching via the Windows on Wildlife, mounted animals and live animals on display, nature videos, field guides and nature books for reading, touch table and puppets, and seasonal displays and exhibits. A Program Department staff member or volunteer will be available to answer questions. There will be a fun gem mining station for kids to sift out rocks and id them in the Nature Play Area from 1 PM to 4 PM.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 10 AM-4 PM

All ages are welcome. Free; registration not required.

Chris Allen [callen@hancockparks.com](mailto:callen@hancockparks.com)

### 6 Saturday

#### Indian Green Cemetery Talks: The Children

Join us as we take a closer look at those buried at Indian Green Cemetery, located in Liberty Township, just east of Litzenberg Memorial Woods. In this program, you will learn about the 50 children, all aged 11 and under, who are buried there. After a program in the Activity Barn, we will hike along U.S. Highway 224 to the cemetery to look at their grave stones. Participants must be able to hike the over ¾ mile round trip to the cemetery.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods, Activity Barn 10 AM  
Ages 18 and up. Free; but register by 1 PM on Friday, August 5.  
Minimum: 2/ Maximum: 20  
Michelle Rumschlag [mrumschlag@hancockparks.com](mailto:mrumschlag@hancockparks.com)

#### 7 Sunday

Picnic at the McKinnis House

Bring a blanket and your lunch and join Mrs. McKinnis out on the lawn for a picnic. Afterwards, enjoy some cookies and lemonade while you walk around the garden or play some pioneer games on the lawn.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods, McKinnis House, 11 AM-1 PM

Families. Free; registration is not required.

Christine Patterson [cpatterson@hancockparks.com](mailto:cpatterson@hancockparks.com)

#### 10 Wednesday

Little Hands Nature Club – Ladybug, Ladybug

Bring your preschoolers out to the park to use sweep nets to try to catch ladybugs and other insects. Hands-on stations will include the opportunity to observe insects with a magnifying glass and make a paper plate ladybug. Afterwards, go on an Insect Scavenger Hunt on the trails at Riverbend to see what other insect activity you can find. Adult companions must remain with children for this program.

Riverbend Recreation Area, Meadows Activity Area, Shelter 7, 10-11 AM

Ages 3-6, with an adult; other ages siblings are welcome to attend. Free; registration is not required.

Christine Patterson [cpatterson@hancockparks.com](mailto:cpatterson@hancockparks.com)

#### 11 Thursday

S'mores Under the Supermoon

Come out to the park for a fun evening of making s'mores and playing lawn games with program specialist, Tim Kleman. Then at 9 PM join naturalist, Michelle Rumschlag for a supermoon hike. Learn all about the moon and what makes it a supermoon. Then explore the park at night under the light of moon to see what is out and about in the park at night.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Activity Barn

7-10 PM

Families.

Register with \$10 per family by 2 PM on Thursday, August 11. Only one member of the family needs to register.

Minimum: 2/Maximum: 10

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

#### 13 Saturday

No Child Left Indoors

Join the Hancock Park District and Pheasants Forever for a morning filled with youth outdoor recreation activities as they test their skills and talents. No Child Left Indoors is part of a national movement to reach a generation of young people fixated on electronics, and to get them outdoors. This event is focused on reversing the trend of inactivity and obesity in today's youth and actively engaging them in outdoor recreation activities. These outdoor experiences will educate youth about the importance of nature and conservation with hopes of fostering tomorrow's leaders and conservation-minded citizens. Activities will include a nature program, fishing, archery, canoeing & kayaking, BB and shotgun shooting, and more. Light refreshments will be provided by Whitetails Unlimited.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 9 AM-12:30 PM

Ages 6-17 with an adult. Register between 8 AM – 9 AM or preregister by emailing: [meplesec@coopertire.com](mailto:meplesec@coopertire.com).

Christine Patterson [cpatterson@hancockparks.com](mailto:cpatterson@hancockparks.com)

#### 14 Sunday

Kayaking for Youth

Learn the basics of kayaking and then hit the Blanchard River for a fun morning on the water. It will start and end at Zonta Landing. We will be taking the scenic route upstream past the Findlay Country Club golf course to the Eastpoint Area and back.

Riverside Park Waterfront, Zonta Landing 9 -11 AM

Ages 12-14. Register with \$10 per kayak by 1 PM on Friday, August 12.

Minimum: 2/Maximum: 10

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com.

14 Sunday

Teen Insect Exploration

Become an entomologist and study the insects that call the park home. First, we will discuss what entomology is, how to use our nets and other collection equipment, and about safety while exploring. Then we will explore and learn about the insects that live the prairie and forest. Each participant is recommended to bring water, a hat, insect repellent and sunscreen, and wear long pants.

Aeraland Recreation Area, Shelter 1-2:30 PM

Ages 13-17. Free; but register by 1 PM on Friday, August 12.

Minimum: 3/Maximum: 10

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

14 Sunday

Dragonflies and Damselflies

Late summer is an excellent time to view these insects darting around the pond. Learn about dragonflies and damselflies biology, how to tell them apart, and their importance to the pond ecosystem. We'll then go on a hike to look for species that live around Goose Lake and along the Portage River.

Aeraland Recreation Area, Shelter 3 PM

Ages 18 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman

tkleman@hancockparks.com

15 Monday

Discovery Story: Natures Dining Hall

There will be a story about where insects and animals find their food in nature. Birds eat worms, wasps like to eat beetles, and raccoons like eggs. The opossum is called nature's janitor because he will clean up whatever he finds that you have left behind. The kids will make a craft that is a googly-eyed nature friend that they won't have to feed later.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM & 1 PM

Ages 3 and up with an adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend. Free, registration not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

15 Monday

Firefly Hike

As we are now in the second half of summer, we'll head out to find the insect that has delighted and enchanted children for ages, the firefly. Also known as the lightning bug, it's neither a fly or a bug, but a beetle. Find out how they get their glow on and why they flash.

Aeraland Recreation Area, Shelter 8 PM

Families with children ages 6 and up. Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

16 Tuesday

Little Hands Nature Club – Roly Polies

These little guys go by the name Sow bug, Roly polies and Pill bug, and they help make the garden soil richer. Bring your preschoolers out to the park to learn about this little crustacean. We will make our own Roly Poly craft and even have some Roly Poly races. Adult companions must remain with children for this program.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 2-3 PM

Ages 3-6, with an adult; other ages siblings are welcome to attend. Free; registration is not required.

Christine Patterson cpatterson@hancockparks.com

16 Tuesday

Archery Open Shoot

Have you taken one of the Hancock Park District's introductory archery courses? If so, and if you want more archery practice, then here's your chance. A certified archery instructor will supervise the archery practice session. All necessary equipment and targets will be provided.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Dold Lake 6:30-7:30 PM

Ages 9 and up. Register with \$10 per person by 4 PM on Tuesday, August 16.

Maximum: 10

Chris Allen [callen@hancockparks.com](mailto:callen@hancockparks.com)

16 Tuesday

Planetarium: Saturn at Opposition

Saturn will be at its closest approach to Earth this week and it will be fully illuminated by the Sun. This means it will be brighter than any other time in the year. We'll take a closer look at the ringed planet and some of its moons. Participants are required to sit on the floor. Ask about accommodations.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 6:30 PM

All ages are welcome. Free; but register by 4 PM on Tuesday, August 16.

Maximum: 25

Michelle Rumschlag [mrumschlag@hancockparks.com](mailto:mrumschlag@hancockparks.com)

17 Wednesday

Tin Lanterns

Pioneers didn't have flashlights, instead, they used a simple light called a punched tin lantern. Step back in time to make your own tin lantern. Using a tin can, a hammer, and a nail, you'll be able to come away with your own one-of-kind tin lantern to take home.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods, Shelter 10-11 AM & 6:30-7:30 PM

Ages 9-12. Register with \$5 per person by 1 PM on Tuesday August 16.

Minimum: 3/Maximum 12 per craft time

Christine Patterson [cpatterson@hancockparks.com](mailto:cpatterson@hancockparks.com)

18 Thursday

1847 McKinnis Garden Tour

The McKinnis Garden will be in full swing of its growing season. Learn about plants in the permanent culinary and medicinal beds, the dye garden and others that grow there year after year. We'll also look at the vegetables that were planted this year. To cool off, we'll have a quick drink of lemonade in the McKinnis House.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods, 1847 McKinnis Garden 10 AM

Ages 50+. Free; registration is not required.

Michelle Rumschlag [mrumschlag@hancockparks.com](mailto:mrumschlag@hancockparks.com)

18 Thursday

Archery Instruction – Youth

*Leisure Education Initiative*

Come out for an archery class led by a certified archery instructor. All necessary equipment and targets will be provided. You'll have the opportunity to learn the basics of archery along with safety measures, while shooting arrows at several targets with a compound bow. How close to your target can you get? Sign-up and find out.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Dold Lake 6:30-7:30 PM

Ages 9-12. Register with \$10 per person by 4 PM on Thursday, August 18.

Maximum: 10

Christine Patterson [cpatterson@hancockparks.com](mailto:cpatterson@hancockparks.com)

19 Friday

Active Adults Kayaking

Active Adults can take a leisurely guided kayak trip down the Blanchard River and enjoy the scenic view along the way. There will be a brief talk about boating safety and how to maneuver your kayak before we get started. Life vests are provided, but you will want to bring along sunscreen, bug spray and your own water bottle and snack if needed.

Riverside Park Waterfront, Zonta Landing 9 -11 AM

Ages 50 and up. Register with \$10 per person by 4 PM on Thursday, August 18.

Minimum: 2/Maximum: 12

Chris Allen [callen@hancockparks.com](mailto:callen@hancockparks.com)

19 Friday

Family Fishing

Get out in the parks and go fishing as a family. Learn about the basics of fishing as we try to catch some fish that live in Dold Lake. All skill levels are welcome. A fishing pole will be provided or bring your own. We will have corn and hotdogs available for bait or bring your own lucky lure! All participants who are 16 years of age or older will need a valid Ohio Fishing License.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Dold Lake 7 PM

Families with children ages 5 and up. Free; but register by 4 PM on Friday, August 19.

Minimum: 3/Maximum: 20

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

20 Saturday

American Girl Tea: Caroline

Join the Hancock Park District as we celebrate the American Girl Doll, Caroline. Enjoy sailboat sandwiches, gingerbread cookies, and ice cream punch for a truly one-of-a-kind experience. Kids are encouraged to bring their own Caroline Doll, American Girl Doll or other doll to join in the fun. An extra special photo area will be available for pictures to make a lasting memory of the tea party experience.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods, Activity Barn 10:30 AM & 1 PM

Ages 7-12 with an adult; no more than 4 kids per 1 adult. Register with \$10 per child by 1 PM on Friday, August 19; adults do not need to register.

Minimum: 5/Maximum: 12 per tea time

Christine Patterson cpatterson@hancockparks.com

21 Sunday

Mourning on the Farm: Open House

Life was tough for early Ohio settlers and like all living things, life on the farm will end. Come out to the McKinnis House and learn about mourning and funeral practices of 1847. Join Sarah Fishel in the house as the family mourns the loss of a close family friend and neighbor. Then come over to the workshop where Robert McKinnis will talk about the history and process of making coffins and grave markers.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods, McKinnis House 1-4 PM

All ages are welcome. Free; registration is not required.

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

22 Monday

Make Your Own Fairy Home

Imagine finding a little house out in the woods. Fairy houses are fun nature-based houses that kids can create for imaginary fairies or other woodland creatures to live in. We will read a book about who might live in a fairy house, then kids will get to create their own fairy house to take home to their own garden.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 6:30-7:30 PM

Ages 6-10. Register with \$5 per child by 1 PM on Monday, August 22.

Minimum: 4/ Maximum: 18

Christine Patterson cpatterson@hancockparks.com

23 Tuesday

Archery Instruction – Adults

*Leisure Education Initiative*

Come out for an archery class led by a certified archery instructor. All necessary equipment and targets will be provided. You'll have the opportunity to learn the basics of archery along with safety measures, while shooting arrows at several targets with a compound bow. How close to your target can you get? Sign-up and find out.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Dold Lake 6:30-7:30 PM

Ages 18 and up. Register with \$10 per person by 4 PM on Tuesday, August 23.

Maximum: 10

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

24 Wednesday

Nature Scavenger Hunt

Bring the kids out for some fresh air and hike as we follow along the .3-mile Lady Bug Loop trail looking at all the things that are along the trail. Kids will enjoy a stop at the vernal pool to see who is living there as well. This is a great little park to take a short hike with the little ones.

Blue Rock Nature Preserve, Edgar Avenue parking lot, Lady Bug Loop 10 AM

Ages 3-6 with an adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

#### 24 Wednesday

Painting with Nature Paint Brushes

Come out and do some painting in the park. Instead of your typical paint brushes, children will paint using brushes with bristles made of pine needles, flowers, and leaves. Create your own painting of an animal, yourself, a nature scene, or of the McKinnis House and barn. While the paintings dry, take a walk in the park or have a picnic as a family on the lawn. We'll be using tempera paint and recommend that participants wear clothes they can get paint on.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods, Shelter 11 AM

Ages 6-10 with an adult. Free; but register by 4 PM on Tuesday, August 23.

Minimum: 2/Maximum: 12

Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

#### 24 Wednesday

Indian Green Cemetery Talks: The Children

Join us as we take a closer look at those buried at Indian Green Cemetery, located in Liberty Township, just east of Litzenberg Memorial Woods. In this program, you will learn about the 50 children, all aged 11 and under, who are buried there. After a program in the Activity Barn, we will hike along U.S. Highway 224 to the cemetery to look at their grave stones. Participants must be able to hike the over ¾ mile round trip to the cemetery.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods, Activity Barn 7 PM

Ages 16 and up. Free; but register by 2 PM on Wednesday, August 24.

Minimum: 2/ Maximum: 20

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

#### 25 Thursday

Little Hands Nature Club – Some Web

Bring your preschoolers out to the park to learn how spiders make their web. Children will be able to try out a Web Obstacle Course and create their own yarn web art. Afterwards, stay and play in the Nature Play Area or head out on a hike through Oakwoods. Adult companions must remain with children for this program.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 10-11 AM

Ages 3-6, with an adult; other ages siblings are welcome to attend. Free; registration is not required.

Christine Patterson cpatterson@hancockparks.com

#### 25 Thursday

Fire Starting & Building

Fire has been a tool of humans for many years. Learn the different ways to build a campfire, all the materials you need, and which type of wood is better than others. You'll also get to be hands-on with starting a fire the way Native Americans and pioneers did it. Since we'll be making a campfire, we will end the evening with s'mores.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods, Activity Barn 6:30-8 PM

Ages 18 and up. Register with \$4 per person by 1 PM on Thursday, August 25.

Minimum: 2/Maximum: 12

Michelle Rumschlag mrumschlag@hancockparks.com

#### 26 Friday

Horn: The Plastic of 1847

Before the invention of plastic, animal horn was used in many products as it is strong, lightweight, waterproof, and easy to work with. It was the job of the Horner to create goods using horn, antlers, and sometimes bone. Come out to the McKinnis farm to learn all about the craft of the Horner. Learn about the process of working with horn, view some goods made for horns and antlers, and watch a horner demonstration of creating a comb. Children who visit the Horner will receive a button that can be made into a craft or to use at home.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods, McKinnis House 6:30 PM-8:30 PM  
For families with children ages 8 and up. Free; registration is not required.  
Tim Kleman tkleman@hancockparks.com

27 Saturday

Richard S. "Doc" Phillips Discovery Center Open House

The Discovery Center will be open for visitation. Visitors can choose to participate in unstructured and/or structured activities. Activities and attractions include bird watching via the Windows on Wildlife, mounted animals and live animals on display, nature videos, field guides and nature books for reading, touch table and puppets, and seasonal displays and exhibits. A Program Department staff member or volunteer will be available to answer questions. Between 10 AM and 1 PM, join us in the Nature Play Area for a nature scavenger hunt.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 10 AM – 4 PM

All ages are welcome. Free; registration is not required.

Christine Patterson cpatterson@hancockparks.com

27 Saturday

Family Campfire

Join us for an evening with the family around the campfire. If you would like to bring along your guitar and play as we sing some campfire song that would be great. We will be cooking hot dogs and s'mores over the campfire and kids can learn how to make ants on a log to eat. Please bring your own beverages.

Riverbend Recreation Area, Big Oaks Activity Area Campground, Group Fire Ring (East) 7-9 PM

Families. Register with \$20 per family by 1 PM on Friday, August 26. Only one member of the family needs to register.

Minimum: 2/Maximum: 8 families

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

28 Sunday

Fairy Homes: Open House

Have you heard about fairy homes? They are small houses built from natural materials for "fairies", "gnomes" and woodland creatures. Building fairy houses is lots of fun and a great activity to share with family or friends. Come out to Oakwoods to see some examples of fairy homes and learn how you can build some for your own garden.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 1-4 PM

All ages are welcome. Free; registration not required.

Christine Patterson cpatterson@hancockparks.com

28 Sunday

Nature Exploration Station: Aeraland and Fungi

Join us at Aeraland Recreation Area and learn about the history of the park. This quiet rural county park is 74.8 acres and has a picnic shelter, Highline and Upland trails to hike, Goose Lake to fish, fungi and more to see. There will be a variety of fungi on display at the shelter to help you identify what you might find as you head out on a self-guided hike along the trails. One of the flowers you might see is the Harbinger - of - Spring, as well as having a bird's-eye view of the scenic South Branch Portage River from the footbridge.

Aeraland Recreation Area, Picnic Shelter 2-4 PM

Families. Free; registration is not required.

Chris Allen callen@hancockparks.com

29 Monday

Wee Ones: Squiggly Wiggly Worms

The squiggly wiggly worm loves to explore. Join us while we read a story about squiggly and his friends and learn about what he sees as he explores the forest floor. Children will be able to examine a live worm, have a wiggle worm race, and create their own Squiggly Wiggly worm to take home.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 10 AM & 1 PM

Ages 3 and under with an adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend. Free; registration is not required.

Christine Patterson cpatterson@hancockparks.com

29 Monday

Spectacular Scat



One way to tell if an animal has been around is finding their scat (or poop). You can also tell if that animal is an herbivore, a carnivore, or an omnivore by what shape the scat is. We'll learn the scat of a few common mammals that live in Hancock County, like squirrels and skunk, and take a short hike to see if we can find any on the trails. Kids will also be able to make their own clay scat to take home.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 6:30-8 PM

Ages 8-12. Register with \$3 per child by 2 PM on Monday, August 29.

Minimum: 3/Maximum: 24

Michelle Rumschlag [mrumschlag@hancockparks.com](mailto:mrumschlag@hancockparks.com)

30 Tuesday

Gems For Kids

This is a program about gemstones. Rocks and minerals are all over the world no matter where you come from. We will be looking at and identifying different rocks and minerals as we explore how they were formed and what makes them special. We will be learning how to make rock candy to enjoy. Kids will get a gem of their own to take home to add to their collection.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 2-3:30 PM

Ages 6-10. Free; but register by 4 PM on Monday, August 29.

Minimum: 4/Maximum: 20

Chris Allen [callen@hancockparks.com](mailto:callen@hancockparks.com)

30 Tuesday

Family Fishing

Get out in the parks and go fishing as a family. Learn about the basics of fishing as we try to catch some fish that live in Giertz Lake. All skill levels are welcome. A fishing pole will be provided or bring your own. We will have corn and hotdogs available for bait or bring your own lucky lure! All participants who are 16 years of age or older will need a valid Ohio Fishing License.

Riverbend Recreation Area, Big Oaks Activity Area, Lakefront Activity Center 7 PM

Recommended for families with children ages 5 and up. Free; but register by 4 PM on Tuesday, August 30.

Minimum: 3 / Maximum: 20

Tim Kleman [tkleman@hancockparks.com](mailto:tkleman@hancockparks.com)

31 Wednesday

Little Hands Nature Club – Cloud Racing

Did you know that there are different types of clouds? Bring your preschoolers out to the park to learn what the different clouds look like and what kind of weather they bring. Hands-on stations will allow children to make it rain in a jar, create their own cloud chart, and make a pinwheel to race with the clouds. Afterwards, lay down on the soft grass and use your imagination to create pictures in the clouds. Adult companions must remain with children for this program.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve, Discovery Center 2-3 PM

Recommended for ages 3-6, with an adult; other ages siblings are welcome to attend. Free; registration is not required.

Christine Patterson [cpatterson@hancockparks.com](mailto:cpatterson@hancockparks.com)