

**HANCOCK PARK DISTRICT MARCH 2023 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.**

4 Saturday

Photography Hike

If you have a passion for photography or if you want to learn, come along on a hike with fellow photographers to capture the beauty of our parks through the lens of the camera. We will hike the trails taking photos of scenery, wildlife, plants, and anything else that would make an interesting subject. All skill levels and camera types are welcome.

Aeraland Recreation Area

Shelter

9 AM

Ages 16 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

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

6 Monday

Discovery Stories: Animal Migration

Spring is coming and with the changing of the seasons the animals begin to move. This seasonal movement of animals is known as migration. Many groups of animals migrate like birds, mammals, and insects. We will read a fun story together about what migration is and why animals do it. Then we will go in depth about the groups of animals that migrate in North America and through Ohio. Create a Monarch butterfly popsicle stick puppet and do a coloring page of your favorite migrating animal.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM

Ages 4-5 with an adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

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

7 Tuesday

Alice in Wonderland Tea

Bring the children out to enjoy a tea with the characters from Alice in Wonderland. Children will hear the story of Alice in Wonderland and then enjoy a tea party where they will learn how to make a mini birthday cake. Afterwards, it will be time to sing the Un-Birthday song and eat the treat that they have made. Now we will pile the dishes up and head off through the rabbit hole to find the March Hare, Playing Card Soldiers, Alice's Kitten, the Mad Hatter and the Queen of Hearts which are all part of our scavenger hunt.

Riverbend Recreation Area

Meadows Activity Area

Brugeman Lodge

6 PM

Ages 4-6 with an adult. One adult per two children.

Register with \$10 per child by 1 PM on Monday, March 6. Adults do not need to register.

Min: 5/Max: 20

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

11 Saturday

Maple Sugarin' Public Day

Spring is almost here and the temperatures are starting to fluctuate. This means that conditions are right for collecting maple tree sap. Step back in time to see the process the pioneers and Native Americans used to collect sap, transport it to the sugar bush, and boil it down to produce sweet maple syrup. Other stops of interest include sap science and touring the McKinnis House. In the Activity Barn you can make a beaded key chain that will help you remember the story of how we get maple syrup. Stay there for a hot drink and check out maple goodies being sold by Fruth's Sugarhouse.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

9 AM-12 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

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

12 Sunday

Ohio's Natural State Symbols: Open House

Happy Birthday Ohio! This month our state turns 220 years old. To celebrate, come learn about our state animals, plants, fossils, and other natural symbols. Learn about their life histories, where you can find them, and why they were chosen to represent our state.

Coloring pages of the natural symbols will be available.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

1-4 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

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

14 Tuesday

Learn About Butterflies

Today is Learn About Butterflies Day. Learn about the life of a butterfly, how they are different from moths, and why they are important to the environment. Together, we will read a story about a butterfly's life, view some real butterflies, and create an egg carton butterfly.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

2 PM

Ages 3-5 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

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

16 Thursday

How to Catch a Leprechaun

Do you know how to catch a leprechaun? This is your chance to bring the children out to build a leprechaun trap that they can set up before St Patrick's Day arrives. That tricky little guy has a pot of gold and here is how you can try to get it! Children can enjoy the Story, "How to Catch a Leprechaun" by Adam Wallace, and then build their own trap just like the children in the book did with boxes, sticks, pipe cleaners and more. Each child will be given a shiny lucky coin to put in their trap to trick the leprechaun with.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6 PM

Ages 5 and up with an adult.

Register with \$2 per child by 1 PM on Wednesday, March 15. Adults do not need to register.

Min: 5/Max: 20

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

18 Saturday

What's the Weather

What will the weather be like? It's hard to say, but we'll learn about whatever weather Mother Nature brings our way. If there are clouds, we'll use cloud viewers to identify them. If it is raining, snowing, or sleet, information will be available about precipitation and how it's formed. We'll also take the temperature of the soil and air, and monitor the wind with our weather instruments.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center porch

2 PM

Families with children ages 6 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

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

19 Sunday

Puppet Cleaning

Kids love playing with the puppets at the Discovery Center, but after being played with by so many kids they could use a cleaning.

We are looking for volunteers to help us clean our puppets and stuffed animals. We will have stations for washing, drying, and deodorizing the puppets. Help us clean our puppets so that kids can play with them for years to come.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

2 PM

Ages 18 and up.

Free; registration is not required.

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

24 Friday

Little Hands Nature Club: Puddle Jumpers and Mud Skippers

Nature is the scene for this program and it's time to get wet and muddy. Children should wear rubber boots or old shoes and prepare to dance, skip, and hop down the trail. We'll be on the lookout for puddles and muddy areas, and then stomp right through them. This program will take place outside, so please dress accordingly. Adult companions must remain with children for this program.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Gatehouse

10-11 AM

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

Free; registration is not required.

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

26 Sunday

National Purple Day Hike

It is National Purple Day and time to put on your favorite purple clothing and hike the trails in search of purple objects. Perhaps we will find violets; they might be coming up, or there might be a purple martin on the trail. There are many things in nature that are purple, including the lavender that could be coming up in the McKinnis garden.

Litzenberg Memorial Woods

Gatehouse

2 PM

All ages are welcome.

Free; registration is not required.

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

27 Monday

Wee Ones: Dinosaurs

Our story time is about dinosaurs that lived long ago. How tall are you? The *Brontosaurus* was seventy feet long and its name means "thunder lizard." Scientists believe the *Tyrannosaurus Rex* was the fiercest dinosaur. There will be a story and a craft, and some fossils on display.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM

Ages 3 and under with an adult; other aged siblings are welcome to attend.

Free; registration is not required.

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

28 Tuesday

Discovery Center Treasure Hunt

Children and animals love to dig. Children dig for treasures, while animals dig for food or to build homes. While digging in our indoor sandbox, children might find nuts hidden by the squirrel or natural treasures of rocks and fossils. Children can grab a shovel and enjoy time digging and then go on a scavenger hunt for other hidden gems around the Discovery Center.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

10 AM

Ages 3-5 with an adult.

Free; registration is not required.

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

30 Thursday

Planetarium: The Life of a Star

Learn about the different stages a star has as it lives its life in space. We will look at examples of red giants and white dwarfs, and talk about what phase the Sun is in. Participants are required to sit on the floor. Ask about accommodations.

Oakwoods Nature Preserve

Discovery Center

6:30-7:30 PM

Ages 6 and up.

Free; but register everyone attending by 1 PM on Thursday, March 30.

Maximum: 25

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