

EARLY CHILDHOOD ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

FIELD TRIPS AND OUTREACH

HOW TO BOOK A PROGRAM:

- It is recommended to book field trips and outreach at least 3 months in advance.
- To reserve a field trip:
 - Submit your information through the Request Form on our website: www.dhnature.org/fieldtrips
 - Email programs@dhnature.org
 - Call 217-235-4644

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT AS YOU INQUIRE ABOUT A FIELD TRIP OR OUTREACH:

- Which activities would you like to include for your field trip?
 - Program (1-2 hours)*
 - Visitor Center (1/2 hour)*
 - Picnic Lunch (1/2 hour)*
 - Nature Play (1/2 hour)***Durations are only suggestions*
- What are 3 possible days for your program (field trip/outreach)?
- Do you prefer morning or afternoon?
- What is your estimated bus arrival and departure times?
- What are the total number of classes and students?
- For outreach, will the educator be in one room or travel from room-to-room?
- Do you have a request for a program theme? (See NGSS-aligned field trips and outreach for grade specific suggestions)

SYMBOL LEGEND:

- Some field trips are recommended for specific seasons. Look for the designated season symbols below:



WINTER



SPRING



SUMMER



FALL

- Some field trips can be adapted to outreach. Look for the designated symbol below:



THE DOUGLAS-HART FOUNDATION offers environmental education programs to meet the curriculum needs of area elementary students. Programs are offered via outreach or field trips to the Douglas-Hart Nature Center. However, the Douglas-Hart Foundation also manages two other sites that occasionally offer programs.



DOUGLAS-HART NATURE CENTER

70 acre preserve with woodlands, wetlands, and prairie habitat located on the east side of Mattoon



FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

Quaint urban garden located near downtown Mattoon



THE WHITESIDE GARDEN

Botanical garden located on the east side of Charleston

Environmental education enriches and expands curriculum, strengthens observation skills, immerses children in sensory activities, increases children's environmental knowledge, and expands children's awareness of their community! Early childhood environmental education programs through the Douglas-Hart Foundation are carefully aligned to the Illinois Early Learning and Development Standards (IELDS) science standards and the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE) Guidelines for Excellence. When appropriate, ELA and Math are immersed into the curriculum as well. Each field trip and outreach lists the learning standards to show the connections.

For more information and detailed standard correlations and field trip activities visit on our website: www.dhnature.org/fieldtrips.

Interested in a topic not listed? Our trained staff can accommodate most program themes as requested.

OUTREACH

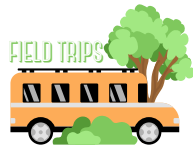


A naturalist will travel to your facility to present a 30 minute to 1 hour program on your topic of choice. Some field trip options can be adapted to outreach - look for the outreach symbol next to field trips. Multiple presentations on the same day are available. Pricing varies on location, quantity of programs, and duration.

FIELD TRIPS



Groups meet at Douglas-Hart Nature Center for a field trip led by a naturalist. Field trips are \$3 per student, or a minimum of \$30 for groups with less than 10. Participating siblings in attendance will also be charged \$3. While at the nature center, groups can take advantage of on your own activities: picnic lunch, nature play area, visitor center exploration, and more!



FIELD TRIP THEMES:

KEY TERMS AND TOPICS:

SENSATIONAL SAFARI (PRAIRIE) 🌸🌻🍁

Go on a sensational safari through the prairie at the Nature Center to explore the animals within using all five senses!

- Science and Engineering Practices (11.A)
- Living Things Grow and Change (12.A)
- Living Things Live and Grow (12.B)
- Physical Properties of Objects (12.C)
- Earth Concepts (12.E)
- Investigation and Exploration (13.A)

FROGGY FUN (WETLANDS/POND) 🌸🌻🍁

From tadpoles to frogs, the kids will be hopping from one froggy fun activity to the next!

- Science and Engineering Practices (11.A)
- Living Things Grow and Change (12.A)
- Living Things Live and Grow (12.B)
- Weather and Seasons (12.F)

TREE-MENDOUS TREES (WOODLANDS) ❄️🌸🌻🍁

This field trip is tree-mendous as we learn about the tree life cycle and how they change throughout the seasons!

- Science and Engineering Practices (11.A)
- Living Things Grow and Change (12.A)
- Living Things Live and Grow (12.B)
- Physical Properties of Objects (12.C)
- Force and Motion (12.D)
- Earth Concepts (12.E)
- Weather and Seasons (12.F)

WINTER WISE 🏠❄️🍁

Become winter wise during this field trip as we learn about what animals do to prepare and survive the cold winter months.

- Science and Engineering Practices (11.A)
- Living Things Grow and Change (12.A)
- Living Things Live and Grow (12.B)
- Physical Properties of Objects (12.C)
- Earth Concepts (12.E)
- Weather and Seasons (12.F)

HARVEST HOME 🍁

Immerse yourself in the First Thanksgiving - listen to a story, explore old fashioned toys, dress-up in pilgrim and Native American costumes, help prepare a Thanksgiving snack, and more!

- Physical Properties of Objects (12.C)
- Force and Motion (12.D)
- Weather and Seasons (12.F)
- Tools and Technology (13.B)

GROW GARDEN GROW 🌸🌻🍁

After you push and pull your way through our garden, you will grow your knowledge of the basic needs of plants by planting your own seed to take home to watch grow, grow, grow!

- Science and Engineering Practices (11.A)
- Living Things Grow and Change (12.A)
- Living Things Live and Grow (12.B)
- Physical Properties of Objects (12.C)
- Force and Motion (12.D)
- Earth Concepts (12.E)
- Weather and Seasons (12.F)

RACE TO RECYCLE 🏠❄️🌸🌻🍁

Race to learn about how to properly recycle and other easy ways to care for the Earth! Students will enjoy a recycling race, upcycling challenge, and more!

- Science and Engineering Practices (11.A)
- Earth Concepts (12.E)
- Investigation and Exploration (13.A)

CREATE, SOLVE, AND INVESTIGATE (CSI) 🏠❄️🌸🌻🍁

Put your CSI skills to the test during this STEAM field trip full of experiments, engineering, and exploration when exploring our 3 habitats!

- Science and Engineering Practices (11.A)
- Physical Properties of Objects (12.C)
- Force and Motion (12.D)
- Earth Concepts (12.E)
- Investigation and Exploration (13.A)
- Tools and Technology (13.B)

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Nationally trained naturalists guiding students
- Interactive, hands-on activities
- Visuals (pictures, puppets, taxidermy, etc.)
- Story and/or craft for younger ages
- Outdoor exploration **all year round** 🌸🌻🍁
 - Please dress for indoor and outdoor exploration
 - Closed toe shoes are highly recommended
 - If severe inclement weather, alternative indoor activities will be conducted.

To help your students prepare for their field trip, be sure to watch our Field Trip video on our website: www.dhnature.org/fieldtrips



LOAN BOXES

\$5/EACH

MUST SHOW ID TO CHECK-OUT

Loan boxes are another fantastic option for supplementing your curriculum. Educators may check-out a kit full of resources on an array of environmental topics. Loan boxes include but are not limited to: books, visuals, activities, games, lessons, and puppets. Loan boxes need at least 48 hour notice to check-out, are subject to availability, and must be returned within 2 weeks. To learn more, visit our website: www.dhnature.org/outreach