



White Deer Park and Nature Center Current Programs

The following programs are currently offered by staff educators at White Deer Park. Each program lasts around 45 minutes and is designed for 20 students or less. Each program can be altered to meet age specific needs. Prices and reservation details can be found on our 'Educational Programs' page. Please contact staff members if you have any questions: 919.661.6982.

Oh, Deer!

Based on a Project Wild lesson, this program allows participants to identify components of an animal's habitat and shows interdependence of animals within their environment. Students play a game in which they represent different components of the habitat and watch as the animal population fluctuates as a result of both natural ecological changes and the negative impact of humans.

(habitat, interdependence, needs of living organisms, graphing changes)

Life Cycles: Butterflies and Frogs

Students will learn about the life cycles of two different animals and discuss the similarities and differences of each life cycle. We will also create a simple art project that each child will be able to take home which will reinforce our lesson.

(animal life cycles, similarities and differences in animals)

Beginning Birdwatchers

Gather around quietly... we're watching for our feathered friends at White Deer Park! Students will learn the basics about birds and trek outside to try and identify some of our frequent visitors. We will supply binoculars and beginning field guides and give participants instructions on how to use them during our bird watching class.

(animal behavior and adaptation, habitat, similarities and differences in animals)

Trees in Art and Nature

Participants will learn about trees, comparing those in Vincent van Gogh's paintings to those in nature. After learning about the botany of trees and creating their own classification method for trees, students will create leaf rubbings, imitating Van Gogh's use of color. Participants will also learn how to calculate the age of a tree.

(art history, plant growth and adaptation, comparing and measuring)

Ecosystem problem solving

Students will apply their knowledge of ecosystems and the interdependence of plants and animals to creatively solve problems. Students will gain a better understanding of how parts of an ecosystem work together as well as gain an appreciation of the importance of balance in the ecosystem. They will also get a clearer idea of the kinds of problems "real" scientists solve.

(interdependence of plants and animals, weather concepts, needs of living organisms)

More than just a rainy day: The water cycle

Students will identify water sources in the environment in order to understand the origins of our water and to gain perspective about their place in the water cycle. They will learn about the water cycle using a variety of resources and vocabulary and discover connections between the water cycle and the water that they use every day.

(weather and climate, changes in weather, weather concepts)