



SCIENCE, HISTORY, ART, ENGINEERING AND MATH IN OUR OWN BEAUTIFUL BACKYARD!

OUTDOOR EDUCATION MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

PRESENT PROGRAMS

Marsh Mania—Spring or Fall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPS mapping—scavenger hunt • Marsh metaphor activity—The marsh is a? • Mapping animal and human uses of the marsh • Orienteering—use of compass and maps 	Cool Runnings—Winter Ecology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observation skills and journaling • Snowshoeing (or hiking if no snow) • Photography with iPads • Study of the marsh in winter
Prairie & Forest (September/October) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify prairie and forest habitats and recognize that prairies are an endangered habitat • Name 2 prairie plants and 2 forest plant adaptations • Identify 2 prairie plants and 2 forest plants 	Birds & Biodiversity (January/February) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define biodiversity • List and explain three bird adaptations • Identify 2 bird species • Winter ecology and snowshoeing
Leave No Trace <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the 7 Leave No Trace Principles • Group discussion of survival essentials and strategies • Exploration of outdoor ethics with a group activity 	Park Picassos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sketch in nature and create natural dyes • Practice poetry skills and learn about the environmental functions of the La Crosse River Marsh • Create natural sculptures and discuss their relationship to effigy mounds in the Driftless Region
Foundations of the Driftless <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hike around the La Crosse River Marsh and learn about landforms • Learn about the effects of glaciation with an experiment • Simulate erosion caused by rivers and how it effects the surrounding landscape with a river erosion demonstration 	Culture of the Marsh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hike around Myrick Park and learn about the cultural history of Myrick Park and the La Crosse River Marsh • Discuss the significance of land acknowledgements • Compare and contrast colonial and pre-colonial perspectives about nature

OTHER PROGRAM IDEAS OR BUILD YOUR OWN

<p>Hydrology on the Banks of the La Crosse River</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The watershed—maps and key concepts • Geography key concepts • Geology key concepts • Calculating flow rate <p>Guided Rope Marsh Walk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group activity with blindfolds to use all senses except sight • Processing the experience • Written reflections • “The unforgettable #1 memory for kids” 	<p>Experiencing the Science of the Wetlands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biotic indexing • Water filtration experiment • Hands-on Project WILD: data collection • Value and uses of wetlands <p>Nature Protector Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invasive species education • Service learning component • Habitat restoration <p>HOPE program (Science of Climate Change)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HOPE = Helping Our Planet’s Environment • Stations on ecosystems, phenology, inventory, movement, art in nature
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GENERAL FORMAT

- Two-hour sessions—packaged as desired with maximum of 2 per day
- Led by experts, linked to curriculum, tailored to classroom needs
- Group size: tailored to a grade level experience of one or several classrooms

To reserve your day and time for any program or if you have questions, contact Stephanie Hanna, 608-769-5766 or email steph.hanna@wiscorps.org
Fee: \$5 per student. Days and times programs are offered are limited, so contact us soon!