Early Learners Program Guide

Nahant Marsh offers enrichment programs to enhance and complement science lessons taught in the classroom by using curriculum from *Growing Up WILD*. Each program takes approx. 30-60 minutes and will include hands-on activities that our educators are certified to teach. These programs are designed for preschool to first grade and meet current science standards.

*Growing Up WILD* is an early childhood education curriculum that builds on Student’s sense of wonder about nature and invites them to explore wildlife and the world around them. Through a wide range of activities and experiences, *Growing Up WILD* provides an early foundation for developing positive impressions about the natural world and lifelong social and academic skills.

Planning a visit

1. To schedule a visit to your facility, please send completed Program Request Form (pg. 5) to Amy Loving, the Director of Education at aloving@eicc.edu.

2. Outreach programming is $50 per hour. This can include two-30 minute programs.

3. Let Naturalist know of any special needs of the group.

4. Please provide a table or desk for presentation materials.

Additional Information

1. Outdoor or adequate indoor space may be needed for some the programs listed. Please make note that not all of the programs listed are ideal for a classroom setting. If outdoor or large indoor space is available, a Naturalist may wish to visit prior to the scheduled visit to ensure adequate space is available for the program requested.

2. Some programs require equipment that is not suitable for large groups. Please contact Naturalist for more information.

3. If making arrangements to visit multiple classrooms at a grade level, please coordinate times with other teachers.

4. The Naturalists will arrive 5-10 minutes prior to the presentation. Please provide information on parking and where to check in at the school.
Program List

**Ants on Parade:** Students go outside to observe ant behavior and learn insect characteristics.

**Aqua Charades:** Students explore the importance of water for people, animals and plants.

**Backbone Bonanza:** Students learn about vertebrates and some characteristics that distinguish them.

**Bird Beak Buffet:** Students learn about the special functions of bird beaks.

**Field Study Fun:** Students investigate a field study plot to observe plant and animal interactions over time.

**First Impressions:** Students combine movement and math to show how they think and feel about animals.

**Fishing Fun!** Students engage in a dramatic play fishing game and learn about fish.

**Grow as We Go:** Students explore the life cycle of familiar wildlife and understand that living things grow and change.

**Hiding in Plain Sight:** Students pay game of hide and seek to learn about important adaptations in many wild animals.

**In a Grasshopper’s World:** Students observe grasshoppers in their natural habitat and study them in the classroom.

**Less is More:** Students learn that using less is a way of sharing resources.

**Looking at Leaves:** Students practice their observation skills by comparing leaves.

**Lunch for a Bear:** Students identify the kinds of foods that Black Bears eat by creating a plate of “bear food”.

**Oh, Deer!** Students explore the parts of habitat in a physical activity.

**Owl Pellets:** Students dissect an owl pellet and learn what owls eat.

**Reptiles** Explore our live native turtles and snakes! Students will learn the importance of the roles these critters have in their habitats. Students will also describe the parts of turtles and snakes and make conclusions about where they live and what they eat.

**Seed Need:** Students explore seeds as food for people and animals and learn how animals spread seeds.
**Show Me the Energy!**: Students discover that all animals, including people, depend on plants as a food source, either directly or indirectly.

**Spider Web Wonders**: Students learn about spiders and spider webs.

**Terrific Turkeys**: Students learn about Wild Turkeys.

**The Deep Blue Sea**: Students develop an awareness of oceans and ocean life.

**Tracks!**: Students explore animal tracks and make and compare tracks of their own.

**What’s Wild**: Students engage in stories comparing the lives of a wild and a tame animal, then sort animals into categories.

**Who Lives in a Tree?**: Students develop an awareness of trees and some of the animals that call them “home”.

**Wiggling Worms**: Students learn about and observe earthworms.

**Wildlife as Symbols**: Students explore how wild animals are used as symbols for a variety of purpose.

**Wildlife is Everywhere!**: Students make observations and understand that wildlife is all around us.

**Wildlife Water Safari**: Students discover water sources for local wildlife and create a field notebook.
Early Learners Program Request Form

Please return completed form to Amy Loving, aloving@eicc.edu

Name of School: ______________________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________________________

Teacher and Contact Info: ____________________________________________

Date(s) of program: __________________________________________________

Time(s) of program: _________________________________________________

Grade/Age: _________________ Number of students: ________________

Program Choice(s): _________________________________________________

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How many classrooms will the presentation be given to? __________________

Does the classroom have access to a projector and screen? ________________

Where should the naturalist check in at the school? ______________________

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Any additional info: ___________________________________________________

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