



COUNTY OF BERGEN
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
James A. McFaul Environmental Center
Crescent Avenue, Wyckoff, NJ (201) 891-5571
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NATURE PROGRAMS

Below is a description of programs offered to groups visiting Bergen County's **James A. McFaul Environmental Center**. Group programs are offered on weekdays only, excluding legal holidays. Programs may be scheduled **only** Monday-Friday. **Please schedule a program in the appropriate age group ONLY**. You can download reservation forms from our website above or pick one up at the Center.

NEW!!

We have created some new programs designed exclusively for children in pre-K (must be entering Kindergarten the following school year). These programs are for **pre-K children only**. All of our other programs are for K-6.

Pre-k Animal Tails!!- An "all about animals" fun filled class with a live animal visitor! (Allow 30 to 45 minutes)

Pre-k Diggin' Dinos!- Kids will see and touch some very cool dino stuff and participate in a jumbo dino puzzle! (Allow 30- to 45 minutes)

Pre-k Nature walk- This discovery walk will take place outside on our trail and point out some fascinating creations of nature. (Allow 30- to 45 minutes) *In case of inclement weather **Animals Tails** will be taught.*

Pre-k students can also participate in the seasonal programs "Maple Sugaring" and "Apple Cidering" #'s 14 and 15 below

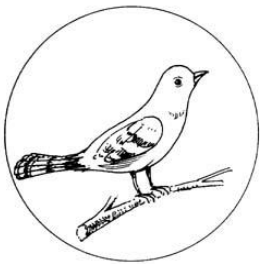
****We are sorry but our programs do not accommodate early skill classes****

PROGRAMS FOR KINDERGARTEN TO 6TH GRADE

1. **CRITTER CORNER**– Learn about the different kinds of animals and visit with some of New Jersey's native wildlife. This is an indoor hands-on experience with live animals. Approx. 45 minutes. (Grade K-6)
2. **SENSING NATURE**- Discover the natural world through creative activities that sharpen your senses. Emphasis will be on the textures, colors, sounds and smells of the natural world in this 3/4– 1 hour outdoor walk. (Grade K-6)
3. **ECOLOGY FOR ALL**- What are the basic requirements of all living things? Where does our food come from? Learn about the important relationships between plants, animals and the environment. Program includes indoor and outdoor activities. Approx. 1 hour. (Grades K-6)
4. **NATURES NEIGHBORHOOD**- Take a guided walk and look for signs of animals. Discover where animals live and explore their habitats– ponds, forest or field. Approx. 1 hour (Grade K-6)
5. **DINOMITE DINOS**- Explore the world of dinosaurs and the mystery of their extinction. Handle fossils as the staff share tales and information during this activity– filled program. Approx. 1 hour (Grade K-6)
6. **BUSY BEES**– Discover the fascinating world of honeybees and their kin. See the unique life inside a beehive! This is an indoor program. Approx. 1 hour (Grade K-6)



7. **WATER WORLD**- After a short introductory presentation on plants and animals of wetlands, your group will explore the pond habitat using dip nets! See how turtles, fish, waterfowl, aquatic insects and other invertebrates have adapted to this watery home. Approx. 1 hour (Grade K-6) *Mid-April through mid-October.*



8. **FEATHERED FRIENDS**– Learn the characteristics which all birds have in common, handle artifacts, and, if possible, meet some of New Jersey’s feathered friends. Approx. 1 hour (Grade K-6)

9. **PLANT POWER**– Geared to your group’s interests and abilities, this program is about the amazing world of plants. Discussion and an outdoor plant walk will provide an introduction to the fascinating role of plants and their importance to people. Approx. 1 hour (Grade K-6)

10. **LIVES OF THE LENAPE**– The ways of the Lenape Indians come to life as you handle artifacts and natural materials which they used to survive. Program includes history, legends, and artifacts. Approx. 1 hour. (Grade K-6)

11. **BUGGY BUSINESS**- Discover the fascinating world of insects in the classroom and outdoors. A collection of live specimens from our field makes this a unique experience. Approx. 1 hour (Grade K-6) *Mid-April through mid-October.*

12. **WILDLY RARE**– Learn about current issues pertaining to endangered wildlife including New Jersey’s own troubled species. Approx. 1 hour (Grade K-6)



13. **TREKKING THE TRAILS**– This indoor/outdoor program stresses the skills and equipment needed to safely hike in the wilderness. Use of a compass will be explained. Be prepared for a hike in a woodland area. Approx. 1 hour (Grade K-6)

14. **MAPLE SUGARING**–**Seasonal Activity**– Get involved in the art of Maple Sugaring. Activities include tree tapping, sap collecting, boiling and wood chopping techniques. Taste real maple syrup!! Approx 3/4 hour (Grade Pre K-6) *Mid-February to mid-March. Held at the Center’s Sugar Shack*

15. **APPLE CIDERING**– **Seasonal Activity**– Watch the historical process of cider making in action. A staff member will demonstrate apple picking, grinding and pressing in this exciting program. Taste some apple cider!! Approx. 3/4 hour (Pre K-6) *October*

—**ATTENTION**—

Programs are designed for active participation under varied weather conditions.

Please dress appropriately! Proper footwear and long pants are recommended.

In case of inclement weather please call the Center.

Programs need not be canceled. We reserve the right to make program substitutions.

Program lengths may be shortened upon request or as a result of small groups.

Please specify any special considerations on the reservation form.

COUNTY OF BERGEN

James J. Tedesco III
County Executive

BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

James G. Koth, III
Director of Parks