

Additional School Programs

(not listed in School Programs Brochure)

PK – 3

ASHLAND NATURE CENTER

Animals in Winter Classroom Outreach

1 hour, \$5/student + \$35 travel fee

View live animals and taxidermy specimens native to Delaware to learn about different strategies for winter survival. Investigate which animals hibernate, which stay awake, and which migrate.

Discovering Trees School Grounds Outreach

1 hour, \$5/student + \$35 travel fee

Delaware Nature Society staff will travel to your school and lead a tour of the trees on the school grounds. Investigate the trees and discuss the parts of the trees and their functions, how they grow, and why they are important for animals and for people.

Organisms Field Study

2 hours, \$6/student

Explore forest, meadow, and stream habitats to find and identify a variety of living plants and animals and their individual needs of food, water, air, space and shelter. View live animals and discuss the habitats they are found in and what they need to survive.

Seeds Field Study

1 hour, \$4/student

Take a guided walk through fall fields and meadows, and use senses to discover the diversity of color, size, shape, and travel modes of seeds. Examine the parts of a seed and learn about its life cycle and make a seed bracelet to take home. September-November.

ABBOTT'S MILL NATURE CENTER

Maple Sugaring Field Study

2 hours, \$5/student

Discover how a tree makes sap and explore the history of maple syrup. See how Native Americans collected and boiled sap to make this tasty tree treat. Try your hand at tapping a tree, experience the sights and smells of maple sap turning into maple syrup, and sample the final product! February-March.

Native American Lifeways Classroom Outreach

1½ hours, \$6/student + \$35 travel fee

Engage in bartering as you discover Native Americans in three regions of the United States. Learn about important natural resources in each region and help to construct a model dwelling of that area. A Native American craft completes the experience. December-March.

Organisms Field Study

2 hours, \$5/student

Find and identify a variety of living organisms in the forest, meadow and pond. Collect and study seeds, insects, plants, and pond life. First grade concentrates on similarities and differences between organisms. Second grade focuses on survival mechanisms. September-November.

Seeds Field Study

2 hours, \$5/student

Engage your senses to discover the diversity of color, size, shape, and travel modes of seeds. Examine the parts of a seed and learn about its life cycle. Discover how flour and meal are made from seeds in a tour of historic Abbott's Mill. September-November.

Grades 4 - 5

ASHLAND NATURE CENTER

Bird Box Biology Field Study

2 hours, \$6/student

Visit bird boxes to discover the basics of bird biology. Look for eggs, examine nesting materials, observe nestlings and learn about the lives of four species that use boxes regularly. Record observation data which will be used to monitor Ashland's bird populations. May-June.

Cycle of Life Field Study

2 hours, \$6/student

Learn about producers, consumers and decomposers and their importance in Earth's cycle of life. Use magnifiers, collecting containers and guidebooks as you hike through a marsh, forest and field to discover live organisms.

Insect Study Field Study

2 hours, \$6/student

Learn to identify and classify orders of insects using identification keys and guide books. Investigate insects up close and describe what enables them to reproduce, grow, and survive in their environment. With nets and jars, collect insects to identify them and discover their role in the food chains of meadow, forest and stream ecosystems.

Mining & Minerals Field Study

1½ hours, \$6/student

Explore an early mining operation to uncover and classify various rocks and minerals native to Delaware's Piedmont geologic region. Use rock hammers and safety goggles to collect samples for identification and take specimens of quartz, mica and feldspar back to the classroom. This program meets at Woodlawn Quarry.

Owls in Delaware Classroom Outreach

1½ hours, \$7/student+\$35 travel fee

Learn about four species of owls common to Delaware. Examine their individual structures and adaptations for survival. View mounted specimens, listen to calls, and dissect owl pellets to explore the eating habits of owls.

Plant Kingdom Field Study

2 hours, \$6/student

Discover the function of roots, stems, flowers, leaves and seeds. Learn about plant life cycles and view a variety of plant types. Investigate the importance of plants in a healthy ecosystem, discover animals that drink nectar, collect nuts, and eat leaves and learn how important plants are in the cycle of life.

ABBOTT'S MILL NATURE CENTER

Maple Sugaring Field Study

2 hours, \$5/student

Learn to identify maple trees through the seasons using all of your senses! Discover how a tree makes sap and explore the history of maple syrup. See how Native Americans collected and boiled sap to make this tasty tree treat. Try your hand at tapping a tree and find out how trees are tapped today. Experience the sights and smells of maple sap turning into maple syrup and sample the final product! February-March.

Grades 6 - 8

ASHLAND NATURE CENTER

Big Trees at Burrows Run Preserve Field Study

2 hours, \$6/student

Discover, classify, and measure the largest trees in the Burrows Run Preserve. Visit the "champion" black gum that is the largest in Delaware and the country's third largest, and take mathematical measurements of tree dimensions to determine the largest tree on the site.

Bird Box Biology Field Study

2 hours, \$6/student

Visit bird boxes to discover the basics of bird biology. Look for eggs, examine nesting materials, observe nestlings and learn about the lives of four species that use boxes regularly. Record observation data which will be used to monitor Ashland's bird populations. May-June.

Mining & Minerals Field Study

1½ hours, \$6/student

Explore an early mining operation to uncover and classify various rocks and minerals native to Delaware's Piedmont geologic region. Use rock hammers and safety goggles to collect samples for identification and take specimens back to the classroom. Program meets at Woodlawn Quarry.

Plant Kingdom Field Study

2 hours, \$6/student

Discover the function of roots, stems, flowers, leaves and seeds. Learn about classification, view a variety of plant types, and investigate various plants up close to compare and contrast structures. Investigate the importance of plants in a healthy ecosystem as you discover animals that drink nectar, collect nuts, and eat leaves.

Stream Ecology Field Study

2 hours, \$6/student

Determine a stream's health by examining its biological, chemical, and physical attributes. Catch and classify stream macro-invertebrates, and use test kits to record pH and dissolved oxygen. Discover how humans and wildlife impact stream health and identify four basic types of stream pollution. This program qualifies your class to adopt a stream.

ABBOTT'S MILL NATURE CENTER**Terrestrial Ecosystems (Biodiversity at Blair's) Field Study**

3 hours, \$7/student

Identify conditions that affect biodiversity in three habitats. Investigate and measure the biotic and abiotic components of a lowland moist forest, upland forest and field/forest edge and discuss invasive species at each site, learning to recognize those species that imperil this location. 7th grade students will examine how invasive organisms affect the biodiversity of the watershed.

Grades 9 - 12**ASHLAND NATURE CENTER****Air Alert Field Study**

2 hours, \$6/student

Predict air quality based on the types and sizes of lichens found in the environment. Learn how environmental contaminants affect air quality and influence the biodiversity and health of lichens which are sensitive to air pollutants.

Biodiversity at Burrows Run Preserve Field Study

2 hours, \$6/student

Conduct a biodiversity survey at the Burrows Run Preserve. Identify plants, invertebrates, and vertebrates and use GPS technology to determine locations and make recordings on a topographical map. Contribute to the Delaware Nature Society's long-term data collection of the site as the biodiversity information collected is added to the Society's records.

Owls in Delaware Classroom Outreach

1½ hour, \$6/student+\$35 travel fee

Learn about four resident owl species of Delmarva as you examine their structures and adaptations for survival. Study mounted specimens, listen and learn owl calls, and dissect owl pellets to explore the eating habits of owls.

Skull Study Classroom Outreach

1 hour, \$5 per student+\$35 travel fee

Handle and classify a variety of skulls from local mammals, birds, and reptiles. Examine teeth, eye, and nose structures to determine their function and how the animals live in their environments.