

2022–2023 School Program Guide
Step into a park, leap into nature!

Welcome to Great Parks of Hamilton County’s school program offerings for the 2022–2023 school year! We’re bringing the best of nature to you, wherever your classroom may be.

Great Parks is continuing to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic closely and will make adjustments as necessary with guidance from the Centers of Disease Control and Hamilton County Public Health.

All field trips to Great Parks address Ohio’s Learning Standards and respective content statements for kindergarten through eighth grade. If you don’t see a program that meets your educational requirements, please let us know. We will work with you to adjust the program to do so.

Pricing

- \$6/student
- Teachers are free of charge
- One (1) additional chaperone for every 10 children is free
- Additional chaperones: \$6/individual

Financial Assistance

Great Parks believes that all members of our community should have access to all that the great outdoors has to offer. Our scholarship fund is a way in which families and organizations can connect a child with nature through financial assistance.

- Partial scholarships are available to teachers and organizations to help offset the cost of a school or group program. All applicants will be considered for a scholarship, but the priority will be given to groups located in Hamilton County. The award can be up to 75% of the cost of the program with a maximum of \$300.
- To learn more, click [here](#) and select Scholarships.

Discounts can be applied based on free and reduced lunch percentages. Please let us know when you contact us.

Booking a Program

Ready to book a program? Have a question that’s not answered here? Here are the next steps:

- Email schoolprograms@greatparks.org
- Enter in the subject line the program name and grade level
- Give possible dates for when you plan to visit
- Please allow at least 30 days for scheduling. Dates are subject to availability.

To book a field trip,
email schoolprograms@greatparks.org

Wild Wetlands

**Available August-November
& April-May**

Locations: Miami Whitewater Forest

Get down and dirty as we dip into and explore the Shaker Trace Wetlands to discover the world of organisms thriving in this endangered habitat. Investigate ways that nature influences plant and animal populations through species identification and collection.



During this program, students will

- Explore and investigate the wildlife of a wetland through hands-on collection
- Identify environmental changes that can alter an organism's chance of survival
- Discover and identify two examples of erosion, deposition and weathering

Life Science Content statements:

- *4.LS.1: Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.*
- *4.ESS.2: The surface of Earth changes due to weathering.*
- *4.ESS.3: The surface of Earth changes due to erosion and deposition.*

1794: Conflict in the Ohio River Valley

**Available August-November
& April-May**

Location: Shawnee Lookout

Turn your bus into a time machine and visit our frontier homestead. Interact with historical characters while you explore the turbulent times before Ohio's statehood.



During this program, students will

- Meet and interact with at least two figures from Ohio's frontier
- Explore and identify three ways Ohio pioneers alter the landscape of Ohio
- Investigate the relationships between settlers and American Indians

History Strand:

- 2. Primary and Secondary sources can be used to create historical narratives.*
- 3. Various groups of people have lived in Ohio over time including American Indians, migrating settlers and immigrants. Interactions among these groups have resulted in cooperation, conflict and compromise.*
- 5. The Northwest Ordinance incorporated democratic ideals into the territories. It provided a process for territories to become states and recognized them as equal to the other existing states.*

Geography Strand:

- 10. The economic development of the United States continues to influence and be influenced by agriculture, industry and natural resources in Ohio.*
- 11. The regions of the United States known as the North, South and West developed in the early 1800s largely based on their physical environments and economies.*
- 12. People have modified the environment throughout history. There are both positive and negative consequences for modifying the environment in Ohio and the United States.*

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Movers & Shakers

Available September-May

Location: Sharon Woods

Witness geological history in action as the creek water continues to erode and redeposit the banks of our gorge, changing the surface of the park and our Earth.



During this program, students will

- Witness erosion in “real time”
- Identify three forces that lead to a changing landscape by observing past and present examples
- Take a virtual walk with the nature interpreter to find examples of erosion, weathering or deposition in our environment

Earth and Space Science Content Statements:

- *4.ESS.1: Earth’s surface has specific characteristics & landforms that can be identified.*
 - *4.ESS.2: The surface of Earth changes due to weathering.*
 - *4.ESS.3: The surface of Earth changes due to erosion and deposition.*
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Animals Then & Now

Available September-May

Location: Sharon Woods

Journey into Ohio’s ancient past! From the tropical Ordovician era to the freezing ice age, discover the amazing ocean creatures and gigantic mammals that once roamed our area of Ohio.



During this program, students will

- Create a timeline of fossils found in Cincinnati
- Identify at least three common Cincinnati fossils
- Compare life forms and habitats over time
- Meet two local animals and discover how changes in their current environment affect them

Life Science Content Statements:

- *4.LS.1: Changes in an organism’s environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful. Plants and animals have life cycles that are part of their adaptations for survival in their natural environment*
- *4.LS.2: Fossils can be compared to one another and to present-day organisms according to their similarities and differences*
- *4.LS.3: The surface of the Earth changes because of erosion and deposition*

Seasons & Cycles

Available September & October

Location: Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve

Through hands-on activities and exploration, students will use scientific inquiry to discover the secrets of life cycles, adaptations and more.



During this program, students will

- Hike through the woods
- Track migratory species, such as monarch butterflies
- Observe the pond

Life Science Content statements:

4.LS.1 Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.

Maple Sugaring

Available February-early March

Location: Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve

Learn about the sweet tradition of maple sugaring, including the science, tools, history techniques, and best of all, the taste!



During this program, students will

- Take a hike through the woods to see a variety of collection methods
- Learn how and why maples trees make sap
- Learn about the process of turning sap into syrup
- Taste maple syrup and maple sugar

Content Statement:

Program can be adjusted to meet appropriate content standards for science and social studies.

The Dynamic Forest Ecosystem

Available April & May

Location: Winton Woods

Uncover the inner workings of a woodland ecosystem and explore connections between organisms and their physical environment. Learn how this environment is ever-changing, as energy flows through the food webs.



During this program, students will

- Learn about the layers of the forest and discover the interdependence of plants and animals.
- Take a hike
- Learn about energy transfer

Life Science Content Statements:

• 4.LS.1 Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.

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