

Fourth Grade

2023–2024 School Program Guide



Welcome to Great Parks' school program offerings for the 2023–2024 school year! We're bringing the best of nature to you, wherever your classroom may be.

All field trips with Great Parks address the Ohio Department of Education's Learning Standards for kindergarten through eighth grade. If you don't see a program that meets your educational requirements, or if your group adheres to Next Generation standards, please contact us and we will work to adjust the program to meet your needs.

Pricing

- \$7/student
- Teachers are free of charge
- One (1) additional chaperone for every 10 children is free
- Additional chaperones: \$7/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.

Fourth Grade

2023-2024 School Program Guide



Wild Wetlands

Available Aug. - Nov. & April - May

Location: Miami Whitewater Forest

Get down and dirty as we dip into our Shaker Trace Wetlands to discover the world of organisms thriving in this endangered habitat. Investigate some ways that nature influences plant and animal populations through species identification and collection. 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 2 examples of erosion, deposition and weathering

Ohio Department of Education Science Content Standards:

- *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.*
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1794: Conflict in the Ohio River Valley Available Aug. - Nov. & 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. Students will:

- Meet and interact with at least 2 figures from Ohio's frontier
- Explore and identify 3 ways Ohio pioneers alter the landscape of Ohio
- Investigate the relationships between settlers and American Indians
- Practice the historical traditions of throwing tomahawks and cooking with an open fire

Ohio Department of Education Social Studies Content Standards:

- *Primary and Secondary sources can be used to create historical narratives.*
- *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.*
- *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.*
- *The economic development of the United States continues to influence and be influenced by agriculture, industry and natural resources in Ohio.*
- *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.*
- *People have modified the environment throughout history. There are both positive and negative consequences in Ohio and the United States.*

Fourth Grade

2023–2024 School Program Guide



Seasons & Cycles

Available Sept.

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. Students will:

- Hike through the woods observing seasonal changes
- Track migratory species, such as monarch butterflies
- Observe life at the pond

Ohio Department of Education Science Content Standards:

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

Movers & Shakers

Available Sept. - 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:

- Identify three forces that lead to a changing landscape
- Hike to find examples of erosion, weathering and deposition in our environment

Ohio Department of Education Science Content Standards:

- *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.*

Animals Then & Now

Available Sept. - May

Location: Sharon Woods & Woodland Mound

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 animals that have lived in Cincinnati
- Identify common Cincinnati fossils
- Compare life forms and habitats over time
- Meet local animals and discover how changes in their current environment affect them

Ohio Department of Education Science Content Standards:

- *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.*

Fourth Grade

2023-2024 School Program Guide



Maple Sugaring

Available Feb. - 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

Ohio Department of Education Science Content Standards:

- *4.LS.1 Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.*
- *4.PS.2 Energy can be transferred from one location to another or can be transformed from one form to another.*

Ohio Department of Education Social Studies Content Standards:

- *People have modified the environment throughout history resulting in both positive and negative consequences in Ohio and the United States.*

Flourishing in the Frost

Available Dec. - Feb.

Location: Shawnee Lookout, Miami Whitewater, Mitchell Memorial Forest, Fernbank Park

People think of green plants and sunshine when they think about nature, but nature is still here during the wintertime! Take a winter hike, meet live animals, and discover the ways in which plants and animals survive the cold. During this program, students will:

- Get hands-on with pelts and live animals and learn about the winter behaviors of animals
- Take a winter hike to discover the winter survival tactics of plants and animals
- Identify the unique struggles of surviving in the winter through interactive games and activities

Ohio Department of Education Science Content Standards:

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

Fourth Grade

2023–2024 School Program Guide



The Dynamic Forest Ecosystem

Available March & April

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

Ohio Department of Education Science Content Standards:

- *4.LS.1 Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.*
- *4.PS.2 Energy can be transferred from one location to another or can be transformed from one form to another.*