



Fees

Field trips are \$10/student with no charge for teachers and chaperones. Groups of 35 students or fewer, please contact the Conservancy for prices.

To Book

(410) 465-8877
education@howardnature.org
www.howardnature.org/elementary-trips



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This content is neither sponsored nor endorsed by HCPSS.

Aligns with selected NGSS standards

- K-PS3-1.** Make observations to determine the effect of sunlight on Earth's surface.
- K-LS1-1.** Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals need to survive.
- K-ESS2-2.** Learn how plants and animals can change the environment to meet their needs.
- K-ESS3-3.** Communicate solutions that will reduce the impact of humans on the environment.
- 1-LS1-2.** Determine patterns in behavior of parents and offspring that help offspring survive.
- 1-LS3-1.** Observe and argue that young plants and animals are like, but not exactly like, their parents.
- 2-PS1-1.** Describe and classify materials by observable properties.
- 2-ESS1-1.** Provide evidence that Earth events can occur quickly or slowly.
- 2-ESS2-1.** Compare solutions designed to prevent wind or water from changing the shape of the land.
- 2-LS4-1.** Make observations to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.
- 3-LS3-2.** Explain how traits can be influenced by the environment.
- 3-LS4-2.** Explain how the variations in a species may provide advantages in surviving, finding mates, or reproducing.
- 3-LS4-3.** Argue from evidence that in a particular habitat some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all.
- 4-ESS1-1.** Identify evidence from patterns in rock formations and fossils in rock layers to support an explanation for changes in a landscape over time.

Environmental Literacy Standards

- Environmental Standard 1** Environmental Issues
- Environmental Standard 2** Interactions of Earth's Systems
- Environmental Standard 3** Flow of Matter and Energy
- Environmental Standard 4** Populations, Communities, and Ecosystems
- Environmental Standard 5** Human and Natural Resources
- Environmental Standard 6** Environment and Health
- Environmental Standard 7** Environment and Society



Howard
County
Conservancy
connecting people to nature

ELEMENTARY PROGRAMS

Nature Field Trips



The Howard County Conservancy is a local, non-profit organization that provides environmental education and land preservation programs. Conservancy field trips take place at the 232-acre Mt. Pleasant Farm in Woodstock. The property features beautiful streams, woodlands, wetlands and grasslands. The Conservancy has been educating youth since 1997, and has been an educational partner with the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) since 2003. The Conservancy reaches more than 20,000 children each year through our education programs.



Book your program now for fall or spring!

Field trips are half day programs and include a nature walk, environmental games, and hands-on activities. Length of hike varies by age group. Please contact the Conservancy for more details.

All programs are aligned with HCPSS science curriculum, Environmental Literacy Standards, and Next Generation Science Standards.

Howard County Conservancy Nature Field Trip Programs



Wild Exploration (Fall or Spring)

Pre-K and Kindergarten Hike around the farm to discover animal pelts, skulls, tracks, nests and other evidence of wildlife. Meet our resident terrapin, discover ways that plants, animals and humans share resources and discover how students can help protect the habitats of the animals they meet.

(GK.Q1 Scientists and Engineers & GK.Q4 Relationships in the Ecosystem)

Owl's Observations (Fall or Spring)

First Grade Program Students will meet our resident owl and learn about survival from egg to adult. They will search our meadows and forests for signs of animals and their homes and discover how the external features of an animal help it survive in the wild.

(G1.Q1. Plant and Animal: Structure and Function)

The Science of Soil (Fall or Spring)

Second Grade Program Students get their hands dirty as they explore the changing landscape. They will classify soil texture, discover the rocks beneath us, evaluate ways to prevent erosion, and explore the importance of soil in the lives of plants and animals.

(G2.Q2 Earth's Features & G2Q3 Earth's Changing Landscape)

Pollinators, Habitats, and Homes (Fall or Spring)

Third Grade Program Students hike through our meadows to the stream to track native animals. They will visit our owl, terrapin, and black rat snake, evaluating the traits that allow individuals in a species to thrive in different ecosystems. Early fall trips may also explore monarch butterflies and how we work to protect them. Spring programs will focus on insect habitats and adaptations as we discover the mysteries of the bees and butterflies along our pollinator trail.

(G3.Q1 Inheritance and Variation of Traits & G3.Q4 Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems)

Bioblitz (Fall or Spring)

Fifth Grade Program Students will investigate our forests and meadows as they search for species that call Howard County home. They will practice observational skills and use technology to document their finds. They will also meet our resident apex predators and construct a food web of our complex ecosystem.

(G5.Q4 Matter and Energy)

Photo Credit: Emily Calkins and Oliver Maddox

