

Knee-High Naturalists



A guide to conservation
programs for grades
Pre-K through 2

Educational programs from the Brown County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) are offered **FREE** to Brown County school districts, libraries, and community organizations.

The programs and activities listed in this brochure are each designed for the needs of the Pre-K to 2nd grade teacher, as well as the development of the Pre-K to 2nd grade student. Every program offered has been correlated to Ohio's New Learning Standards adopted by the Ohio Board of Education for implementation in 2014.



Topics cover a wide range of environmental and conservation issues. The focus of many of the activities is to promote awareness and appreciation for the natural world, increase knowledge of Ohio habitats, and introduce the basic ecological concepts.

Pre-K

Water, Water Everywhere

Using non-fiction literature and art, students will explore a variety of aquatic environments and their inhabitants.

ESS—Water can be observed as lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, the ocean, rainfall, hail, sleet or snow.

Discover Earth

Real rock and soil samples are used to help students understand the many differences that exist in these materials.



ESS—Rocks and soil have properties that help identify them.

Living Things & The World Around Them

Discover local plants and animals and how they exist in Ohio's habitats.

LS—There are many distinct environments in Ohio that support different kinds of organisms.

Are You For Real?

Two separate books on owls will be used to review the characteristics of fictional animals versus those of real living things.

LS—Similarities and differences exist among individuals of the same kinds of plants and animals.

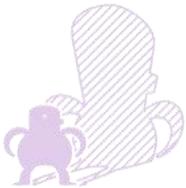
Kindergarten

Seasonal Discoveries

Review the patterns of the four seasons and how to determine the differences through the cues provided by Mother Nature.

ESS—Weather changes are long-term and short-term.

Moonbear's Shadow



Students will experiment with creating and changing shadows in the classroom.

ESS—The moon, sun and stars can be observed at different times of the day or night.

Tree Factory

Explore the integral parts of trees through an interactive program that simulates the everyday workings of a these plants.

LS—Living things have physical traits and behaviors, which influence their survival.

Ohio Wildlife

This hands-on activity will help students learn about local fur-bearing animals and the similarities/differences they possess.

LS—Living things have physical traits and behaviors, which influence their survival.

1st Grade



Water v/s Ice

Literature and classroom experiments will explore the differences between the liquid and solid states of water.

ESS—The physical properties of water can change.

Bird Beak Buffet

Imagination and pseudo “beaks” will have students gathering items for food to determine exactly how birds are able to collect their food.

LS—Living things have basic needs, which are met by obtaining materials from the physical environment.

Ohio Habitat Board

Three basic Ohio habitats (pond, meadow & forest) will be used to reinforce how animals can survive in the world around us.

LS—Living things survive only in environments that meet their needs.

Gyotaku

Japanese for “fish printing”, gyotaku is an art project that is fun, a little messy, and shows the practical use of fish as a food source while still creating art.

GEO—Diverse cultural practices address basic human needs in various ways and may change over time.

2nd Grade



Cloud Chasers

A classroom demonstration will show students the necessary factors for cloud formation.

ESS—Water is present in the air.

Just One Bite!

Beavers have amazing adaptations that permit them to modify their environment to meet their needs. Explore the world of the beaver through this life history program.

LS—Living things cause changes on Earth.

Do I Know You?

Over millions of years animals have lived on the Earth and many have become extinct. This program focuses on Ice Age fossils and the similarities to species of today.

LS—Some kinds of individuals that once lived on Earth have completely disappeared, although they were something like others that are alive today.

NPS Enviroscape

Our communities have both natural and human characteristics within them. This is an overview of both the positive and negative effects of human settlements with a focus on water pollutant.

SS—GEO—Human activities alter the physical environment, both positively and negatively.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Looking for new environmental materials? You may want to check out the following....

- www.wildohio.com - This Ohio Division of Wildlife website has educator resources and information on upcoming teacher workshops
- <http://soils.usda.gov/education/> - The Natural Resources Conservation Service has provided information and links to additional organizations with great soil/rock resources.
- www.projectwet.org - The Project WET curricula can be obtained through workshops across the state. Check out the great materials available.
- www.plt.org - Project Learning Tree is a multi-disciplinary program from the American Forest Foundation. You can explore topics beyond the forest including wildlife, water, waste management and energy.
- www.cas.muohio.edu/scienceforohio - The Science for Ohio project is an initiative from Miami University. You will find inquiry lessons ready-to-use in your classroom with excellent reference resources.

**Interested in a
program?**



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