

A Time for Science Field Trip Programs



Nature and Science Learning Center

Experiencing Nature - Doing Science - Having Fun

atimeforscience.org

252-746-4470

949 Contentnea Lane

Grifton, NC 28530

Welcome

A Time for Science exists to provide environmental education and outdoor recreation to the children, adults and families of eastern North Carolina. Our field trip programs offer students a chance to move through the trails of our park led by highly trained educators for a hands-on learning experience that reinforces and brings to life the concepts that are taught in the classrooms. Our field trips are correlated to the N. C. Essential Standards and to the Next Generation Science Standards according to grade level and subject area using academically-based curriculum materials. We feature four distinct habitats – stream, forest, swamp and ponds – that are ideally suited to enhance the fundamentals of environmental science in a controlled setting.

We can customize a program to meet your needs. Please call us if you have comments or questions. We look forward to working with you and your school group.

“The findings are stunning: environment-based education produces student gains in social-studies, science, language arts, and math; improves standardized test scores and grade-point averages; and develops skills in problem solving, critical thinking, and decision making.”

- Richard Louv,

Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder

A Time for Science offers educational programs for the general public (children, families, adults, scout groups, community organizations)

Program Contact Information

Maria McDaniel, Education and Program Director

maria@atimeforscience.org

252-902-5305

Choosing your Program

In addition to the programs listed, ***A Time for Science*** is often able to create or modify a program to suit your group's educational goals or special topic studies. Feel free to contact our Education and Program Director to discuss tailoring a program to your needs.

Fee Structure

\$7.00 per student. Teachers and chaperones are free of charge. A planetarium show may be added to any field trip for an additional fee of \$3.00 per student.

Make a Reservation

Phone reservations may be made Monday – Friday from 9:00 – 4:00. Call 252-746-4470 (office phone) or 252-902-5305 (Maria). You may also contact our Education and Program Director, Maria McDaniel through email at maria@atimeforscience.org

Please have the following information ready when you contact us:

- School and contact information
- Preferred dates
- Number of students, teachers and chaperones (1 adult for every 10 students required)
- Times of arrival and departure
Preferred program

Reservation Policies

- Groups must consist of at least ten students, or pay a minimum fee of ten students.
- At least one adult is required for every 10 students.
- Maximum group size varies by program.
- Payment by cash, check or credit card is due prior to program.
- Please make checks payable to: ***A Time for Science***
- A deposit of \$50.00 is required to secure your field trip. The deposit will be applied to the balance due of the field trip.
- Cancellations: If a field trip must be cancelled, we will reschedule to the best of our ability, but cannot guarantee availability. In the case of

questionable weather, ***A Time for Science*** will determine whether a program should be cancelled.

Pre-Program Planning

All of our programs have an outdoor component. Students and all accompanying adults should dress according to the weather. While we may shorten outdoor portions of a program according to the weather, we go outside unless the weather is severe. It is recommended that children wear comfortable, closed toe shoes (no sandals). Sunscreen and bug repellent are recommended. Children may get wet and dirty.

No student backpacks are allowed on the field trips. Adult chaperones may carry backpacks as necessary. Cell phone and electronics of any kind are not allowed on field trips.

Teachers and chaperones are required to participate in programs and accompany students on the outdoor portion of the trip.

We thank you for encouraging your students' respect for all park staff, property, and visitors. Groups who exhibit overly disruptive or destructive behavior will not be tolerated.

All students must be with a chaperone at all times.

Lunch

An outdoor picnic area is available.

During most trips, students work in small groups to make observations, collect data, compare and classify organisms, and draw conclusions. To help enrich the experience, ***A Time for Science*** can send background information and pre/post field trip activity suggestions to teachers.



Pre-K and Kindergarten

Explore ***A Time for Science*** and learn about nature through seasonally based programs. Students learn about plants, animals, colors, numbers, the alphabet, matching, taking turns, and safe ways to enjoy and respect nature. Choose from:

 Winter Wonderland

 Spring into Nature

 Fall Frolics

Each program will consist of a nature hike in which students will observe toy (but realistic) stuffed animals that have been placed along the trail in natural poses. The students will stop at each animal and learn about that animal's home, food source, life cycle, and other fun facts and hear stories about the animals.

We also offer a play area where students use natural or recycled materials to build, engineer and have fun!





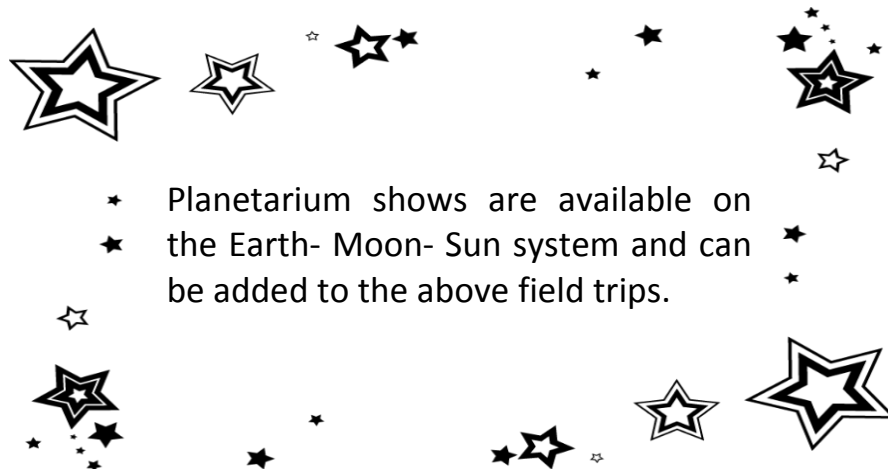
First Grade

Wild Kingdom – Hiking through the forest, students learn how to classify insects, spiders, and other animals according to their characteristics, recognize the difference between plants and animals, and identify plant and animal habitat needs.

Nature Makes Sense – How do animals use their senses to survive? Students use their senses to explore the park, discover the differences between natural and human-made items, play hearing and smelling games, and share their discoveries with their classmates.

Plant Parts – What makes a plant a plant? Learn about the needs of all plants through a hands-on field study of plants and their functions. Students will be introduced to photosynthesis as well as the life cycle of plants.

We also offer a play area where students use natural or recycled materials to build, engineer and have fun!



- * Planetarium shows are available on
- * the Earth- Moon- Sun system and can
- * be added to the above field trips.



Second Grade

Bugging Out – How does a caterpillar become a butterfly? Do all ants look alike? Here’s an opportunity for your students to become “field entomologists” as they learn to identify insect body parts, life stages, and basic insect needs.

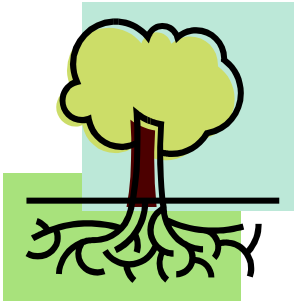
Weather Patterns –

Feel the power of wind, identify clouds and explore some simple methods for measuring and predicting the weather. Gain insight into weather patterns and the activities that can affect them, while examining the ways in which weather affects plants and animals.

Animal Autographs – Become nature detectives and hunt down animal clues around the Nature Center- - from tracks to feathers and fur. Discover nature’s fascinating connections such as predator/prey relationships and the life cycles of various animals. Try out the art of camouflage.



Planetarium shows are available for students to learn about the role the sun plays as a source of light and energy that warms the land, air and water.

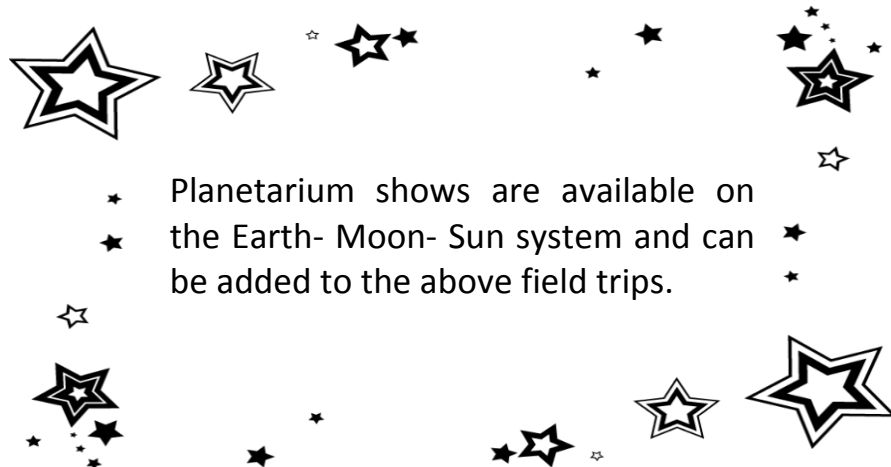


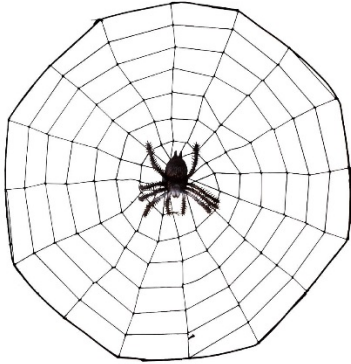
Third Grade

Plants of the Coastal Plain – Take a trail ride to see many plants, root structures such as buttresses, and learn to identify trees by their leaves. Compare the life cycle of different seed plants and learn which soil types support their growth best.

Trees are Terrific – Gain appreciation for the essential role of trees in our world. Identify differences between coniferous and deciduous trees, try your hand at a simple tree key and learn about products made from trees.

Solar System Fun – Stroll the solar system where the planets are made to scale along with their distance from the sun. Make straw rockets and launch them to the planets to earn points and win the game. Learn how to tell time on a solar clock and lots of other out-of-this world fun!





Fourth Grade

Rockin' Through the Ages - How are fossils made? Search through our fossil pit for shark's teeth and fossilized remains of animals that lived millions of years ago. Identify these animals and learn why they are extinct. Learn how fossils are made and take home your own mold or cast of a "fossil" that you make. Enjoy playing the Fossilization Game!

It's All About Me - Walk/run the fitness trails stopping along the way at stations to do the various exercises. Learn which "foods" are really foods that give us energy and which are not. Learn about vitamins, minerals, and learn how calories affect our metabolism. Calculate your BMI and make decisions about calorie intake.

Wild Super Powers – What do Batman, Spiderman, and Cat Woman have in common? They base their powers on amazing animal abilities. We will discover super powers of animals that help them survive in the wild and the limiting factors that challenge that survival.





Fifth Grade

What's the Weather? - Investigate the various factors that make up weather. Use temperature gauges, rain gauges and other measuring equipment to collect data, and analyze patterns to see how today's weather fits with the big picture of North Carolina's climate.

Creatures of Habitat - Students will explore three different ecosystems within *A Time for Science* comparing each and discover the plants and animals that call these areas home. Hands-on activities will lead to in-depth knowledge of topics such as adaptations, predator-prey relationships, energy needs, and tools used to gather scientific information.

What's for lunch? Food Chains and Food Webs – Students discover the interdependence of living things while on a hike through the woods to investigate what lives in the forest, ponds and streams. Food web games and activities will make this an unforgettable experience!



Planetarium shows are available to learn how the sun's energy impacts the processes of Earth such as the water cycle.



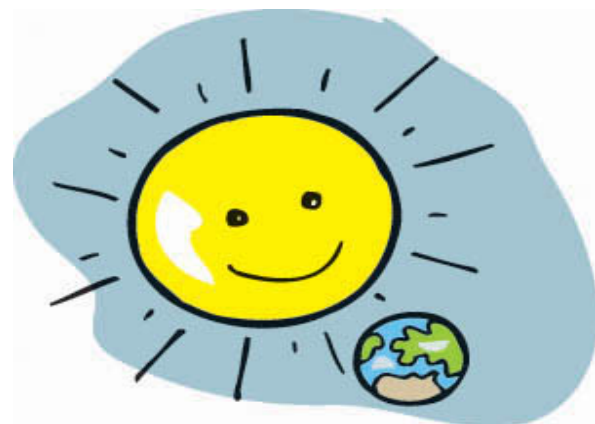
Sixth Grade

Forest Explorations - Students will learn the basic structures and functions of flowering plants required for survival, reproduction and defense. We will use trees to learn about the significance of photosynthesis, respiration, and transpiration for their survival.

Out of this World – Stroll a built-to-scale model of the solar system, build straw rockets, test your limits on the moon and have a great day on earth learning all about space.

Energy in Nature - Explore the transfer of energy in a natural system. Students will search for evidence of trophic levels and make connections between diversity and energy availability. Through a series of interactive lessons, students will discover how energy flows through each layer of the ecosystem.

How does the Earth/Moon/Sun system the seasons, tides, phases of the moon and eclipses? How does Earth support life? See a planetarium show that will answer all of your questions.



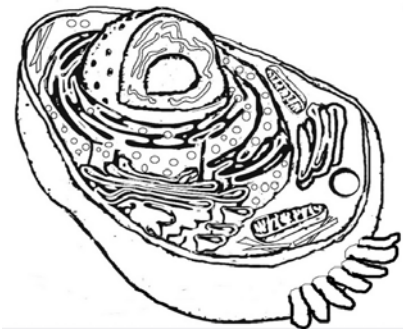


Seventh Grade

Weather Under Pressure – Learn all about the cycling of matter (water and gases) in and out of the atmosphere. Build common weather instruments and use them to predict the weather conditions and patterns and leave with an understanding that maintaining air quality is important for human survival.

Botanical Basics – Delve deeper into plants and learn what makes them thrive through hands-on activities. How do plants protect themselves from herbivores? Where do they go for winter? Dissect plants and discover more about plant structure. Have fun learning how plants make their own food! Compare and contrast plants with animals.

DNA Detectives – Learn the basics of genetics and biotechnology as you work in science teams to isolate and extract real DNA. Heredity, patterns of inheritance, and variation among offspring will be studied on a nature hike. Discover how the impact of the environment affects biological inheritance and impacts survival.



Coming Soon!

Get up close and personal with a cell! See a cell from an inside view and learn what it is like to visit each organelle.

Add a planetarium show to your visit!

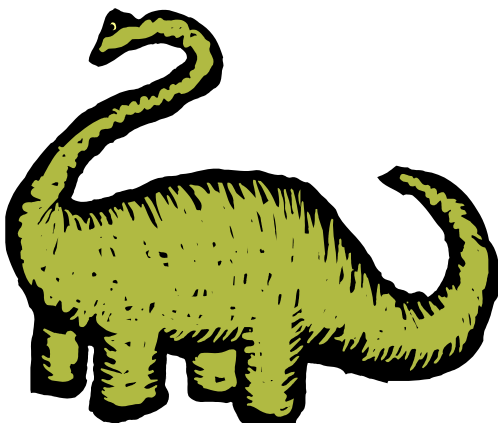


Eighth Grade

Health of the Hydrosphere - Students will participate in water testing for pH, nitrates, and turbidity. They will participate in a simulation of macro invertebrates to determine the health of three different streams. If the time of year is appropriate, students will use dip nets to retrieve live macro invertebrates for identification and then hike the lake trail to see vertebrates in and around the lake to complete their bio-assessment.

Rockin' Through the Ages - How are fossils made? Search through our fossil pit for shark's teeth and fossilized remains of animals that lived millions of years ago. Identify these animals and learn why they are extinct. Engage in activities that teach Geologic Time. Enjoy playing the Fossilization Game!

Nature's Jigsaw – Piece together the animals and plants in our forest. Discover how each individual in the food chain fits into the complete ecosystem puzzle. Explore the transfer of energy in a natural system. Students will search for evidence of trophic levels and make connections between diversity and energy availability.



Coming Soon!

Add a planetarium show to your field trip! Go back in time when dinosaurs lived and explore the hypotheses of their extinction.