



2nd Grade - Fall/Spring Habitat Exploration

Program Description for Classroom Teachers

Programs are subject to change based on weather, temperature, road conditions, public health and safety concerns.

Synopsis:

In this hands-on exploration, students will explore habitats in the National Forest along the River Trail and Stokes Nature Center in Logan Canyon.

Students will strengthen their observation skills and sketch and record their findings on structure and function of leaves in a field journal.

Students will also discover how to read the cardinal directions on a compass. Using this information, students will conduct a biodiversity inventory as they search for examples of living things in different habitats and create a Nature Treasure Map.

Students will:

- Participate in group and individual exploration of local habitats
- **Plan and carry out an investigation** of the structure and function of leaves in a forest habitat
- Develop close observation skills
- Learn to read a compass
- Construct a physical map using a title, key, symbols, 8-point compass rose, cardinal directions, and alphanumeric grids.
- **Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information** about patterns of living things (plants and animals) in habitats around the Nature Center.
- **Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information** about the diversity of organisms present in the National Forest

Length of Program: 2 hours

Location: Stokes Nature Center

Season Offered: Fall or Spring

Program Fee: \$6 per student

Logistics:

- The school bus should drop you off at the Stokes Nature Center trailhead of the River Trail in Logan Canyon (on the south shoulder of the highway) where you will be met by your Naturalist Educators.
- Please have a plan for dividing your group in half, each smaller group should include a teacher or staff from your school.
- Program will end at the Stokes Nature Center and you will walk with your students back down the trail. Plan 7-10 minutes from the end of the program to walk back to the trailhead.
- Students should wear comfortable clothing that may get dirty.
- We will be outside for the entirety of this program, dressing in layers is advised.
- Closed toe shoes are appropriate. Please, **no flip flops!**
- Students should wear visible name tags at all times (packing tape over a name tag keeps them from falling off).
- Please bring one adult per five students. There is no charge for adult chaperones.
- Restrooms are available inside the Nature Center.
- Running water will not be available at the site, so please plan ahead with water bottles.

Classroom Teacher Pre-Program Preparation

- If multiple classrooms from your school are participating, please ensure that all teachers on your team receive the confirmation email which contains essential information about your scheduled field experience.
- See curriculum connections below.

Curriculum Connections:

This program supports learning of **SEEd Strand 2.2: Living Things and Their Habitats**

Standard 2.2.1: Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about patterns of living things (plants and animals, including humans) in different habitats. Emphasize the diversity of living things in land and water habitats. Examples of patterns in habitats could include descriptions of temperature or precipitation and the types of plants and animals found in land habitats. (LS2.C, LS4.C, LS4.D)

Standard 2.2.2: Plan and carry out an investigation of the structure and function of plant and animal parts in different habitats. Emphasize how different plants and animals have different structures to survive in their habitat. Examples could include the shallow roots of a cactus in the desert or the seasonal changes in the fur coat of a wolf. (LS1.A, LS4.C, LS4.D)

Science and Engineering Practices	Crosscutting Concepts	Disciplinary Core Ideas
Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information Plan and carry out an investigation	Patterns Structure and Function	Ecosystem Dynamics, Functioning, and Resilience Adaptation Biodiversity and Humans Structure and Function

Additional Utah Core Curriculum Connections

Subject	Standard	Objective
English Language Arts	2.SL.1 2.SL.2 2.SL.3	-Participate effectively in a range of conversations with various partners, using age-appropriate vocabulary on topics and texts. -Speak clearly and audibly while asking and answering questions about a topic and key details. -Use age-appropriate language, grammar, volume, and clear pronunciation when speaking or presenting.
Mathematics	2.G.1	Recognize and draw shapes having specified attributes, such as a given number of angles or a given number of equal faces. Sizes are compared directly or visually, not compared by measuring. Identify triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, hexagons, and cubes.
Social Studies	2.2.2 2.2.3	-Interpret and construct physical maps using the title, key, symbols, 8-point compass rose, cardinal directions, and alphanumeric grids. -Identify examples of major geographical features in their local region, state, and country and their significance for the people who live there.
SEL	K-12	This program supports students' growth in all 5 CASEL core competencies: Self Awareness, Social Awareness, Responsible Decision Making, Self Management, Relationship Skills.