Sprouts
outdoor fun for little ones
January-May 2020
Welcome parents, grandparents & care-givers!

Explore the natural world with your young child and begin the process of learning about nature and establishing a love of nature together! TWC programs are designed to take advantage of a young child’s inquisitive mind and, along with your guidance, their sense of wonder to explore the world around them.

All Sprouts programs are free for TWC members, with a donation requested from non-members. If you plan on bringing a large, organized group to one of these programs, please let us know by calling 330-359-5235.

Explore The Wilderness Center with your child and rediscover the world through their eyes!

Education Department Staff (from left to right)
Terri, Karrie, Robin, Lynda, Krista and Carrie

“If facts are the seeds that later produce knowledge and wisdom, then the emotions and the impressions of the senses are the fertile soil in which the seeds must grow. The years of early childhood are the time to prepare the soil.”
— Rachel Carson, The Sense of Wonder

Calendar

January — Birds
7  Wilderness Sprouts: Bird Beaks
17  Nature Music: Chirp, Tweet, and Hoot
22  Story Time: Flap Your Wings
30  Nature Music: Chirp, Tweet, and Hoot

February — Animals in Winter
5  Wilderness Sprouts: Groundhog Hill
13  Nature Music: Winter Friends
18  Story Time: Owl Moon
22  Playscape Playdate: Sculpting Nature Style
28  Nature Music: Winter Friends

March — Weather Wonders
3  Wilderness Sprouts: Thunderstorms
12  Nature Music: Blow, Sprinkle, Boom
18  Story Time: One Windy Day
27  Nature Music: Blow, Sprinkle, Boom
28  Playscape Playdate: Feel the Beat of the Music

April — Earth Day
1  Wilderness Sprouts: Celebrate Planet Earth
10  Nature Music: Sing for the Earth
14  Story Time: Earth Day Excitement

May — Frogs
5  Story Time: Fabulous Frogs
9  Playscape Playdate: Mother’s Day at the Playscape
14  Nature Music: Croak, Ribbit, Chirp

Check our Roots & Branches brochure for more fun programs for all ages!
Wilderness Sprouts

Wilderness Sprouts is a monthly program designed for children ages 2-5 and their adult. Each month will feature a different topic and include a lesson and experiment, a craft and an outdoor adventure (weather permitting.)

**Bird Beaks**  
*Tuesday, January 7, 11:00 – 12:00*  
Bird beaks come in all shapes and sizes. Why are they all so different? Join us to look at the magnificent design of beaks and why they are all so important.

**Groundhog Hill**  
*Wednesday, February 5, 11:00 – 12:00*  
It’s just past Groundhog Day! Let’s celebrate by learning about these super-digging members of the squirrel family. Can they really predict the winter weather? We may hike to Groundhog Hill, so wear your boots.

**Thunderstorms**  
*Tuesday, March 3, 11:00 – 12:00*  
Boom! Crash! The sky puts on quite a show when thunderstorms roll in. What causes these displays of great light and sound? We’ll learn some fun clues so these storms don’t have to be so scary.

**Celebrate Planet Earth**  
*Wednesday, April 1, 11:00 – 12:00*  
The Earth is a big place. Explore some excellent Earth resources like land, water, trees, desserts, clouds or rainbows. Take a hike to hug a tree, smell the fresh air, and hunt for spring surprises.

This class is designed for children ages 2-4 with an adult partner. We will do basic rhythm, tonal and movement activities, all based on the seasonal nature that is happening outside the window. Be prepared to sing, dance, play simple instruments and be active with your child!

**Chirp, Tweet, and Hoot**  
*Friday, January 17, 10:00*  
*Thursday, January 30, 10:00*

**Winter Friends**  
*Thursday, February 13, 10:00*  
*Friday, February 28, 10:00*

**Blow, Sprinkle, Boom**  
*Thursday, March 12, 10:00*  
*Friday, March 27, 10:00*

**Sing for the Earth**  
*Friday, April 10, 10:00*

**Croak, Ribbit, Chirp**  
*Thursday, May 14, 10:00*

No Wilderness Sprouts or Nature Musik in June, July, and August. These programs will resume in September.

Check out our Summer Fun Guide for summertime activities for all ages!
Story Time

We'd like to share some of our favorite nature books with you and your young child. We'll read a story or two together and then go outside for a walk related to the tale.

Flap Your Wings
Wednesday, January 22, 10:00 – 11:00
Join us for stories, songs, and rhymes about our feathered friends. Watch the birds through the observation room windows and make a take home bird feeder.

Owl Moon
Tuesday, February 18, 10:00 – 11:00
What would it be like to hike at night to see or hear an owl? We'll hear a real and an imaginary story about owls. Learn and sing some owl sounds to share with your family.

One Windy Day
Wednesday, March 18, 10:00 – 11:00
Where is the wind? You can't see it but you can feel it and watch what it can do. Hear wind stories, sing wind songs and make a craft to take on a wind watching walk.

Earth Day Excitement
Tuesday, April 14, 10:00 – 11:00
Hooray for our home planet, Earth! Come celebrate healthy earth practices like recycling and saving energy with easy stories and songs. We will finish with a simple service project for TWC.

Fabulous Frogs
Tuesday, May 5, 10:00 – 11:00
Meet our amphibian friends! We will read frog stories, play frog games, sing frog songs and make frog sounds. Finally, we will hike to the pond to look for tadpoles and frogs.