Remote Courses, Schoolyard Nature Walks & TWC Activity Kits
Schoolyard Nature Walks

You will receive a download with the information and activity sheets needed to conduct these schoolyard nature walks. We know that schools are facing significant challenges right now. Suggested price for these downloads is $10 each, but we ask only that you donate what you can, if you can.

• Living Things Observation Hike (PreK - Kdg)
Take your little hikers out in the school-yard to compare living things by their physical characteristics. Play games to introduce how plants and animals are each adapted to survive in specific environments.

  Preschool Life Science Statements: Students will identify and explore the relationship between living things and their environments, recognize similarities and differences between people and other living things and identify physical characteristics and simple behaviors of living things.

• Schoolyard Water Walk (1st - 2nd Grades)
Explore the importance of the basic needs of all living organisms through the perspective of water. Examine sources of water for a variety of plants and animals from dew drops to lakes, from moss to maple trees and caterpillars to coyotes.

  First Grade Earth and Space & Life Science Statements: Water on Earth is present in many forms. Living things have basic needs, which are met by obtaining materials from the physical environment. Living things survive only in environments that meet their needs.

• Animal Homes and Habitats (Kdg - 2nd Grades)
There are animal homes in your schoolyard habitat! Use habitat matching cards to learn about common wildlife and the types of homes they need. Go on a schoolyard scavenger hunt to find the signs of animals living there. A video link to learn about Barnaby, TWC’s box turtle, and his habitat needs, is concluded with an student activity sheet.

  Kindergarten Life Science Statement: Living things have specific characteristics and traits. Living things have physical traits and behaviors which influence their survival.

  First Grade Life Science Statement: Living things have basic needs, which are met by obtaining materials from the physical environment. Living things survive only in environments that meet their needs.

  Second Grade Life Science Statement: Living things cause changes on Earth.

• Discovery (3rd - 6th Grades)
Explore the leaf litter under trees to learn about the producers, consumers and decomposers living there. Students will classify the organisms, map out food chains and play a food web game.

  Fifth Grade Life Science Statement: Organisms perform a variety of roles in an ecosystem.

New Offerings for Teachers

Hands-on experiential learning is as important as ever but challenging under our present circumstances. In an effort to help our neighboring schools, The Wilderness Center has adapted our programming to help teachers include outdoor and hands-on nature learning at your school site. Please contact Lynda Price at TWC if you would like to receive the curriculum to download or to schedule use of Activity Kits.

Lynda Price | Education Manager • lynda@wildernesscenter.org | 330.359.5235
TWC Activity Kits and Curriculum

Conduct these TWC program favorites for your students. Each kit has needed supplies with directions on how to sanitize them between classes. Kits can be used for 2 - 5 days.

Cost: $25 per kit pick-up at TWC; additional $15 for delivery to your school in Stark, Holmes, Wayne and Tuscarawas counties.

- **Sensory Nature Exploration (PreK - 1st Grades)**
  Explore nature with the five senses. The kit contains touch activities, smelling games and a schoolyard nature walk.
  *Preschool Life Science Statement:*
  With modeling and support, identify and explore the relationship between living things and their environments.

- **Animal Adaptations (2nd - 6th Grades)**
  Students will compare beaks of Ohio birds and the skulls of Ohio mammals through fun, interactive activities to discover the adaptations each animal has for its ecological niche.
  *Second Grade Life Science Statement:*
  Living things function and interact with their physical environments.
  *Third Grade Life Science Statements:*
  Plants and animals have certain physical or behavioral characteristics that improve their chances of surviving in particular environments.
  *Sixth Grade Life Science Statement:*
  Living systems at all levels of organization demonstrate the complementary nature of structure and function.

- **Rock Hounds (3rd - 6th Grades)**
  Students use rock kits to learn about sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks. Younger students sort gravel based on characteristics and older students classify the rocks with terms like clastic, foliated and intrusive.
  *Third & Sixth Grade Earth Science Statements:*
  Earth's nonliving resources have specific properties. Igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks have unique characteristics that can be used for identification and/or classification. Igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks form in different ways.

- **Under Your Feet (3rd - 6th Grades)**
  Experiment with soil and get dirty! Discover the composition of soil and conduct experiments on the characteristics of soil. Younger students explore compaction and erosion issues. Older students collect data on the soil properties of texture, permeability and porosity.
  *Third & Sixth Grade Earth Science Statements:*
  Earth's nonliving resources have specific properties. Soil is unconsolidated material that contains nutrient matter and weathered rock.

- **Fossils of Ohio (4th Grade)**
  How do we know about the plants and animals that lived in Ohio millions of years ago? Through fossils! Students will compare specimens to present day animals.
  *Fourth Grade Life Science Statement:*
  Fossils can be compared to one another and to present-day organisms according to their similarities and differences.

**Virtual Naturalist**

Would you like an introduction or wrap up to a natural history topic? How about a virtual visit from a TWC naturalist?! Call us and we can work with you to meet your curricular needs.

Cost: 5-10 minutes $20; 11-20 minutes $30; 21-30 minutes $40

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Your Wild Classroom

These nature-based science modules will get elementary students (3rd - 5th Grades) outside observing, studying and learning. Each module contains four lessons, with links to introductory videos, teacher lesson plans, activities and worksheet. Modules also contain early childhood adaptations and advanced extensions. Modules are available on the dates listed below.

**Option 1 - Module Only:** Teachers receive the module and use the recorded lesson videos and wrap-up. $50 per module

**Option 2 - Module plus Live Virtual Introduction and Wrap-Up:** Teachers receive the module and may schedule a live, virtual introduction and wrap-up, giving their students the opportunity to share and ask questions. $100 per module

- **Entomology – August 24**
  Insects and their kin are all around us, easy to find, and great classroom pets. We'll learn to identify insect groups, discover their habitat preferences, and go on insect safaris.

- **Forestry – September 21**
  Get to know the forest AND the trees! We'll learn how to identify trees, all of their important parts, and how they come together and make a forest, all by starting with the trees right out your door.

- **Soil – October 19**
  We walk on it every day, but how well do you know the ground beneath your feet? Soil is a very important part of any ecosystem and we'll learn what makes it up and how it changes over time.

- **Ornithology – November 16**
  How is a bird like a ballet dancer? This module will answer that question and look at the many other adaptations that make birds so amazing.

- **Geology – January 11**
  Rocks rock, and geology rules. After reviewing the basic rock types, we'll dig deeper into the geologic units of Ohio including the incredible fossils you may find while out adventuring.

- **Mammalogy – February 8**
  Being mammals ourselves, we have a natural affinity for the furry residents of our backyards. Take a closer look at skulls, behavior, and the tracks and signs that mammals leave behind.

- **Botany – March 8**
  Even the tallest trees start from the smallest seed. Journey along the life of a plant as we learn about survival strategies of plants of all shapes and sizes in a variety of habitats.

- **Herpetology – April 5**
  From the shelled to the slimy, reptiles and amphibians are important parts of our landscape. After learning about their unique adaptations, we'll look at ways we can help these creatures survive and thrive.

Explore Your Wild - Junior Naturalist Program

Encourage your students (2nd - 5th Grades) to explore nature in the schoolyard or their own backyard as they “Learn, Explore and Create” with six nature lessons. For each theme, students watch a TWC video that introduces the concept. Activities are downloadable to complete at school or as take home activities. This unit was designed as a summer, at-home program but is adaptable to the schoolyard. The six themes include: Bugs, Sky, Mammals, Trees, Birds and Water.

**Cost:** $30 per classroom

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