

Stubnitz Environmental Education Center

Environmental Science Investigation Programs

Lenawee Intermediate School District Stubnitz Environmental Education Center (SEEC) offers Environmental Science Investigations for Lenawee County students. Designed in accordance with Michigan Science Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs) for grades K-7, these programs use a variety of inquiry activities, simulations, and hands-on experiences with the natural environment. Environmental education is presented in an interdisciplinary format of age-appropriate programs. Please see the SEEC Environmental Science Investigations Alignment document on the SEEC website at <http://seec.lisd.us> (click on "school programs") for further information about the new Michigan Science Grade Level Content Expectations.

Student Programs for Kindergarten through Fifth Grade

Sensing Nature Around Us - Kindergarten

(offered, for this age group, Spring session only)



In this program, students will explore the world around them and experience the natural environment through their senses. Actively learning through inquiry and experience, students will discover the many ways that animals use those same senses, and, in the process, will identify and compare living and non-living things. The nature hike will lead them to use their senses to investigate a variety of habitats and the plants and animals that live there. This program is aligned with kindergarten State Science GLCEs in Inquiry Process and Life Requirements. (1 1/2 hours -3 hours, to suit your schedule)

Round & Round: Life Cycles in the Animal World - First/Second Grade

Aligned with the new State Science Grade Level Content Expectations for first grade in Life Requirements and Life Cycles, this program will lead students to explore animals' habitat needs for food, water, shelter, and space. Examining artifacts and live animals, they will learn about Michigan animals' life cycle stages and about the shelters that they build for their young. Several active learning experiences about the life cycles of mammals, amphibians, reptiles and insects will bring greater understanding of animal babies and the changes that they go through on their way to becoming adults. On the Habitrek Hike, students will observe animal nests and shelters while walking through several kinds of habitats. (3.25 hours)



Sunlight to Soil: The Life Cycle of Plants - First/Second Grade



Plant life cycles and seed dispersal are the focus of this program, which is aligned with the new State Science second grade GLCEs in Life Requirements and Life Cycles, as well as the third grade expectation describing the function of plant parts. Students will examine investigate various methods of seed dispersal, play a simulation game about the life requirements of plants, and investigate the life cycle of plants through seed dissection. The Plants and Seeds Discovery hike will allow students to observe seed dispersal in action, and to discover plants in various stages of life cycle and growth in the natural environment. (3.25 hours)

Investigations in Zoology - Third Grade

Zoology is the study and classification of the animal kingdom according to the unique characteristics of each group. This program is aligned with the new State Science third grade GLCEs in Structures and Functions, Classification, and Environmental Adaption. Students will participate in a variety of activities to identify and compare animals' structures and their functions to see how they live in their environment. Through participation in outdoor simulations, group activities, a rotten log investigation, and a Wildlife Detective nature walk, students will become zoologists as they gain an understanding of classification in the animal world. (3.25 hours)



Adaptation and Survival in a Changing World - Fourth Grade

Animals' adaptations help them to live in a world where each species is a part of the predation food web. This program is aligned with the new State Science GLCEs for fourth grade in Survival and Interactions. Through participation in a predator-prey simulation, an investigation of structural adaptations in skulls to look for clues as to function, and explorations of adaptations in some very specialized animals, students will experience the challenge of survival in the natural world. On the Survival Safari Trail Hike, students will observe how animals look, behave, and live, discovering their secrets to survival. (3.25 hours)



Exploring Wetlands and Watersheds Through Inquiry - Fifth Grade

Using the new State Science Processes GLCEs for grades 5-7, as well as the Interactions of Organisms expectation from the 6th grade GLCEs, students will participate in a variety of indoor and outdoor activities using Inquiry Process skills to learn about wetland ecosystems. Through inquiry learning activities and an active simulation, students will collect data, investigate wetland ecosystems, and see the connections and interactions among wetland plants and animals. On the Walking-Our-Watershed (WOW) Trail Hike, students will discover the unique beauty of a local wetland and learn how it contributes to the Raisin River Watershed. (3.25 hours)



The Stubnitz Environmental Education Center Environmental Science Programs run Tuesday through Friday from September through May. Programs are scheduled from 10:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Adjustments may be made for bus schedules and half-day kindergarten classes.

Program fees are \$3.00 per student, with adult leaders (1 per each 5-10 students) admitted free. In grades 1-6, groups of 60 can be accommodated, with a limit of 48 students per session for kindergarten classes.

Telephone Registration Procedures

To register for sessions, call Pam Bunch at the Stubnitz Environmental Education Center 265-6691, between 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Or, you may leave a voice mail message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

When making reservations, please be ready with the following information:

- ✓ Date preference
- ✓ Grade level and program
- ✓ Number of students who will attend
- ✓ School name and district
- ✓ Special needs and requests

After telephone assurance from you that transportation has been arranged for that date, you will be sent a Confirmation Form to be returned to SEEC, securing your reservation. You will also receive a letter explaining more about your Environmental Science Program, a parent information letter, and a pre-trip lesson plan, along with blank name cards, to prepare your students for their day here. We look forward to having your class visit us at Stubnitz Environmental Education Center!

Thank you to the Maurice and Dorothy Stubnitz Foundation, whose grant support makes it possible to keep student fees at a low \$3.00 per person!

M Be sure to visit the SEEC Website: seec.lisd.us **M**