



Field Trip Overview

Students should bring:

- Water bottle
- Weather-appropriate clothing
- Close-toed shoes (tennis shoes or hiking boots)
- Lunch (if needed)

Teachers should bring:

- Sunscreen/bug spray for class
- First Aid Kit

FIELD TRIP ITINERARY:

You may select from the activities provided to customize a field trip that best fits your needs. You may choose to group similar themes together or opt for a broader selection of topics. Your trip itinerary will depend on factors such as the activities selected, group size, and trip length. Below are two example itineraries:

Example 1: Full day, one class

9:00AM–9:15AM: Arrival, introduction for the day
9:15AM–10:00AM: Activity 1
10:00AM–10:45AM: Activity 2
10:45AM–11:30AM: Activity 3
11:30AM–12:00PM: Lunch and free time
12:00PM–12:45PM: Activity 4
12:45PM–1:30PM: Activity 5
1:30PM–2:15PM: Activity 6
2:15PM–2:30PM: Wrap-up, board bus

Example 2, Half day, two classes

9:00AM–9:15AM: Class 1 arrives, introduction for the morning
9:15AM–9:45AM: Activity 1
9:45AM–10:15AM: Activity 2
10:15AM–10:45AM: Activity 3
10:45AM–11:00AM: Wrap-up, board bus

12:00PM–12:15PM: Class 2 arrives, introduction for the afternoon
12:15PM–12:45PM: Activity 1
12:45PM–1:15PM: Activity 2
1:15PM–1:45PM: Activity 3
1:45PM–2:00PM: Wrap-up, board bus

GROUP SIZE

In order to give students the best hands-on experience, we strive to keep field trip sizes small. We prefer to facilitate field trips one class at a time. If you would like your whole grade level to attend a field trip, we suggest one class per day, or half-day experiences with one class in the morning and one class in the afternoon.

PRICING

As a community resource, we strive to remove barriers that prevent students from learning and exploring outdoors. As a result, we provide field trips at no cost. If you need assistance covering bus transportation, please contact us.

CUSTOM TRIPS/ACTIVITIES

Don't see what you're looking for? We are happy to work together to create field trip opportunities that fit your curriculum and class needs. Please contact us to get started.

Contact Information:

Education Coordinator
Ashley Scheve
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(319) 335-2803



3rd Grade Field Trip Options

Life Cycles:

Gall Fly Life Cycle Scavenger Hunt

NGSS/Iowa Core Standard: 3-LS1-1

Activity Time: 45-60 minutes

Description: Students will learn about the life cycle of a local fly while exploring the Lakeside Lab's campus.

Seed Launch Challenge

NGSS/Iowa Core Standard: 3-5-ETS1-1

Activity Time: 45-60 minutes

Description: Students will investigate how seeds move and have the opportunity to engineer their own seed dispersal method.

Who Survives Here?

NGSS/Iowa Core Standard: 3-LS4-3

Activity Time: 45-60 minutes

Description: Students will investigate insects in different habitats and use evidence from their observations to explain why some insects survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all in a particular environment.

From Acorn to Oak Tree

NGSS/Iowa Core Standard: 3-LS1-1

Activity Time: 30-45 minutes

Description: Students will observe and model the life cycle of the Burr Oak tree, identifying common stages that all plant life cycles share: seed, growth, reproduction, and death.

Animal Adaptations:

Bird Beak Buffet

NGSS/Iowa Core Standard: 3-LS3-1

Activity Time: 45 minutes

Description: Students learn that different beak shapes allow birds to thrive off different types of food in an activity where they use different tools to gather various shaped items.

Bison Maneuvers

NGSS/Iowa Core Standard: 3-LS2-1

Activity Time: 30-45 minutes

Description: Students will experience why bison work together to survive in an interactive game.

Adaptation Artistry

NGSS/Iowa Core Standard: 3-LS3-2

Activity Time: 45-60 minutes

Description: Students will discuss how adaptations help animals survive in different environments and conditions. They will then create their own animal specifically adapted for a habitat of their choosing.

Camouflage Game

NGSS/Iowa Core Standard: 3-LS3-2

Activity Time: 30 minutes

Description: Students will explore how some animals use camouflage to evade predators by hiding, and why traits that allow animals to blend into their environments are useful.

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Animal Adaptations Continued:

Snowshoeing: Winter Survival Adaptations

NGSS/Iowa Core Standard: 3-LS4-3, 3-LS4-2

Activity Time: 60 minutes

Description: Students will model how animals with specialized winter traits move across snowy habitats. By comparing movement with and without snowshoes, students gather evidence to explain why certain traits provide advantages in survival in winter environments.

Birding Detectives: Spotting Adaptations in Action

NGSS/Iowa Core Standard: 3-LS4-3

Activity Time: 45-60 minutes

Description: Students will observe birds in their natural habitat and analyze how their physical features help them survive.
