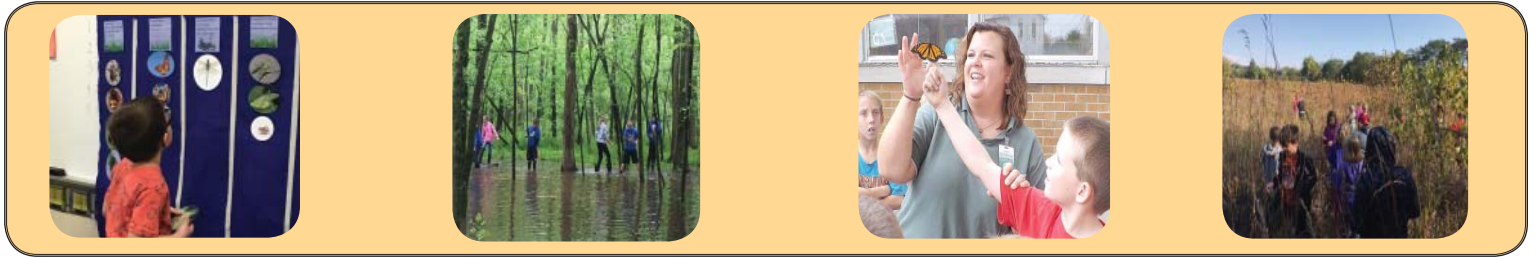


# OUTDOOR EXPLORATION & CLASSROOM PROGRAM GUIDE

Darke County Parks' outdoor and in-classroom programs are designed to enhance Ohio's curriculum standards and incorporate inquiry based learning activities. Through hands-on exploration, students are encouraged to make discoveries about the natural world and evaluate their findings



## NATURE'S CLASSROOM OUTDOOR ADVENTURES 2017-2018

- K **Adapted to Survive:** Discover traits plants and animals possess that enable their survival in different habitats
- 1 **Resources; Naturally:** Defining natural resources and conservation practices
- 2 **Water Cycle:** How precipitation, evaporation and condensation perpetuate the water cycle
- 3 **Life Cycles:** Discovering plant and animal cycles and seasonal changes
- 4 **Positively Plants:** Plant structure, functions and life cycles are explored
- 5 **It's All Connected:** Tracing the flow of energy through ecosystems
- 6 **Wading into Wetlands:** The value, function and biotic diversity of wetland ecosystems

## NATURALIST IN THE CLASSROOM

- K **The Power of Plants:** Identifying the six plant parts and their needs for survival
- 1 **Getting Ready for Winter:** Winter survival strategies for Ohio's wildlife
- 2 **Honeybees and Humans:** The effects humans have on honeybee populations & the process of pollination
- 3 **Rocks Rock:** Sorting, graphing and classifying rocks and geology basics
- 4 **Ohio Wildlife Timeline:** Hands-on timeline activity of Ohio's wildlife history
- 5 **Owls of Ohio:** In-depth discovery of nocturnal birds of prey and their life history
- 6 **Mammal Biology:** Classifying mammals based on their skull characteristics, fur and tracks
- K-6 **Symbolic Monarch Migration:** Classroom discovery of the iconic Monarch butterfly including cross-curriculum activities that culminate in joining 60,000 students across the globe to create symbolic monarch butterflies and send them to Mexico. All materials and instructions are provided by our park naturalists.  
*This program is offered in September and October.*

To schedule an outdoor adventure or classroom program please contact Robb Clifford (rclifford@darkecountyparks.org) or Mandy Martin (mmartin@darkecountyparks.org) or call the Nature Center at 937.548.0165.

If there is a topic not listed that you would like, just let us know. We can tailor any program to suit your needs. There is a fee of \$3 per student for out-of-county schools.