



Holliday Park Nature Center

# Environmental Education Field Trips

Now available for Pre K-6th grade.  
Programs complement standards for science.



*Enhance your curriculum:  
integrate nature into your class!*

## Field Trips at Holliday Park

Start with 95-acres of wooded ravines, winding trails, natural springs and a dramatic stretch of the White River. Add an innovative nature center staffed by experienced environmental educators and outdoor leaders. Combine these elements with dedicated teachers and excited students and you have created the dynamic educational opportunity found only at Holliday Park.

Each year, Holliday Park provides unique opportunities for thousands of students through our Environmental Education Field Trips. Students realize the wonders of nature first-hand, a way many of them rarely get to experience in today's world. By meeting live animals in the nature center, discovering the diversity found alongside the trail, or sweeping a net through the flowing waters of the White River, the Environmental Education Field Trips at Holliday Park provide knowledge and memories that students carry with them for a lifetime.



## Program Fees

Our on-site, hour-long field trips are \$5/student with a \$50 minimum. Parents and chaperones are free with a suggested adult-to-child ratio of 1:8. Extended programs are \$5/student for the first hour, and then \$1/student for each additional hour of programming. Classroom Connections outreach programs are 45 minutes long and are \$35/class. Outreach programs that are scheduled without an on-site field trip are \$75/class. Schools with a minimum of 40% of students receiving free or reduced lunches are eligible for discounted field-trip fees.

## Transportation Funding

Through generous sponsorship from Friends of Holliday Park, this program offers funding to help schools who are limited by the cost of transportation. This program is designed to distribute reimbursement funds in amounts up to \$300 to participating Marion County educators. Please call 327-7180 or visit [www.hollidaypark.org](http://www.hollidaypark.org) for additional details and an application form.

## Registration Information

To register or for additional details regarding any of the field trip programs offered, call 327-7180. As the calendar does fill, please call at least one month prior to the trip. When calling, be prepared with the following information: 1. Program title, 2. Approximate number of students and adults, 3. Program date, time, and at least one alternative.

## Park Information

In addition to an interactive nature center and environmental education field trips, Holliday Park has over three miles of hiking trails and a wonderful playground. Extend your visit by packing lunches and having a picnic, visit the playground, or get trail maps and explore the forest trails. Restrooms and drinking fountains are located in the nature center. Seasonally, port-a-lets are located at the playground.

**Holliday Park and Nature Center**  
**6363 Spring Mill Rd.**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46260**  
**317-327-7180**

[www.indy.gov/parks](http://www.indy.gov/parks)    [www.hollidaypark.org](http://www.hollidaypark.org)

# Seasonal Field Trips

## Pre-K through 6th Grade

These hour-long programs highlight what makes each season unique. Great for classes looking for multiple field trips, these programs offer new learning opportunities each season. Seasonal programs are available for all grades. Content standards these trips complement can be found in italics at the end of each program description.



### Winter Wonder Nov.-Feb.

Get bundled up and ready to explore the woods in winter. Learn how animals cope with the cold. From storing food to growing a thicker coat, native critters have lots of tricks to help them handle the chilly weather.

*Complements content standards: K: seasonal changes, observe and compare animals, 1st: survival advantage in animals, needs of plants and animals, animal shelter, 2nd: plant and animal lifecycles, 3rd: parts of a plant, plant growth, 4th: adaptations, changes in environment*

### Maple Syrup mid Feb.-mid Mar.

During the last days of winter, when the days are getting warm and the nights are still chilly, the sap in Sugar Maples run and it is time to make syrup. Students will learn to identify Sugar Maples, see firsthand how syrup is made, and of course, taste this sweet treat.

*Complements content standards: K: seasonal changes, observe and compare plants, 1st: properties of liquids, needs of plants, 2nd: plant lifecycles, body plans of plants, 3rd: parts of a plant, plant growth, 4th: human impact on environment, organisms' response to stimuli, 5th: producers, consumers, and decomposers, 6th: organisms' impact on habitats, photosynthesis*

### Changes of Spring Apr.-Jun.

Enjoy the spring show of wildflowers and learn why they bloom so early. Students will also learn how animals prepare for spring and why this season is such a busy time in the forest.

*Complements content standards: K: seasonal changes, observe and compare animals, 1st: survival advantage in animals, needs of plants and animals, interdependence of plants and animals, 2nd: plant lifecycles, body plans of plants, 3rd: parts of a plant, plant growth, 5th: producers, consumers, and decomposers, 6th: photosynthesis*

### Fall Foliage Sept.-Nov.

There are few showier times in the forest than fall. The brilliant colors and cooler temperatures make autumn a wonderful time to discover the forest. Learn how the plants and animals prepare for the coming of winter.

*Complements content standards: K: sort objects, seasonal changes, observe and compare plants, 1st: survival advantage in animals, needs of plants and animals, interdependence of plants and animals, 2nd: plant lifecycles, body plans of plants, 3rd: parts of a plant, plant growth, 5th: producers, consumers, and decomposers, 6th: photosynthesis*

### Classroom Connections Nov.-Mar.

If you are looking for a way to tie the on-site experience at Holliday Park back to the classroom, Classroom Connections can help! During these 45-minute programs, a naturalist will visit your classroom with live animals, hands-on nature props and an interactive lesson. Perfect for a pre-trip or a post-trip experience, these visits help students connect the learning during a field trip with classroom lessons.



Call 327-7180 to book a field trip today!

## Preschool

### Year-round Field Trips

These hour-long field trips have been designed to provide hands-on nature experiences for young learners. Time indoors during interactive programs and outside exploring the natural world give preschoolers a chance to explore their growing world.



### Sensory Adventure

Students will learn how to use their senses to explore the world around them. A hike in the forest will provide a place for students to experience nature and practice their sensory awareness.

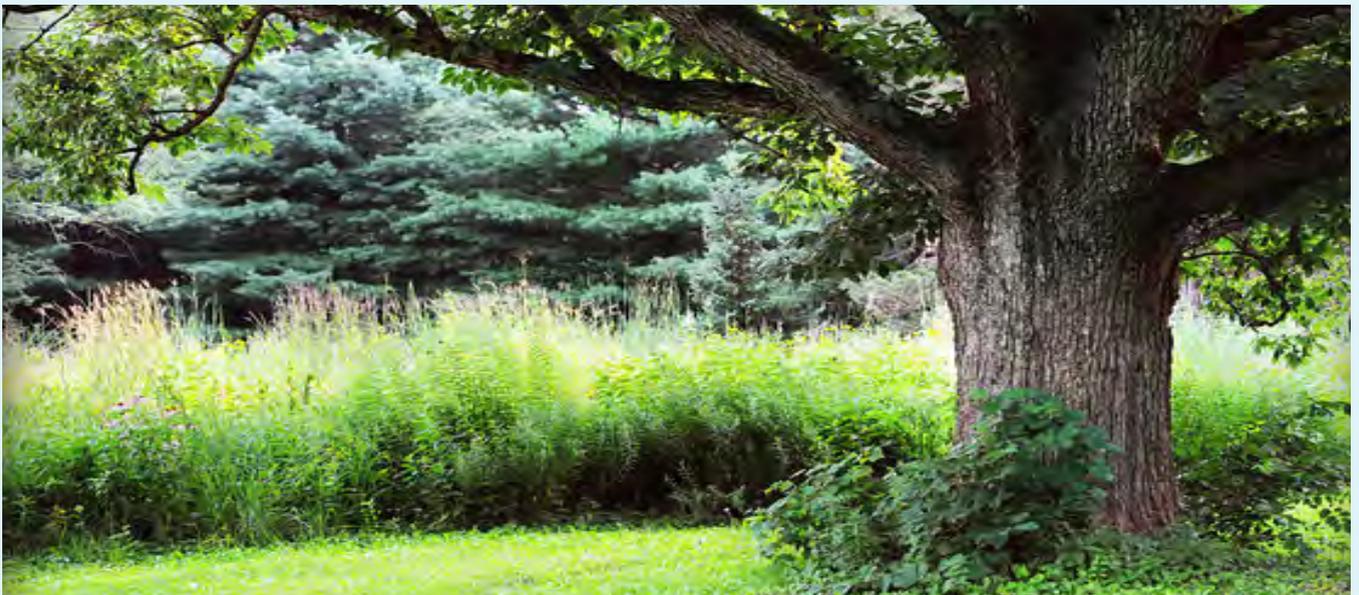
### Wild About Wildlife

Children are naturally curious about animals and will love to discover the wild animals that make our Indiana forests their home. Seeing animals in their natural habitat will increase an appreciation of the natural world.

### The Wonder of Plants

Learning through experience will help students remember the parts of a plant and what a plant needs to grow. An interactive lesson will introduce the topic, and then each student will plant a seed to take home.

*"The students participated in several experiments and made observations of pieces of nature inside the classroom (leaves, planting plants). They made real-world connections during the field trip...and used their experience to connect science standards in the classroom." -first grade teacher*



## Kindergarten and 1st Grade Year-round Field Trips

These hour-long field trips have been designed to complement the Indiana Academic Standards for Science 2010. Look for italicized words following the program description for a summary of the standards each program complements.



### Habitats

What is a habitat and why are the components of a habitat so important to animals? We will discuss the importance of food, water, shelter, and space and then get out and discover what animals live in the habitats of Holliday Park.

*Complements content standards: K: observe animals, compare animals, 1st: basic needs of animals, animal habitats*

*"Students were exposed to different habitats and observed how plants and animals depend on each other for survival. We are observing life cycles in class and will be creating food chain projects." -first grade teacher*



### Insects

Although insects are all around us, we often overlook this most diverse and abundant class of animals. Students will learn about the physical characteristics of insects and their cousins and will then get to put their knowledge to the test as they explore the park and look for these important critters.

*Complements content standards: K: observe animals, compare animals, compare plants, 1st: classify organisms*

### Sensory Adventure

Students will learn how to use their senses to explore the world around them. A hike in the forest will provide a place for students to experience nature and practice their sensory awareness.

*Complements content standards: K: observe animals, 1st: classify organisms*

### Wild About Wildlife

Children are naturally curious about animals and will love to discover the wild animals that make our Indiana forests their home. Seeing animals in their habitats will increase an appreciation of the natural world.

*Complements content standards: K: observe animals, compare animals, compare plants, 1st: classify animals, animal and plant interdependence*

### The Wonder of Plants

Learning through experience will help students remember the parts of a plant and what a plant needs to grow. An interactive lesson will introduce the topic, and then each student will plant a seed to take home.

*Complements content standards: K: observe animals, compare plants, 1st: effects of decomposers, basic needs of plants and animals, interdependence of plants and animals*

**Call 327-7180 to book a field trip today!**

## 2nd and 3rd Grade

### Year-round Field Trips

These hour-long field trips have been designed to complement the Indiana Academic Standards for Science 2010. Look for italicized words following the program description for a summary of the standards each program complements.

#### Lifecycles

Students will learn about the lifecycles of the animals in the forest and how different animals start their lives. We will focus on the differences between the development of birds, amphibians and mammals and then explore the areas where these animals live.

*Complements content standards: 2nd: observe animal lifecycles, body plans of animals*

#### Animals

The forest, pond, and river at Holliday Park are home to many different kinds of animals. Learn what characteristics these groups of animals share and what makes each group unique. We will discuss the five classes of vertebrates and learn about animals in each group.

*Complements content standards: 2nd: observe animal lifecycles, body plans of animals*

#### Plants

What do seeds need to germinate? What part of a plant grows first? In this hands-on program students will learn what plants need and the parts of a plant. Each student will then plant a seed to take home and care for. A hike in the forest will show plants as they grow.

*Complements content standards: 2nd: observe plant lifecycles, body plans of plants, 3rd: parts of a plant, plant growth*

#### Habitats

Animals rely on the four components of their habitat: food, water, shelter, and space. Learn what animals live in the forest habitat and how they find all the things they need to survive. Then go out into the habitat to see if you can spot the animals that call the forest home.

*Complements content standards: 2nd: observe plant and animal lifecycles, body plans of animals, 3rd: natural materials sustain plant and animal life, parts of a plant*

#### Insects

Come get a net and head to the prairie to find some insects! Once students learn what makes a creature an insect, and which “bugs” are not insects, they will be ready to catch and observe. Magnifying lenses will help students learn about the insects they catch.

*Complements content standards: 2nd: observe animal lifecycles, body plans of animals, 3rd: natural materials sustain plant and animal life*

### Extended Field Trip Options

#### Birds of Prey and Owl Pellets

This extended two-hour program gives students the opportunity to learn about birds of prey and what we can find out by looking at an owl pellet. After learning what characteristics birds share and what exceptional adaptations birds of prey have, students will borrow binoculars and try to spot some birds in the forest. An in-depth lesson about owls will prepare students to dissect a real owl pellet.

*Complements content standards: 2nd: observe animal lifecycles, body plans of animals: 3rd: natural materials sustain plant and animal life*



#### Pond Study and Habitats

The habitats at Holliday Park provide students the chance to see what animals live in Indiana and how they survive. We will discuss what a habitat is and then head out to see what a forest habitat looks like. There is no better way to learn what animals live in a pond than to see them first-hand. Students will get nets and try to catch crayfish, insects, and other creatures.

*Complements content standards: 2nd: observe plant and animal lifecycles, body plans of animals, 3rd: natural materials sustain plant and animal life, parts of a plant*

## 4th to 6th Grade

### Year-round Field Trips

These hour-long field trips have been designed to complement the Indiana Academic Standards for Science 2010. Look for italicized words following the program description for a summary of the standards each program complements.

#### Adaptations

How does a skunk's coloring help it survive? What physical adaptations help an owl hunt? Students will learn how physical and behavioral adaptations help native animals find food and stay safe from predators. We will then hike into the forest to see if they can spot any of these animals in the wild.

*Complements content standards: 4th: human impact on environment, adaptations, organisms' response to stimuli, adaptations to changes in environment*

#### Food Webs

Put real-life examples to the labels of producer, consumer, and decomposer as we explore the animals that live at Holliday Park. Students will find out what food chains can be found in our forests and then see those food chains in action.

*Complements content standards: 4th: adaptations, 5th: producers, consumers, and decomposers, predator-prey relationships, decomposers, 6th: relationships between organisms, limiting factors in an ecosystem, photosynthesis, animals' energy needs*

#### Predator and Prey

There are many predator and prey relationships right in our own backyards. Learn what a coyote likes to eat and who a mouse should watch out for. We will discuss these relationships and then meet some animals and learn about what, or who, they have for lunch.

*Complements content standards: 4th: adaptations, 5th: predator-prey relationships, 6th: relationships between organisms, organisms' impact on habitats, limiting factors in an ecosystem, photosynthesis, animals' energy needs*

#### Habitats

Holliday Park is a great place to learn about habitats because there are so many located within the park. From prairies to forests, wetlands to rivers, students will get to see how habitats differ and what animals live in each habitat.

*Complements content standards: 4th: human impact on environment, adaptations, organisms' response to stimuli, adaptations to changes in environment, 5th: decomposers, 6th: limiting factors in an ecosystem*

#### Pioneers and Their Plants

What would it feel like to live in Indiana before modern conveniences? What animals lived in our forests in the past that can no longer be found in Indiana today? Come learn what plants the pioneers depended on for food and medicine and why some of our native animals are no longer able to live in Indiana.

*Complements content standards: 4th: human impact on environment*

#### Extended Field Trip Option Outdoor Ecology Program

Ecology is the study of the relationships between living organisms and their natural or developed environment. Students will explore three different ecosystems within Holliday Park, comparing each, and discover the plants and animals who call these areas home. Hands-on activities will lead to in-depth knowledge of topics such as adaptations, predator-prey relationships, energy needs, and the tools used to gather scientific information. This is a three-hour program, plus time for lunch.

*Complements content standards: 4th: adaptations, organisms' response to stimuli, adaptations to changes in environment, 5th: producers, consumers, and decomposers, predator-prey relationships, decomposers, 6th: relationships between organisms, limiting factors, photosynthesis, animals' energy needs*

*"The field trip at Holliday Park allowed students to experience hands-on activities and gave them a real-world reference and appreciation. We had a fabulous field trip. You guys ROCK!" -fourth grade teacher*

Holliday Park Nature Center  
6363 Spring Mill Rd.  
Indianapolis, IN 46260



Get into nature with Environmental  
Education Field Trips at Holliday Park!