

Ballard Nature Center - Homeschooling 2024-2025 Curriculum

Programs will be multi-grade level, but with many activities designed for grades K-5. Sometimes we split the class into two groups by age. Due to expensive equipment and for the enjoyment of everyone, programs are held in a class-like setting. Children should remain seated and raise their hands to ask and answer questions. Parents attend with children. Feel free to bring younger siblings, but if babies/toddlers get fussy or are distracting to the class, please take them away from the class until they are calm.

We will have a mix of lessons, games, hands-on activities, trail walks, & crafts. We try to include outside time with each class, so dress appropriately. Class sizes will be 15 kids or less.

The cost will be \$30 per child, starting at 5 years old. Fee covers the year (6 classes).

Registration begins July 1.

Semester 1

Unit 1: Pond Life

September 18 –10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm or September 19 – 10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm

All about animals that live in the pond/wetland. We'll scoop critters from the water!

Unit 2: Insectivores

October 16 –10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm or October 17 – 10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm

Lots of animals like to eat insects; we'll learn about them & their tactics to catch them.

Unit 3: Gobble, Gobble

November 20 –10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm or November 21 – 10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm

We'll learn about turkeys and their relatives, like quail.

Semester 2

Unit 4: Night Life

January 15 - 10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm or January 16 – 10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm

We'll darken the classroom for some fun activities about the creatures that prowl in the night, and we'll learn about their special adaptations.

Unit 5: Illinois Mammals

February 19 –10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm or February 20 – 10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm

Learn what makes a mammal a mammal and discover some of Illinois' lesser-known mammals.

Unit 6: Egg Layers

March 19 - 10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm or March 20 – 10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm

All about animals that lay eggs and the amazing varieties of eggs.

If class is cancelled due to winter weather, we will reschedule.

Registration begins JULY 1st

Sign-Up Sheet for Homeschooling at Ballard Nature Center

Parents Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address : _____

(*We send reminders and class cancellations via email.*)

Names and Ages of Children 5yrs and older : _____

Names & ages of children under 5 years:

Any Special Needs or Allergies: _____

Wednesdays at 10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm or Thursdays at 10-11:30am or 1-2:30pm

First choice day and time _____

Second choice day and time _____

We will try to get you in your first choice, but it's not guaranteed.

***Please send form and payment to Ballard Nature Center, 5253 E US Hwy 40 Altamont, IL 62411. Any questions, call 618-483-6856, e-mail ballardnc@frontiernet.net, or Facebook message us.**

***You can email us that you want to register starting July 1st.**