

2019



SCHOOL PROGRAM GUIDE

FOR STUDENTS AT LOCAL NATURAL AREAS

**FREE
FIELD
TRIPS**
for All Ages!

**TRANSPORTATION
FUNDING**
Available

**STEWARDSHIP
PROJECT**
Opportunities

REGISTRATION

REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS

fcgov.com/field-trip

The Details

- Registration is required and is first come, first served.
- Limited transportation funding is available—ask us!
- A minimum of two-weeks advanced notice is required. Plan ahead to get your preferred dates!
- Groups are generally limited to 60 students per day—but let's see if we can work with your needs!
- Programs are subject to volunteer availability.
- Custom programs available upon request.
- Teacher and chaperone participation is required.
- All programs are subject to change or cancellation due to poor weather.
- If you visit a natural area on your own with a group of more than 15 people, you need a free permit, visit *fcgov.com/naturalareas/permits*.

Auxiliary aids and services are available for persons with disabilities. V/TDD: 711

fcgov.com/naturalareas

ELEMENTARY

Explore the outdoors, naturally! Volunteer Master Naturalists guide students through lessons that are hands-on, fun, meet state standards, and complement your classroom studies. Schedule includes two 30-minute lessons and a 60-minute nature hike.

KINDERGARTEN

FOREST SECRETS INVESTIGATORS

FOSS KIT: TREES

1. **A Treetective's Nature Hike:**
Take a sensory walk and learn how to be a good observer.
2. **How is a Tree Like Me?**
Compare yourself to a tree.
3. **Follow the Food Chain:** Look for evidence of the food chain.

FIRST GRADE

LIVING IN A SALAD BOWL

FOSS KIT: NEW PLANTS

1. **Plants Give Us Gifts:** Discover the benefits of plants.
2. **Hitchhiking With A Green Thumb:**
Learn about seed dispersal.
3. **Nature Hike:** Improve your observation skills.



SECOND GRADE

Schedule includes two 30-minute lessons and a 60-minute nature hike.

FOR THE LOVE OF BUGS!

FOSS KIT: INSECTS

1. **Ant Investigations:** Observe ants and determine their food preferences.
2. **Shake a Shrub:** Search for insects in different habitats.
3. **Insect Search Nature Hike:** Practice observation skills while looking for insects.

THIRD GRADE

Schedule includes four 45-minute activities.

DRAGONFLY CHRONICLES

FOSS KIT: STRUCTURES OF LIFE

1. **Soft Gold:** Learn about beaver adaptations.
2. **Avian Adventures:** Discover common bird species and learn to identify them.
3. **Cache La Cattails:** Investigate cattail adaptations and learn about their importance.
4. **Every Drop Counts:** Explore macroinvertebrate and their role as indicator species.



FOURTH GRADE

Schedule includes four 30-minute lessons
and two miles of hiking.

A SLICE OF PRAIRIE PIE

FOSS KIT: ENVIRONMENTS

1. **Day of the Living, Non-Living and Dead:** Look for living, non-living and dead elements of nature.
2. **Rockin' in the Rockies:**
Explore how rocks are connected to living creatures.
3. **Prairie Dog Investigations:**
Compare prairie dog behavior to your own everyday activities.
4. **Prairie Puzzle:** Discover the interconnections between prairie animals.

BOBCAT RIDGE NATURAL AREA*

PIONEER LESSONS

1. **Local Economy in Masonville:**
Experience buying and trading goods and the Masonville Store.
2. **Daily Chores:** Try your hand at pioneer chores such as hauling water and hanging laundry.
3. **Pioneer Games:** Play games children enjoyed 100 years ago.
4. **One-Room Schoolhouse:** Try several lessons taught a century ago in a historic setting.

**Teachers, select a combination of natural history stations or cultural history stations at Bobcat Ridge Natural Area.*



FIFTH GRADE

Schedule includes four 45-minute lessons.

COLORADO LANDFORMS ROCK!

FOSS KIT: LANDFORMS

1. Human Hogbacks: Learn about geologic layering and uplift.
2. It All Begins with a Rock: Follow story clues through the food chain to learn about the interconnections within an ecosystem.
3. The Secret to Plant Success: Explore local plant adaptations.
4. Eco-Connection Search: Look for living and non-living elements interacting as evidence of an ecosystem.

ECO-WEEK PREP HIKE PIONEER LESSONS

Students take a moderate 4-mile hike around the Valley Loop Trail at Bobcat Ridge Natural Area while learning basic trail etiquette and reviewing local ecology. Students will stay with the same hiking group all day and eat lunch on the trail. For safety reasons, hiking groups are limited to 50 students per day.



STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

For all grades.

Students will:

- Become stewards of their natural areas
- Gain knowledge and leadership skills to prepare them for future success
- Use critical thinking
- Gain collaboration skills
- Address real-world problems

Opportunities for your school

- Gain increased pro-social behavior in the classroom
- Increase student engagement
- Build school-community relationships, all while working outdoors and having fun!

Stewardship Field Trip

The Natural Areas Department provides an educational presentation before leading students in a project such as trash pick-up or restoration work.

Stewardship Station

On your field trip, one of the academic lessons may be replaced with a short service project such as weed pulling or litter clean-up.





ABOUT YOUR NATURAL AREAS

*Citizens voted to tax themselves
to fund the conservation and
management of more than 45
natural areas, making Fort Collins
a great place to live, learn, work,
and recreate.*

Thank you!

*City of Fort Collins
Natural Areas Department*

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