



# Pre-K Educational Programs Guide

Woodbury County Conservation Board

2017-2018

## Introduction

The Woodbury County Conservation Board has been offering quality educational programs since 1988. Our professional staff is committed to providing positive outdoor activities to engage your students in new and exciting discoveries. Our programs are designed to compliment local schools' curriculum and provide quality experiences to encourage life-long interest and appreciation of our environment. We invite you to visit one of our outdoor areas or have us come to your classroom for a fun-filled adventure.

Our main offices are at the **Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center (DPNC)** which is a popular choice for field trips. DPNC has interactive exhibits indoors, and outdoors kids can explore the new Discovery Forest Nature Playscape, view the live Birds of Prey in the Raptor House and explore our woodlands and Loess Hills prairies. Other well-liked locations for field trips include: **Brown's Lake/Bigelow Park, Snyder Bend Park, Southwood Conservation Area, Fowler Forest Preserve and Little Sioux Park.**

## Fees:

Naturalist-led programs are \$1.00 per student with a \$10 minimum charge. Scholarships are available if you need payment assistance.

Self-guided visits are available free of charge, but require a reservation.

## Registration:

Programs are available year-round Tuesday through Friday. Upon calling please be prepared with:

- ~ date, time & programs desired
- ~ school & teacher's name, address, phone & email
- ~ grade level & number of students
- ~ any special needs of students

**Note:** sign-up early, our schedule fills quickly!



## To Schedule a field trip or school program contact:

- Naturalist, **Theresa Kruid** at [tkruid@Woodburyparks.org](mailto:tkruid@Woodburyparks.org)
- Resource Naturalist, **Tyler Flammang** at [tflammang@Woodburyparks.org](mailto:tflammang@Woodburyparks.org)
- Woodbury County Conservation, Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road, Sioux City, IA 51109  
[www.woodburyparks.org](http://www.woodburyparks.org)  
(712) 258-0838



## Programs Offered (30 - 45 minute sessions)

We encourage the discovery of nature through outdoor explorations and have designed the programs listed to include an outdoor component. However, we understand the difficulties of transporting children and can present all of the programs listed below in your school except *Take a Hike*, the *Jr. League Exhibit Gallery* & the *Discovery Forest Nature Playscape*.

### **The Very Hungry Caterpillar** (*Fall, Spring*)

Students will act out this famous story and discover how a caterpillar becomes a butterfly.

### **Feathers for Lunch** (*All Seasons*)

We'll read a story and play a feather matching game. Students will observe 12 common birds and compare their size, shape, color and song.

### **I'm a Turkey** (*All Seasons*)

We'll use Jim Arnosky's book to help introduce Wild Turkeys and all that makes them unique.

### **Owl Babies** (*All Seasons*)

In this story the owl babies are scared without their mom. We'll listen to and learn about real owls and why they are awake at night.

### **Time to Sleep** (*Fall, Winter*)

How do animals know winter is coming? We'll learn the answer as we read a story and act it out. We'll learn about survival tactics too.

### **The Mitten** (*Late Fall & Winter*)

Meet the animals from the story and discover how they survive in winter. We will act out the storyline with the help of puppets.

### **Live Animal Presentations** (*All Seasons*)

We have a variety of live educational animals residing at the Nature Center. Choose a turtle, snake, salamander, Kestrel or Owl for your students to learn more about. *Note: Live animals may not be brought to your school if the temperature is below 30 degrees.*

### **Take a Hike** (*All Seasons*) - *Nature Center Only*

Guided hikes for all ages are available. A ratio of **one adult** to every **ten students** is preferred.

### **Junior League Legacy Exhibit Gallery**

*(All Seasons) - Nature Center Only*

Crawl under the prairie like a badger, listen to prairie sounds or discover birds and animals up close while you tour these all new exhibits. An animal scavenger hunt is available while you explore. A ratio of one adult to every 10 students is preferred.

### **Discovery Forest Nature Playscape**

*(Spring & Fall) - Nature Center Only*

This amazing outdoor natural play area includes a treehouse and spiderweb plus digging, climbing & music areas to encourage creative and imaginative play. A short walk from the building will introduce your students to a fun way to discover nature.



## **Preparing for your Field Trip**

**DRESS APPROPRIATELY** with layers of clothes, long pants & old shoes that can get muddy.

**NO COLLECTING OF NATURAL OBJECTS**, living or non-living, is allowed at the nature center or our county parks.

**PLEASE HAVE NAMETAGS** for your students so we are able to call them by their name.

**WE REQUEST ONE ADULT HELPER FOR EVERY TEN STUDENTS.** Adult helpers are expected to fully participate in all activities, sit with the children, and help keep them on task. Please ask helpers to quiet their cell phones.

**IF LUNCH** is included in your field trip, encourage students to pack an environmentally friendly lunch that creates as little trash as possible. **Please bring garbage bags for your trash.**

**SMOKING** is not allowed at the Nature Center or our county parks.