



**COUNTY OF BERGEN
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS**

James A. McFaul Environmental Center
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NATURE PROGRAMS

Below is a description of programs offered to groups visiting Bergen County's **James A. McFaul Environmental Center**. The staff is available for programs seven days a week between the hours of 9:30 am and 3:30 pm. No programs will be conducted on Bergen County holidays. Please take our suggested age ranges into consideration when booking. You can download reservation forms from our website above or pick one up at the Center.

School Groups (public, private or homeschool) **Bergen County** (Pre K – 6th Grade) \$50.00 per class (max. 25 children), **Out-of-County** (All groups) \$75.00 per class (max. 25 children), **Scout Groups** \$50.00 per class (max. 25 children) siblings must be included in total group size, Senior Groups (in and out of county groups) \$50.00 per class (max. 25 adults). **Please note – if there are more than 25 children in a class there is a charge of \$10.00 per person.**

CRITTER CORNER

Learn all about the different kinds of animals and visit with some of New Jersey's native wildlife. This is an indoor, hands-on experience with live animals. Approximately 1 hour. (Grades K-6)

WOULD YOU SURVIVE?

Learn the basic survival skills, equipment, and knowledge needed to safely hike in the wilderness and handle survival situations. Debunk survival myths, learn how to read trail signs, use a compass, build a shelter, and determine where you are by using only the sun in this hour-long outdoor trek. (Grades K-6)

NATURES NEIGHBORHOOD

Discover where animals live and why as you explore various habitats in this guided walk. Be sure to keep your senses sharp while looking for signs of their presence! Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6)

DINOMITE DINOS

Explore the world of dinosaurs as you learn all about their lives, handle various fossils, and put together a giant 3D dinosaur puzzle. Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6)

THE GOOD THE GROSS AND THE UGLY

Learn about some of our most misunderstood wildlife and find out the meaning behind some of their grossest habits. Come join us if you dare! Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6)

BEASTLY BEHAVIORS

Why do animals do the things they do? Get inside the minds of animals, from magnificent dancers to devious tricksters; learn how to identify what an animal is telling you through its actions. Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6)

SENSING NATURE

Discover the natural world through creative activities that sharpen your senses. Emphasis will be on the textures, colors, sounds and smells of the natural world in this 1hr outdoor walk. (Grade K-6)

FEATHERED FRIENDS

Learn the characteristics that all birds have in common, where they differ and why, and handle some of their interesting artifacts. Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6)

CREATURES OF COLD BLOOD

Dive on in to the world of herpetology and learn the cold blooded truth about these captivating animals. Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6)

PLANT POWER

An indoor discussion coupled with an outdoor plant walk will provide a window into the amazing world of plants and the important roles that they play in our lives. Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6)

LIVES OF THE LENAPE

The ways of the Lenape Indians come to life as you handle artifacts and natural materials which they used to survive. Program includes history, lifestyle, legends, and artifacts. Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6)

WHY DO THEY LOOK LIKE THAT?

Ever wonder why fawns have their spots? Or squirrels their long fluffy tails? What about... wait a minute... did that poop just move!? We've got the answers! Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6)

BUSY BEES

Discover the fascinating world of honeybees and their kin. See the unique life inside a beehive! This is an indoor program. Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6)

ECOLOGY FOR ALL

What are the basic requirements of all living things? What exactly is an ecosystem? Learn about the important relationships between plants, animals, and their environment. Program includes indoor and outdoor activities. Approximately 1 hour. (Grades K-6)

ALIENS IN THE DIRT

Learn about the magical world of fungi from talking trees to zombie insects... all in your backyard! The program includes indoor and outdoor activities. This program involves going on rugged terrain on the Nature Trail. Approximately 1 hour. (Grade 3+)

WILDLY RARE

Learn about current issues pertaining to endangered wildlife including New Jersey's own troubled species. Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6)

WATER WORLD

Seasonal— After a short introductory presentation on the plants and animals of wetlands, your group will get to explore the pond habitat using dip nets! See how turtles, fish, waterfowl, aquatic insects, and other invertebrates have adapted to this watery home. Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6) *May through mid-October.*

BUGGY BUSINESS

Seasonal— Discover the fascinating world of insects in the classroom and outdoors. A collection of live specimens from our field makes this a unique experience. Approximately 1 hour. (Grade K-6) *May through mid-October.*

MAPLE SUGARING

Seasonal— Get involved in the art of Maple Sugaring. Activities include tree tapping, sap collecting, boiling, and wood chopping techniques. Taste real maple syrup!! Approximately 45min. (Grade K-6) *Mid-February to mid-March. Held at the Center's Sugar Shack*

APPLE CIDERING

Seasonal— Watch the historical process of cider making in action. A staff member will demonstrate apple picking, grinding and pressing in this exciting program. Taste some apple cider!! Approximately 45min. (Pre K-6) *October*

PRE-K PROGRAMS (Each approximately 30-45min)

PRE-K ANIMAL TAILS: A fun filled class all about animals with a live animal visitor!

PRE-K DIGGIN' DINOS: Kids will get to see and touch various fossils and participate in a jumbo 3D dino puzzle.

PRE-K NATURE WALK: This discovery walk takes place on our trail where we will point out some exciting plants and animals in their natural habitats. *In case of inclement weather **Animal Tails** will be taught.*

—ATTENTION—

Programs are designed for active participation under varied weather conditions. ***Please*** dress appropriately! Proper footwear and long pants are recommended. In case of inclement weather please call the Center. Programs need not be canceled. We reserve the right to make program substitutions. Program lengths may be shortened upon request.

Please specify any special considerations on the reservation form.

COUNTY OF BERGEN

James J. Tedesco III

County Executive

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS