



Farmington Hills Nature Center School & Group Programs 2024

Heritage Park
24915 Farmington Rd
Farmington Hills, MI
48336

Email bhollander@fhgov.com or call (248) 473-1870 to schedule your visit.

NGSS Phenomenal Science and MiSTAR Unit Programs (K-7):	
Kindergarten	Unit K.3: “Living it Up” Animals and people depend on and change the environment to get what they need.
1 st Grade	Unit 1.2: “ Feature Factor” Body parts of plants and animals help them survive.
2 nd Grade	Unit 2.2 “Shifting Sands” Erosion changes the land features in Michigan.
2 nd Grade	Unit 2.3 “Bloom Where You’re Planted” Plants grow and survive in amazing spaces.
3 rd Grade	Unit 3.4 “Stick Together” Plant and animal traits may be influenced by the environment and genetic factors.
4 th Grade	Unit 4.1 “Unit Let It Rip” Energy using nature as the context for understanding transformations, conservation, and technology.
5 th Grade	Unit 5.1 “Go with the Flow” We can protect and maintain Earth’s water resources, specifically in our Watershed.
6 th Grade	Water on the Move (Mi-STAR) Human activity can alter the flow of the water cycle, creating stormwater problems that need solutions..
7 th Grade	Live Cycle of Building Materials (Mi-STAR). Things we manufacture and use to meet society's needs and the natural resources utilized to make them are connected. Located at Farmington Hills City Hall, a LEED Certified building! [Leader in Energy and Environmental Design].

Nature Topic Programs (K-12):

Activities can be modified for grade level, teacher goals, and curriculum connections. If your topic of interest does not appear in the list, please contact the Nature Center to discuss how we can design a program to meet your needs.

Michigan Animals	Explore the amazing wildlife of Michigan, discovering animal habitat and adaptations.
Earth, Rocks and Fossils	Go on a geology hike, interacting with the landforms and rocks at Heritage Park. Includes digging for rocks and fossils.
Web of Life	Discover the connections in the food web and how changes in the environment affect all living things.
Seeds Needs	Explore the parts of plants and what plants need to survive; then design and make a device to help a seed get what it needs to grow.
Water Wonders	Explore the Rouge River Watershed, discovering the wonders of water and human impacts to the environment.
Geocaching for wildlife	Learn how GPS technology is used on a high-tech treasure hunt, discovering the wildlife of Heritage Park along the way.
Insect Inspirations	Observe insects in different habitats and discover their amazing features and engineering talents.
Birds of a Feather	Explore the features and habitats of birds at Heritage Park; then think like an engineer by designing and testing structures based on the wonders of bird adaptations.
Wild about Energy	Experience energy in new ways using nature as the context for understanding energy transformations, conservation, and technology.
Pollution Solutions	Investigate water quality issues and design solutions to prevent pollution.
Nature Detectives	Solve nature-based mysteries using clues found in the park.
Fire building	Experience the science and skills of fire building, then make a campfire.

Outdoor Art	Bring art and the outdoors together using inspiration and materials from nature.
Microscope Mission	Look closely at nature and then look even closer - with compound microscopes!
Pollinator Power	Discover how animal pollinators help plants grow, and why we're taking actions to help our native pollinators and plants.

Preschool & Kindergarten	
Animal Friends	Get to know the animals of Heritage Park and their "super-powers".
Trees Needs	Discover the wonders of trees and how they grow.
F is for Fall or S is for Spring	Get creative with nature's alphabet on this seasonal sensory hike.
STEM Sprouts	Discover how engineers make new things by observing nature - then make a home for an animal.
Nature Senses	Use all 5 senses to explore the nature trails – plus your special "nature" senses"

Fees:

At the Nature Center:

Preschool Groups:

\$7/child (\$105 min) for 60-90 min program

School-age Groups:

\$5/student (\$75 minimum)

\$7/student if guided program is 2+ hours (Full Day Experience*)

**Ask about limited Teacher Scholarships for Full Day Experience education field trips!*

At your School (outreach):

\$5/student (\$100 minimum)

Mileage charged outside of Farmington Hills

Call for Outreach Program options. Most programs can be modified to be done at your school.

Scheduling:

Nature Center programs engage students in interpretive hikes, hands-on discovery, and real-world NGSS science and engineering practices (STEM). Let us provide a fun and enriching experience for your group using nature as their classroom. We customize programs to align with your curriculum and goals. Email bhollander@fhgov.com or call (248) 473-1870 to schedule your visit.

Planning a Visit:

- Our lunchroom is in the great outdoors! We do not have an indoor cafeteria. All groups are responsible for their own lunch/snacks to enjoy at the picnic gathering area. During rainy or cold weather, we will do our best to make lunch arrangements indoors.
- Programs include time spent outdoors year-round. Please make sure students, teachers and chaperones are dressed for the weather. Programs are held rain/snow or shine!
- Programs may include time spent in the Nature Center (optional).
- Programs can be reserved for any size group and/or multiple classes at once. Large groups of 25+ may be split into smaller groups with a nature guide assigned to each. **Plan to have 2-5 adult chaperones & a teacher per class (25 students). There is no charge for adult chaperones.**
- If you plan to visit the splash pad or the playground let us know. A bus permit is required only when visiting the park on a day other than the day of the program (Memorial Day-Labor Day).
- Payment in the form of cash, check or credit can be made the day of the program or before. *Non-school groups must pay in advance.* Please make reservations at least 2 weeks in advance.