

# Enrichment Options for Groups

**DESCRIPTION:** Create your own experience at the Nature Museum for groups of up to 20 people. Choose from educator-led workshops, naturalist guided tours or a nature program appropriate for all age groups. Each experience lasts 45 minutes. Titles and descriptions of available options are listed below.

**HOW TO REGISTER:** Visit [naturemuseum.org/groups](http://naturemuseum.org/groups) to complete an online registration form. For more information or special requests, e-mail [groups@naturemuseum.org](mailto:groups@naturemuseum.org).

**COST AND PAYMENT:** Reservation requests must be made three weeks in advance. Each program or tour can have a maximum of 20 participants. Groups with programs of more than 20 people will be charged for an additional program or tour.

- \$100/Exhibit Tour
- \$125/Field Trip Workshop
- \$150/Nature Program
- Payment is due 14 days before the date of the visit or programs will be cancelled.



## Nature Programs

### Butterfly Gardens (recommended for ages 5 and up.)

Learn all about native plants and flowers that butterflies need for food and to lay their eggs. Get started on a garden that these beautiful bugs cannot resist by planting a seed in a take home container that you decorate yourself.

### Jar Terrariums (recommended for ages 8 and up. Advanced program available for group with ages 16 and up)

Make a start in the hobby of horticulture. After a short and fun lesson on the history of terrariums, participants will construct and personalize their very own jar terrariums to take home.

## Field Trip Workshops for Groups

Science and nature workshops for groups grades Pre-K through 5th. Groups of 10 or more can register for these creative, hands-on programs to enhance a group visit experience.

### Animals Up Close (6-9 year olds/Grades 1,2,3)

Meet two live animals from the Nature Museum's collections! Children will observe the animals' features and movements and use critical thinking skills to compare and contrast the animals' bodies, behaviors, and habitats.

### Bugs Alive (3-6 year olds/Preschool-Kindergarten)

Observe live insects from the Nature Museum's collections! Children will learn more about the ways that these animals move, eat, and protect themselves from danger. Each child will have the opportunity to compare and contrast several different live insects.

### Habitat Explorers – Outdoors (6-9 year olds/Grades 1,2,3)

Go outside and explore prairie, pond, and wooded habitats on the Nature Museum grounds! Students will practice making careful observations as they examine plants and animals in various outdoors areas. Students will also discover how these living things get food, water, and shelter in their habitats.

### Worm Investigations (9-10 year olds/Grades 4,5)

Get an up close look at the red worms that work at the Nature Museum! Children learn how these worms can recycle food and paper waste and then practice classifying items that can and cannot be fed to red worms. Chaperones will leave with a do it yourself guide to vermicomposting that can be used to build a worm compost bin.

### H2O Investigations\* (11-18 years old/Grades 6-12)

Find out what the invertebrates found in water really say about the water's quality! Students learn about water quality indicators, tolerant and intolerant species, and citizen science initiatives while identifying preserved macroinvertebrates. Students then use their findings to analyze the health of a water sample.

*Program descriptions subject to change. Outdoor workshop available from May 1 through October 31. \*Program is modified appropriately for the grade level indicated on the field trip request form.*

## Exhibit Tours

Spend 45 minutes of your visit with a Museum Naturalist as they guide your group through your choice of two of our immersive and award-winning exhibits.

### Exhibit Choices (choose two):

#### The Judy Istock Butterfly Haven (recommended for all ages)

Immerse yourself in a world of butterflies! Learn about their life cycle and watch them coexist with birds and plants in this tropical ecosystem.

#### Mysteries of the Marsh (recommended for all ages)

Explore a world of wetland animals and plants as you learn how the museum helps these unique habitats

#### Wilderness Walk (recommended for all ages)

Enjoy a stroll through three native landscapes. Travel through the dunes, prairie, and savannah as you learn about the plants and animals that live there.

#### The Heritage of the Chicago Academy of Sciences

(recommended for all ages 14 and up)  
Discover the history behind the founding of Chicago's oldest museum. Learn about the great scientists and naturalists that paved the way.

#### The Beecher Lab and Birds of Chicago

(recommended for all ages 14 and up)  
Learn how the Nature Museum preserves and presents its collection for research and exhibits.