

# science on the go

FALL 2023  
SPRING 2024



Science on the Go is a professional development program designed for K–8 educators who strive to build inspired science learning communities using effective instructional practices, through the use of **NGSS-aligned, hands-on, inquiry-based lessons that incorporate collaborative problem solving**. For more than 30 years, our experienced education staff has been working side-by-side with teachers to leverage locally relevant science experiences in classrooms throughout Chicago.

— with *science on the go*, you'll invest in: —



One Professional Development  
afterschool workshop to prepare for  
classroom implementation;

#### EARN

Up to six and a half  
professional development  
clock hours.



Nine lessons that explore local science content  
through NGSS-aligned curricula with all  
materials and documents provided

#### INCLUDING

Three lessons—taught by a museum educator—  
that **model best practices** in science education  
and utilize **unique museum resources** from our  
living and preserved collections.



Focused Field Trip to connect  
classroom inquiry to  
community experiences

#### INCLUDING

A **bus reimbursement**  
to the Nature Museum.

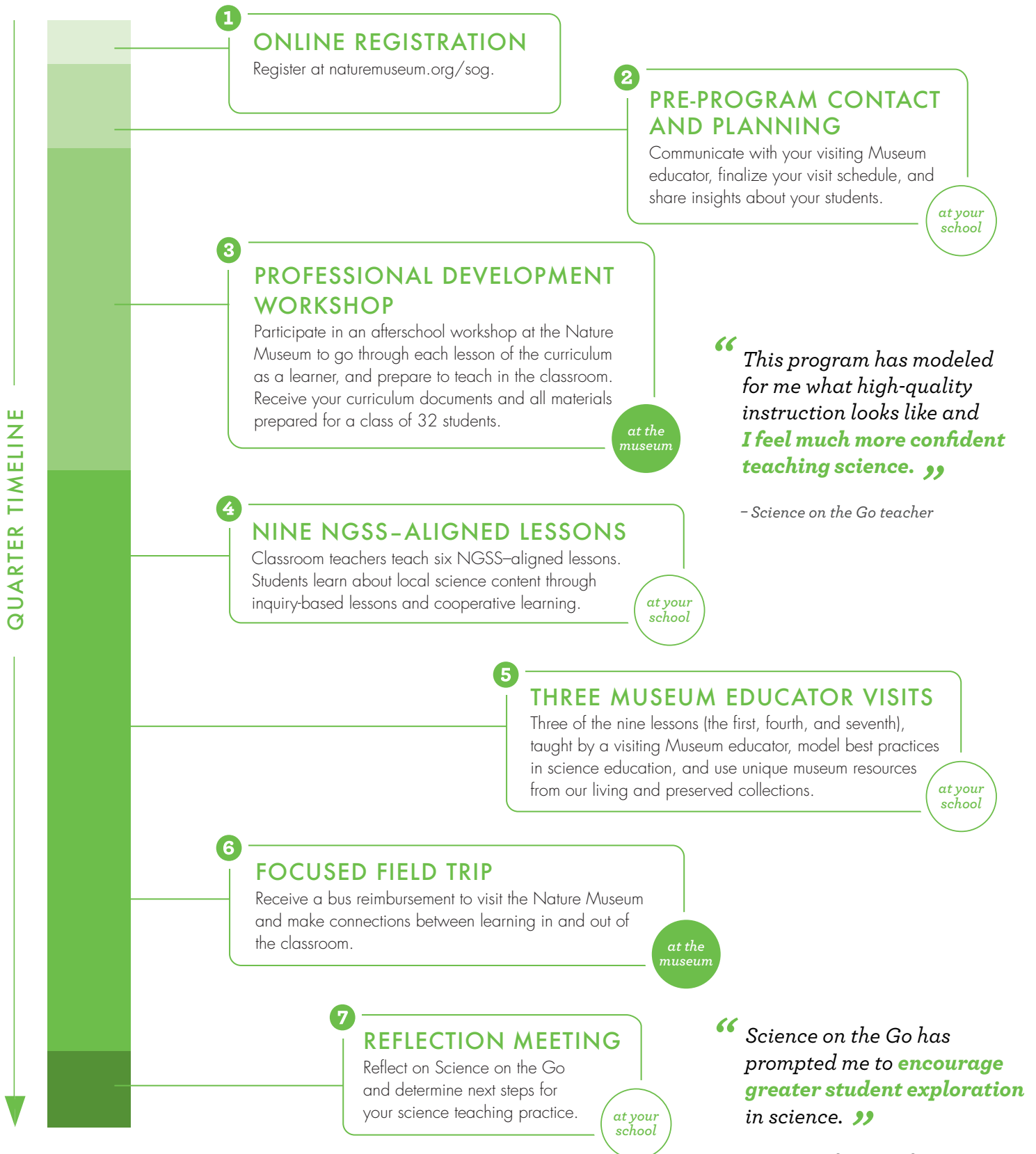
CHICAGO  
ACADEMY OF  
SCIENCES

PEGGY NOTEBAERT  
NATURE  
MUSEUM

[naturemuseum.org/sog](https://naturemuseum.org/sog)

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## TIMELINE



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## CHOOSE YOUR CURRICULUM

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6 – 8
<b>Q1</b> 9/19–11/3	Nature in the City						Biodiversity Disrupted
		Perplexing Plants					
				Chicago Bird Watchers			
					Woodland Breakdown		
<b>Q2</b> 11/14–1/26		Trees Near Me					Plants, Matter, Energy!
			Habitat Seekers				Climate Change in Chicago
			Making Sense of Butterflies				
				Survivor: Winter Edition			
				Freshwater Flashback			
				Conservation on Location			
<b>Q3</b> 2/6–3/22		Animal Secrets					Biodiversity Disrupted
			Habitat Seekers				Climate Change in Chicago
				Survivor: Winter Edition			
				Chicago Bird Watchers			
				Conservation on Location			
					Woodland Breakdown		
<b>Q4</b> 4/9–5/24		Trees Near Me					Plants, Matter, Energy!
			Making Sense of Butterflies				Interrupted Ecosystems
			Perplexing Plants				
				Freshwater Flashback			
				Insect Investigators			
					Woodland Breakdown		

register online at: [naturemuseum.org/sog](https://naturemuseum.org/sog)

- Q1** September 19 - November 3, 2023 | Registration Deadline: [September 7](#)
- Q2** November 14, 2023 - January 26, 2024 | Registration Deadline: [October 19](#)
- Q3** February 6 - March 22, 2024 | Registration Deadline: [January 18](#)
- Q4** April 9 - May 24, 2024 | Registration Deadline: [March 21](#)

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## CURRICULUM DESCRIPTIONS

GRADES **K 1 2**

### Nature in the City **K**

NGSS: K-ESS3-1, K-ESS2-2

Use observations, discussions, and scientific drawings to explore ecosystems on the ground, in the trees, and near buildings.

### Animal Secrets **K 1**

NGSS: K-LS1-1, 1-LS1-1

What can humans learn from how living things survive? Explore the unique ways Midwestern animals sense and thrive in the world around them.

### Trees Near Me **K 1**

NGSS: K-ESS2-2, K-ESS3-3, 1-LS1-1

Explore the ways trees around us affect their surroundings and change over time, and how other living things use structures and senses as they interact with the trees.

### Habitat Seekers **1 2**

NGSS: 1-LS1-2, 2-LS4-1

Explore the animals and habitats of the Midwest! Discover the different ways adult animals care for their young in wetland, prairie, and woodland habitats.

### Making Sense of Butterflies **1 2**

NGSS: 1-LS1-1, 1-LS1-2, 2-LS4-1

Investigate the ways butterflies find out about the world around them. Explore the unique ways each species responds to the information they collect to increase their chances of survival.

### Perplexing Plants **1 2**

NGSS: 2-LS2-2, 2-LS2-1, 1-LS3-1

What is this plant and how did it get here? Explore plants, what they need to survive in one place, and how they might get to a new location.

GRADES **3 4 5**

### Insect Investigators **3 4**

NGSS: 3-LS1-1, 3-LS4-3, 4-LS1-1

Did you know that insects represent over 80% of the species alive on Earth? Explore the body structures, behaviors, and life cycles of Chicago's fascinating local insects..

### Freshwater Flashback **3 4**

NGSS: 3-LS3-2, 3-LS4-1, 4-ESS3-2

What lives in—or used to live in—Chicago's Great Lakes environment? Students will examine evidence of the ways local freshwater ecosystems have changed over time.

### Survivor: Winter Edition **3 4**

NGSS: 3-LS4-3, 4-LS1-1

Where do Chicago's animals go in the winter? Use hands-on activities and nonfiction text to develop a claim about animals' structural and behavioral adaptations.

### Chicago Bird Watchers **3 4**

NGSS: 3-LS4-3, 3-LS4-4, 4-ESS2-1

Investigate how populations of common (and uncommon) birds vary across the city of Chicago. Gather evidence about the ways species respond to changes in local habitats.

### Conservation on Location **3 4 5**

NGSS: 3-LS1-1, (3-LS4-4), 4-LS1-2, 5-ESS3-1

Join conservation scientists at the Nature Museum as they monitor endangered species, and work to improve local ecosystems and increase these animals' chances of survival.

### Woodland Breakdown **4 5**

NGSS: 4-LS1-2, 5-LS2-1, 5-PS3-1

What's happening in the woodland? Explore how organisms of all sizes, from fungi to frogs, get the matter and energy they need for survival.

GRADES **6–8**

### Biodiversity Disrupted **6–8**

NGSS: MS-LS2-1, MS-LS2-4, MS-ESS3-3

How can we tell if an ecosystem is healthy? Explore the work of conservation scientists at the Nature Museum and evaluate the impacts of human activities on Chicago's woodland biodiversity.

### Climate Change in Chicago **6–8**

NGSS: MS-ESS3-4, MS-LS2-2

How are local species affected by climate change? Students will construct an explanation about the cause of a changing climate and its effect on biodiversity in the Chicagoland area.

### Interrupted Ecosystems **6–8**

NGSS: MS-LS2-1, MS-LS2-4

What happens to ecosystems when 12 million people move in? Students will analyze and interpret data, construct arguments, and explore the dynamic ecosystems of Illinois to discover how organisms respond to human disruptions.

### Plants, Matter, Energy! **6–8**

NGSS: MS-LS1-4, MS-LS1-5, MS-LS1-6

Investigate the complex role of plants in their ecosystems: the interactions that sustain both plants and animals, and the process plants use to cycle energy and matter into their environments.

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