

field trip workshops

at the Nature Museum

CHICAGO
ACADEMY OF
SCIENCES



naturemuseum.org/workshops

Enhance your field trip with an authentic, hands-on nature experience!

Register for our creative science and nature workshops to focus your field trip and create meaningful connections between in- and out-of-school learning. All workshops are taught by an experienced museum educator and correlate with Next Generation Science Standards.



PREPARING FOR A FIELD TRIP WORKSHOP

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PRE-VISIT

Register for your workshop online:
naturemuseum.org/workshops

Download our **free Field Trip Guide**, where you'll find focused field trip activities, arrival/check-in information, exhibit descriptions, FAQs, and more! Visit:
naturemuseum.org/fieldtripguide

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MUSEUM VISIT WITH WORKSHOP

Create **meaningful connections** through an educator-led workshop.

“
Attending the workshop gave our visit more of a focused purpose — the students remembered more about the whole trip because of it.
”

— Chicago Public Schools teacher —

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POST-VISIT

Back in your classroom, complete the post-visit activity found in the Field Trip Guide.

Borrow Nature Museum Inquiry Kits free of charge to complement your trip.
Visit: naturemuseum.org/tlc

OUTDOOR WORKSHOPS

AVAILABLE MAY 1 – OCTOBER 31

PRE-K AND K

Nature is Sense-ational | NGSS: ESS3

Awaken your senses and embark on an outdoor adventure! Students will embark on an exploration of the trails, prairie, and pier surrounding the Nature Museum, and discover the sights, sounds, feels, and smells of nature in the city!



GRADES 1, 2, AND 3

Habitat Explorers | NGSS: LS1, LS3, LS4

Go outside and explore prairie, pond, and wooded habitats found at the Nature Museum! Students will practice making careful observations as they examine plants and animals in various outdoors areas.

GRADES 4 AND 5

Ecology Rangers | NGSS: LS1, LS2, LS4, ESS3

Go outside and observe prairie, wetland, and urban woodland ecosystems! Students will increase their knowledge of Illinois ecosystems by observing living and non-living things in our outdoor exhibits and by evaluating how the parts of each system interact and work together.



GRADES 6 – 12*

Amazing Biodiversity (90 minutes) | NGSS: LS2, LS4

Compare the biodiversity of different outdoor areas on the Nature Museum grounds! Students will use sampling and systematic observation to collect data in order to graph, analyze, and compare the species richness and biodiversity in two different natural areas.

Interpreting Ecosystems | NGSS: LS2, ESS3

Get outdoors and investigate the various urban ecosystems at the Nature Museum! Students will observe and record the diversity of living things in two of Illinois' most dominant natural environments and consider the changes in these natural areas over time to evaluate the roles humans play as a part of these ecosystems.

*Programs are modified appropriately for the grade level indicated by the teacher on the registration form. Please note that outdoor workshops will be taught rain or shine (excluding dangerous weather conditions). Ensure that you and your students are dressed appropriately and are prepared to spend 45 minutes outdoors. Please contact access@naturemuseum.com if your group has any accessibility accommodation needs.

INDOOR WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 1 – JUNE 15

PRE-K AND K

Bugs Alive | NGSS: LS1, ESS3

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

Secret Gardeners | NGSS: LS1, ESS3

Create a seed pocket to take back to your school! Students will develop an appreciation for local nature as they learn about planting seeds through hands-on activities that highlight how native plants grow and how they are important to animals, including humans.

GRADES 4 AND 5

Worm Investigations | NGSS: LS1, LS2, ESS3

Get an up close look at the red worms that work at the Nature Museum! Students will observe red worm behavior and investigate environmental preferences while learning how these worms can recycle food and paper waste.

Exploring Butterfly Conservation | NGSS: LS1, LS2, ESS3

Observe and compare rare and endangered Midwest butterflies that are part of the Nature Museum's conservation research initiatives. Students will review basic butterfly biology, learn about the characteristics of native butterfly habitats, and explore the unique needs of local butterflies.

GRADES 1, 2, AND 3

Animals Up Close | NGSS: LS1, LS3, LS4

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

Metamorphosing Monarchs | NGSS: LS1, LS3, LS4

Observe real butterfly specimens and watch a monarch transform throughout its life! Students will become butterfly scientists and learn about the body parts and life cycle of butterflies. They will also create their own butterfly life cycle models to take home and use to teach others what they know.

A Seed's Journey | NGSS: LS1, LS2

Find out how seeds travel from one place to another! Students will observe real seeds and do hands-on investigations to compare and contrast the ways that these seeds move.

GRADES 6 – 12 *

What's the Buzz about Bees? | NGSS: LS1, LS2, LS4, ESS3

Examine various bee specimens from the Nature Museum's collection! Students will analyze data to determine trends in bee populations, explore pollination behaviors, and reflect on current conservation efforts.

H2O Investigations | NGSS: LS2, ESS3

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

*Programs are modified appropriately for the grade level indicated by the teacher on the registration form.

“
The **workshop is such a necessary piece** to the field trip because it makes the students stop and take time to really **observe, think, and do the hands-on activities.**
”

— Chicago Public Schools teacher —



How to Register

Visit naturemuseum.org/workshops to complete an online registration form. For more information or special requests, e-mail fieldtrip@naturemuseum.org.

Cost & Payment

\$175/45-minute workshop; \$200/90-minute workshop. Payment is due 30 days prior to the program(s) date, or the program will be canceled.

Kindergarten through Grade 12 workshops have a maximum of 30 participants, and Pre-K workshops have a maximum of 20 participants. Each school classroom must register for its own workshop. To ensure the quality of the hands-on experience, schools may not combine multiple classrooms into one workshop. Groups with workshops exceeding the maximum number of participants without prior approval will be charged for an additional workshop.



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