



2204 DeWitt Avenue East
 Mattoon, IL 61938
 (217) 235-4644
 programs@dhnature.org
 www.dhnature.org/fieldtrips

Nature Center Hours:

Mon. - Fri. 8a.m. to 4p.m.
 Sat. 10a.m. to 4p.m.
 Sun. 1-4p.m.
 Closed on Sun. Dec-Feb
 Trails open daily dawn to dusk



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MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FIELD TRIPS AND OUTREACH



"THROUGH THE RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF HELEN DOUGLAS-HART'S GIFTS, THE DOUGLAS-HART FOUNDATION WILL BE A LEADER IN PROMOTING THE APPRECIATION, ENJOYMENT, AND CONSERVATION OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES BY PROVIDING QUALITY PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES."

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FIELD TRIPS AND OUTREACH

HOW TO BOOK A PROGRAM:

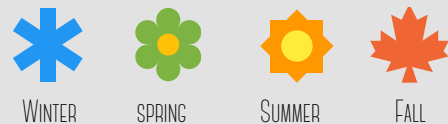
- It is recommended to book field trips and outreach at least 3 months in advance.
- To reserve a field trip:
 - Submit your information through the Request Form on our website: www.dhnature.org/fieldtrips
 - Email programs@dhnature.org
 - Call 217-235-4644

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT AS YOUR INQUIRE ABOUT A FIELD TRIP OR OUTREACH:

- Which activities would you like to include for your field trip?
 - Program (1-2 hours)*
 - Visitor Center (1/2 hour)*
 - Picnic Lunch (1/2 hour)*
 - Nature Play (1/2 hour)*
- *Durations are only suggestions
- What are 3 possible days for your program (field trip/outreach)?
- Do you prefer morning or afternoon?
- What is your estimated bus arrival and departure times?
- What are the total number of classes and students?
- For outreach, will the educator be in one room or travel from room-to-room?
- Do you have a request for a program theme? (See NGSS-aligned field trips and outreach for grade specific suggestions)

SYMBOL LEGEND:

- Some field trips are recommended for specific seasons. Look for the designated season symbols below:



- Some field trips can be adapted to outreach. Look for the designated symbol below:



THE DOUGLAS-HART FOUNDATION offers environmental education programs to meet the curriculum needs of area elementary students. Programs are offered via outreach or field trips to the Douglas-Hart Nature Center. However, the Douglas-Hart Foundation also manages two other sites that occasionally offer programs.



DOUGLAS-HART NATURE CENTER

70 acre preserve with woodlands, wetlands, and prairie habitat located on the east side of Mattoon



FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

Quaint urban garden located near downtown Mattoon



THE WHITESIDE GARDEN

Arboretum and botanical garden located on the east side of Charleston

Environmental education programs through the Douglas-Hart Foundation are carefully aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and the North American Association for Environmental Education Guidelines for Excellence. When appropriate, ELA and Math are immersed into the curriculum as well. Each field trip lists the NGSS topic arrangements to show the connections. For more information and detailed NGSS correlations and field trip activities visit on our website: www.dhnature.org/fieldtrips. Interested in a topic not listed? Our trained staff can accommodate most program themes as requested.

FIELD TRIPS enrich and expand curriculum, strengthen observation skills, immerse youth in sensory activities, increase environmental knowledge, and expand one's awareness of their community! Field trips are available year round and subject to availability. Groups meet at Douglas-Hart Nature Center for a field trip led by a naturalist. Field trips are \$3 per student, or a minimum of \$30 for groups with less than 10. While at the nature center, groups can take advantage of our on your own activities: picnic lunch, nature play area, visitor center exploration, and more!

WHAT TO EXPECT:

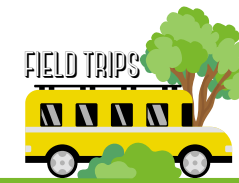
- Nationally trained naturalists guiding students
- Interactive, hands-on activities
- Visuals (pictures, displays, taxidermy, etc.)
- Outdoor exploration **all year round**
 - Please dress for indoor and outdoor exploration
 - Closed toe shoes are highly recommended
 - If inclement weather, alternative indoor activities will be conducted



WHEELS TO THE WOODS:

Did you know the Douglas-Hart Foundation offers a scholarship program called Wheels to the Woods to help offset your field trip admission fees or transportation costs? To apply for this scholarship program, please visit our website: www.dhnature.org/fieldtripsinfo

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL



FIELD TRIP THEMES:

PIECES OF THE PRAIRIE (PRAIRIE)

The prairie is buzzing with life, but these ecosystem can be puzzling. During this field trip, you will piece together all the elements of the prairie to understand the importance of biodiversity in an endangered habitat.

TRAIT-ORS (WOODLANDS)

Beware - you may encounter some trait-ors on this field trip as we explore the woodlands to learn about carrying capacity, populations, animal traits, and habitat fragmentation!

WET - WATER & ENERGY TOGETHER (WETLANDS)

Are you ready to dive into the water . . . cycle? Students will explore the wetlands and its importance for biodiversity, life cycles, and food webs. This field trip will leave students feeling refreshed about this renewable resource.

CLUE INTO CLIMATE CHANGE

Students will gather clues throughout this field trip to help them solve the mystery . . . what is climate change? And better yet - how can you help?!

PEOPLE FOR THE PLANET

Humans are a part of the problem, but YOU can be a part of the solution. Students will be fueled to explore and learn about our natural resources - wind, water, and solar energy, and then leave energized about a more sustainable future.

HATCHET

Compete in a mock game of survival in the woods based on the classic book: *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen. Communication and teambuilding are deeply rooted in this field trip, as groups compete in fort building, fire starting, and water purifying challenges!

BIOBLITZ

Want an all day field experience? Immerse your students in a BioBlitz! Using field guides, tablets, and more resources, students will explore all 3 habitats to identify as many flora and fauna as they can. This in-depth field investigation is hands-on, educational, and fun, all while collecting real data for the nature center!

KEY TERMS AND TOPICS:

- Interdependent relationships in ecosystems
- Matter & energy in organisms and ecosystems
- Human impacts
- Food webs
- Organisms & biodiversity

- Interdependent relationships in ecosystems
- Matter & energy in organisms & ecosystems
- Growth, development, & reproduction of organisms
- Natural selection, adaptations & evolution
- Inheritance & variation of traits
- Organisms & biodiversity

- Matter & energy in organisms & ecosystems
- Interdependent relationships in ecosystems
- Earth's systems
- Food webs
- Organisms & biodiversity

- Structure & properties of matter
- Earth's systems
- Human impacts
- Matter & energy in organisms & ecosystems
- Weather & Climate
- Natural Resources

- Human impacts
- Human sustainability
- Natural Resources
- Structure & Properties of Matter

- Team building
- Natural Resources
- Survival skills
- Flora & Fauna Identification

- Biodiversity
- Habitats/Ecosystems
- Populations
- Identification
- Carrying capacity

REFER TO THE ELEMENTARY (GRADES K-5) FIELD TRIP BROCHURE FOR MORE TOPIC IDEAS THAT COULD BE ADAPTED FOR GRADES 6-12.

OUTREACH is a wonderful enrichment opportunity for your students to still have hands-on and immersive experience with nature. A naturalist will travel to your facility to present a 1-hr program on your topic of choice. Many of our outreach includes taxidermy animals, puppets, posters, pictures, and live animals when possible. Several field trip options can be adapted to outreach - look for the outreach symbol next to field trips. Multiple presentations on the same day are available. Pricing varies on location, quantity of programs, and duration. No special set-up is required. The naturalist only needs a small table for visuals and supplies. Outreach is available year round, subject to availability.



LOAN BOXES

\$5/EACH
MUST SHOW ID TO CHECK-OUT

Loan boxes are another fantastic option for supplementing your curriculum. Educators may check-out a kit full of resources on an array of environmental topics. Most of the field trips and outreach program themes featured in this brochure have a corresponding loan box. Loan boxes include but are not limited to: books, visuals, activities, games, lessons, and more! Loan boxes need at least 48 hour notice to check-out, are subject to availability, and must be returned within 2 weeks. To learn more, visit our website: www.dhnature.org/outreach