

# Mount Rainier Nature Center

4701 31st Pl. Mount Rainier, MD 20712 (301)-927-2163 www.pgparcs.com

## CIRRICULUM BASED NATURE PROGRAMS

Mount Rainier Nature Center offers curriculum-based NGSS aligned programs for school groups (grades PreK-6) as well as community outreach programs. Most programs last 45-60 mins and can be held at your school, local park, or at our Nature Center. The nature center has indoor exhibits, live animals, an atrium with a pond, butterfly, herb, and raingardens, an outdoor play ground, recreation field as well as a multipurpose room with a maximum capacity of 120 students.

### Grades 1st - 2nd



#### Nature Discoveries

Join a naturalist on a guided walk to observe what the seasons bring to nature. We will use our senses to investigate and discover textures and smells in the world around us. Develop models to show processes.

**Standards supported: NGSS: 2-LS2-2**



#### Our Watershed

Use a watershed model to show our human impact on the water quality around us and how water changes the shape of land. Brainstorm solutions for cleaner water, support wildlife, and to prevent erosion.

**Standards supported: NGSS: 2-ESS2-1, 2-ESS2-2**



#### Life Cycles

Learn the life cycles of insects, reptiles, amphibians, and mammals. Discuss how newborn animals and their parents are similar but still different. Learn about camouflage and how animals stay protected.

**Standards supported: NGSS: 1-LS3-1, 1-LS1-1**

#### Animal Homes



Learn about how nature transforms a place into an animal home (habitat) by supporting the 4 basic needs of all creatures. Join us for a nature walk to see Animal homes, in nature, in real time.

**Standards supported: NGSS: 1-LS3-1, 2-LS4-1**

### Featured



#### Live Animal Show (all ages)

Using a variety of live animals, students will enjoy a hands-on learning experience and interact with these animals.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

#### Fantastic Fungal Friends (all ages)

Did you know that trees can "talk" to each other via a network of fungi that connects their roots? Observe the fascinating world of fungi and explore the connections and roles that they have with the entire ecosystem! Program can be performed on a wooded school yard or nearby park.



#### Microscopy (4th grade and up)

Experience the world around you like you have never seen it before! Students will learn basic microscopy techniques by heading outside and collecting their own subjects of study from an outdoor walk.



### Register by scanning the QR code

#### FEES:

Programs at the center:

\$4(R), \$6(NR) \*10 person min\*

Programs off-site:

\$6(R), \$8(NR) \*25 person min\*



Prince George's County Public Schools is not sponsoring, endorsing, or recommending the activities announced in this material/flyer

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## CIRRICULUM BASED NATURE PROGRAMS

### Grades 3rd - 6th



#### Rocks and Fossils

Identify the evidence of prehistoric organisms with the help of fossils. Use background knowledge to hypothesize what kind of organism they might be or where they might have lived. **Standards supported: NGSS: 4-ESS1-1, 4-ESS2-1, 4-ESS3-2, NGSS: 5-ESS2-1, 5-ESS2-2**



#### Animal Homes

Go in depth and learn about how nature transforms a place into an animal home (habitat) by supporting the 4 basic needs of all creatures. Join us for a nature walk to see Animal homes in nature, in real time.

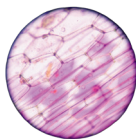
**Standards supported: NGSS: 2-LS4-1, 3-LS4-4**



#### Water Olympics

Learn about the properties of water. Understand how water can affect the way land forms and weathers over time. (Ice, crystallization, melting, evaporation).

**Standards supported: NGSS: MS-ESS2-1, MS-ESS2-4, MS-ESS2-6**



#### Microcosm 101

Take a look at things from a different perspective with more in-depth version of our Microscopy lesson, Microcosm 101!

Learn about particles and tissues while utilizing basic microscopy techniques. Student will then go outside to collect their own subjects of study to view under their microscopes.

**Standards supported: NGSS: MS-LS1-3, MS-LS1-1**



#### Carnivorous Plants

Some plants use the sun for energy, while others eat living animals! Learn about carnivorous plants and their ecological niche to figure out why they evolved to have special adaptations to digest prey.

**Standards supported: NGSS: MS-LS1-5, MS-LS1-4**

#### Our Watershed



Use our enviroscape model to show our human impact on the water quality around us and how water changes the shape of land. Understand how environmental changes affects ecosystems. Brainstorm solutions for cleaner water, support wildlife, and to prevent erosion.

**Standards supported: NGSS: 3-LS4-4, 4-ESS3-2**

#### Life Cycles



Learn the life cycles of insects, reptiles, amphibians, and mammals. Dance the life cycle of the creatures you are likely to see in your backyard and discuss how newborn animals and their parents are similar but still different.

**Standards supported: NGSS: 3-LS1-1, 4-LS1-1, 4-LS1-2  
NGSS: 5-LS2-1, 5-PS3-1**

#### Native Americans of Maryland

Learn about the history of the Native Americans of Southern Maryland. Understand how they lived, grew and harvested food, and cultivated community and culture.



### Grades 6th - 8th

#### Fantastic Fungal Friends

Did you know that trees can "talk" to each other via a network of fungi that connects their roots? Observe the fascinating world of fungi and explore the connections and roles that they have with the entire ecosystem! Exploring fungi will lead students to appreciate how fungi function in ecosystems as decomposers and other important roles.

**Standards supported: NGSS: MS-LS2-5, MS-LS2-3**

