



Harris Nature Center

Elementary School Science Topics



All lessons are designed to be 1.5 hours long and are taught by our experienced Naturalist staff. Modifications can be made to the length and content of the lessons as needed. Programs include time inside the nature building, as well as time on the trails and in the various park habitats. The fee is \$45/class for the standard 1.5 hour program. Please call the Harris Nature Center at 517.349.3866 to book your program.

- **Adapted for Survival** *animal classifications, animal & plant adaptations, live animals*
- **Autumn Countdown** *animals preparing for winter; includes live animals*
- **Balancing an Ecosystem** *food web, habitats, basic life needs, survival adaptations*
- **Birds, Nests & Eggs** *types of feathers, egg parts, beak adaptations, nest varieties*
- **Dichotomous Keys** *learn to use a dichotomous key on skulls & trees; create your own*
- **Fir Evergreen** *coniferous trees, life cycles and conifer ID*
- **Home in My Habitat** *various types of habitats and the flora and fauna found there*
- **Insects & Invertebrates** *insect orders and catching insects in the meadow*
- **Magic Window** *using our 5 senses in nature*
- **Michigan Predators** *predatory animals and their adaptations*
- **Misunderstood Animals** *spiders, snakes, toads, bats; includes live animals*
- **Monarch Butterflies** *life cycle of the Monarch Butterfly*
- **Non-Flowering Plants** *mosses, ferns, lichens, algae and fungi*
- **Reptiles & Amphibians** *adaptations for cold-blooded animals; includes live animals*
- **River Invertebrates** *hands-on study of river invertebrates, using nets, microscopes*
- **Rocks Rock** *types of rocks, caves, mountain formations, volcanoes, erosion*
- **Seasonal Ecology** *observe seasonal changes and its impact on plants & animals*
- **Skins and Skulls** *mammal furs and skulls, mammal adaptations*
- **Tracks in the Mud** *tracking mammals*
- **Traveling Seeds** *fall native plants and their seed dispersal*
- **Tree-mendous Plants** *seed dispersal, parts of a tree, build a tree activity*
- **Water Everywhere** *water cycle; introduction to watersheds & wetlands*
- **Wildflowers Blooming** *parts of a wildflower, plant life cycle, spring wildflowers*

Outreach Programs are available for many of these topics. These lessons are 1 hour long with a \$45/class fee, plus a mileage charge to travel outside of Meridian Township.