



Harris Nature Center

Home 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*
- **Amazing Amphibians** *amphibian adaptations; includes live animals*
- **Amazing Annelids** *identifying annelids, their adaptations and life cycle*
- **Aquatic Herps** *aquatic reptiles & amphibians, adaptations and identification*
- **Autumn Countdown** *animals preparing for winter; includes live animals*
- **Balancing an Ecosystem** *food web, habitats, basic life needs, survival adaptations*
- **Beavers in Michigan** *American Beaver; adaptations, characteristics and habitat*
- **Bird Watching** *using binoculars, identifying key ID characteristics, bird walk*
- **Birds, Nests & Eggs** *types of feathers, egg parts, beak adaptations, nest varieties*
- **Camo Critters** *types of camouflage; includes live animals*
- **Dichotomous Keys** *learn to use a dichotomous key on skulls & trees; create your own*
- **Fiddleheads & Ferns** *nonflowering plants, fern identification and live cycle*
- **Fir Evergreen** *coniferous trees, life cycles and conifer ID*
- **Fossil Puzzle** *fossils, how they form, Michigan fossils*
- **Fungus Among Us** *mushrooms and lichens*
- **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 Woodpeckers** *Different species of local, Michigan woodpeckers*
- **Mineral Survey** *minerals, how they form rocks, hardness test, geodes*
- **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*
- **Predators & their Lunch** *predatory animals, adaptations for hunting, food web*
- **Predators of the Sky** *Birds of Prey: owls, hawks, eagles, falcons; includes live hawks*
- **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*
- **Snow Science** *why is there snow, different types of snowflakes*
- **Songs of Songbirds** *Michigan songbirds, identifying them by song*
- **Squirrels of Michigan** *Michigan squirrel species, their adaptations & life cycles*
- **Tracks in the Mud** *mammal tracks identification & other signs of mammals*
- **Traveling Seeds** *fall native plants and their seed dispersal*
- **Tree-mendous Plants** *seed dispersal, parts of a tree, build a tree activity*
- **Turtles of Michigan** *Michigan turtle species, adaptations, includes live animals*
- **Water Everywhere** *water cycle; introduction to watersheds & wetlands*
- **Wildflowers Blooming** *parts of a wildflower, plant life cycle, pollination, nature walk*
- **Wonderful Waterfowl** *ducks, geese and swans, identification and adaptations*