PICTURE BOOK SCIENCE KITS

Checking out a classroom kit will provide you and your students access to a variety of science and literacy activities and materials to enhance your language arts learning. Each kit includes at least two narrative picture books on a grade-specific science topic. Accompanying these two books are a science activity that provides authentic experiences to be drawn upon for connections to class reading activities as well as suggested writing activities. Classroom kit fees are $10 for two weeks or free when scheduled with a field trip.

Biomimicry

Biomimicry is the creation of inventions inspired by nature. This kit features the narrative picture book Going Places by Peter and Paul Reynolds as an introduction to the process of invention and how it can be informed and inspired by nature. Materials are included for your students to experience Burdock seed dispersal and how that plant inspired the invention of Velcro.

Food Chains

This kit features the narrative picture book Pass the Energy, Please! by Barbara Shaw McKinney as an introduction to the exchange of energy in food chains. Materials are provided for students to experience the movement of energy through a role-playing game, experiencing the perspective of plants, rabbits, and foxes.

Magnets

This kit features the narrative picture book Magnet Max by Monica Lozano Hughes as an introduction to magnets and how a little boy discovers their unique power through experimentation. Horseshoe magnets are included for your students to experiment for themselves with man-made and nature-made materials.

Weathering and Erosion

This kit features the narrative picture book Do You Really Want to Create a Mudslide? by Daniel D. Maurer as an introduction to the concepts of weathering, erosion, and how natural processes can affect humans. Materials are provided for students to analyze aerial photographs and the changes in a local landscape over time.
**AT HOME WITH NATURE PROGRAM**

At Home with Nature is a program designed to supplement science and history homeschool education through fun, interactive, hands-on activities. Each series consists of three programs, all held outdoors. Students ages 5-12 will be divided into groups based on their age. Each session is limited to 30 students, with students divided into two groups.

At Home with Nature runs Tuesdays from 10-11:30 am or 1-2:30 pm. Below is the 2022-23 schedule:

**Early Fall Series: Plants**  
Sep 20  Wildflowers  
Oct 4  Seed Dispersal  
Oct 18  Plant Classification

**Late Fall Series: Nature’s Cycles**  
Nov 1  Energy Cycles (Food Chains)  
Nov 15  Water Cycle  
Nov 29  Life Cycles

**Early Winter Series: Nature of the Night**  
Jan 17  Moon and Stars  
Jan 31  Owls  
Feb 14  Nocturnal Mammals

**Late Winter Series: Michigan History**  
Feb 28  Natural Resource Use by Indigenous Peoples  
Mar 14  Fur Trade  
Apr 4  Archeology

Chippewa Nature Center follows guidance issued by the Midland County Health Department regarding COVID-19. Contact Jenn Kirts, Director of Programs, at jkirts@chippewanaturecenter.org for questions or current protocol.

*Topics may shift within the series due to weather or other conditions.*

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**AT HOME WITH NATURE SERIES COSTS**

Each series is $20 per student and $18 for each additional sibling. (CNC members: $16 per student, $14.40 for each additional sibling.)

Series must be registered for as a package, and missed sessions cannot be made up or refunded. Individual sessions will be cancelled due to weather or program restrictions at CNC’s discretion. Sessions cancelled by CNC will be refunded.

**REGISTRATION BEGINS AUGUST 15, 2022**  
Register on the CNC website at [chippewanaturecenter.org/school-programs](http://chippewanaturecenter.org/school-programs)

- Pre-registration is required at least one week before the start of the series.
- A complete health form must be on file.
- Sessions will take place outdoors unless weather conditions are unfavorable.

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**TRAVELING TRUNKS**

Checking out a trunk will provide you and your family access to a variety of activities and materials to enhance learning. From furs and skulls, to 1870s games, to replica tools of indigenous people, learning will come alive when you bring a trunk home. Trunk fees are $25 for two weeks and are available by filling out the School Program Request Form at [www.chippewanaturecenter.org/school-programs](http://www.chippewanaturecenter.org/school-programs)

**Animal Classification**  
This trunk includes mammal furs, bird feathers, a turtle shell, snake skin and a rubber fish to compare the outer coverings of most vertebrate animal groups. Also included in the trunk are hands-on lessons to aid educators in teaching classification of animals based on observable characteristics.

**Furs & Skulls**  
Grade: K-8  
Included in this trunk are the skulls and furs to compare carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Skulls and furs of a coyote, raccoon, rabbit, beaver and deer are in the trunk. Also included are activity and identification guides.

**Homestead Life**  
Grade: K-5  
Use this Traveling Trunk to discover how indigenous people interacted with natural resources a thousand years ago. Reproduction items include an arrow, stone drill, stone point and stone knife. Among other items, the trunk also includes a brain tanned hide, beaver pelt, fire making kit and baskets.

**Rocks and Minerals**  
Grade: K-8  
Filled with samples of igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks as well as many samples of minerals, this trunk enables educators to bring geology to life in the classroom. The kit includes a set of minerals and testing supplies to do basic mineral testing for identification purposes. Activity supplies and outlines are provided.

**Weather**  
Grade: K-8  
This trunk includes activities focusing on weather data collection, interpretation, seasons, and climates. Packed inside the trunk are data collection tools including: thermometers, wind meters, rain gauges and cloud viewers. Also included are directions and materials for hands-on activities such as seasonal hikes, an extreme Michigan weather game, weather puppets, forecasting magnets and more.

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**Natural Resource Use of Michigan’s Indigenous People**  
Grade: 3-7  
Use this Traveling Trunk to discover how indigenous people interacted with natural resources a thousand years ago. Reproduction items include an arrow, stone drill, stone point and stone knife. Among other items, the trunk also includes a brain tanned hide, beaver pelt, fire making kit and baskets.

**Invasive Species**  
Grade: 3-8  
This trunk includes activities focusing on identification of invasive exotic species, management, the impact exotic species have on ecosystems and more. It’s packed full of hands-on lessons, pictures, books, videos and posters!

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**Plants**  
Grade: K-8  
This trunk includes activities focusing on plant needs, habitats, parts, heredity, life cycles, seeds and pollination. Included are materials and directions for hands-on activities ranging from dichotomous keys to pollination flag tag. Also included are cross sections of different species of trees and samples of seeds.

**Invasive Species**  
Grade: 3-8  
This trunk includes activities focusing on identification of invasive exotic species, management, the impact exotic species have on ecosystems and more. It’s packed full of hands-on lessons, pictures, books, videos and posters!