

# The Dawes Arboretum's Teacher Resources



The Dawes Arboretum  
Trees ∞ History ∞ Nature



## School Field Trip Investigations

The Dawes Arboretum offers a variety of educational programs to engage young learners. Each field trip has its own unique characteristics and engages your students in hands-on learning taught by our professional educators and trained naturalists. We offer several individual studies in an assortment of formats and locations:

- Worms and Friends—Nature's Recyclers
- Pond Investigations
- Beautiful Birds
- Nature Exploration Hike
- Wildlife CSI
- Incredible Insects

**Groups of up to 30 students**—An individual one-hour investigation of your choice at the Zand Education Center. \$3 per student.



**Groups of up to 80 students**—Four investigations offered within a two-hour session conducted at the Red Barn Area. Program includes: *Pond Investigation*, *Incredible Insects*, *Beautiful Birds* and *Wildlife CSI*. \$5 per student.

**Groups of up to 120 students**—Three investigations offered within a two-hour session at the Zand Education Center. Program includes: *Pond Investigation*, *Wildlife CSI* and *Nature Exploration Hike*. \$5 per student.

## Traditional Science Days

This program, only offered in the month of May, is an immersion in all things natural! In the month prior to your trip, Arboretum educators train parent volunteers to serve as guides and instructors. All lesson materials and specimens are provided to ensure a successful experience. Taught in rotation, subject matter is divided into five units: mammals, birds, water life, insects and reptiles. It is a full day of stimulating outdoor education at our Red Barn Area. \$2 per student.

## Dawes on the Go: Outreach Programs

Several of our most popular field trip programs are designed for school outreach and have the ability to be conducted at your school or facility. This is a great way to provide quality, hands-on STEM education without the transportation costs and time away from the classroom. Investigations included in the Dawes on the Go program are: *Worms and Friends—Nature's Recyclers*, *Beautiful Birds* and *Wildlife CSI*. Each program is 60 minutes. \$5 per student.

The **Ohio Revised Content Standards in Science (PreK – 5)** are complimented in all of our education program offerings. Students will routinely use scientific inquiry and applications as they apply to the Life Science Strand. Programs may be used to meet Student Learning Objectives (SLO) in your school district. Grade Band Themes for grades PreK – 5 are incorporated within each of the offered programs. Pre-visit resources for the classroom are included and will be emailed with registration materials.

# School Field Trip Investigations

Over 12 miles of hiking trails and a four-mile Auto Tour help guide you through over 1,800 acres of plant collections, gardens and natural areas at The Dawes Arboretum. With so many outdoor educational opportunities, it's the perfect place to explore nature!

## PreK - Grade 5

### Worms and Friends—Nature's Recyclers\*

Students conduct a scientific investigation to discover the interconnected world of decomposers and the forest. This program begins in the classroom with some background on worm anatomy and habits and concludes outdoors with an exploration of their natural habitat. Open up the worm bin, roll over a rotting log and dig into learning about nature's recyclers and their amazing impact on our world!

### Nature Exploration Hike

Hike an Arboretum trail with one of our knowledgeable interpretive guides. Experience a forest or garden first hand as you: develop an understanding of diverse ecosystems; learn about maple syrup production; explore seasonal changes or notice the life cycles of local animals and plants. Hikes can be tailored to your group's specific educational needs.

### Pond Investigation

Students use field guides, nets and magnification tools to explore the variety of organisms that call a pond their home. The group collects, organizes and analyzes data to gain a better understanding of life cycles and interrelationships in this complex and fascinating ecosystem. In this field investigation, learning comes alive!

### Incredible Insects

Students discover the world of insects first hand as they review: anatomy; basic needs; life cycles; behaviors and the role insects play in the ecosystem. Collecting insects with nets and observing them with bug boxes is all part of this engaging, hands-on science study.

### Beautiful Birds\*

Birds have basic needs and a variety of adaptations that help them survive in their particular environment. Specialized beaks, feet, feathers and colors are examined using active games, preserved specimens and access to our beautiful bird watching garden. Characteristics of common Ohio birds, food webs and the role of birds of prey are essential elements of this engaging program.

### Wildlife CSI\*

The wild animals that share our environment are not always visible to us. Why is it important to read an animal's clues? This hands-on inquiry focuses on the wildlife that commonly live in Ohio. Concentration on behavior, habitat, diet and the role of animals in a larger ecosystem make this a well-rounded learning experience. Become a wildlife detective and solve a wildlife mystery!

*\*Also offered as a Dawes on the Go outreach program. Please call 740.323.2355 for additional information or to schedule a unique program to meet your needs.*



## Our Education Facilities

*School programs are offered at two distinctive locations designed to enhance the learning experience for your students.*

### Zand Education Center

This newly remodeled facility is adjacent to a learning garden, the Tripp Higgins Pond and lush display gardens. This location offers easy access to many of The Arboretum's trails, shelters and collections on main grounds.

### Red Barn Area

A natural outdoor classroom for all ages, the Red Barn Area offers meadows, a pond with boardwalk, a wetland, wooded areas and a rustic barn for group lunches or indoor activities.

## Contact:

Email [information@dawesarb.org](mailto:information@dawesarb.org)  
or call 740.323.2355 ext. 1226



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Located 35 miles east of Columbus on Ohio Route 13, The Arboretum is three miles north of I-70 (exit 132) and five miles south of Newark.

