

2018-2019 Outdoor Homeschool Program

Project-based science education for students ages 7-12

Students will spend their days at Great Hollow exploring the natural world through project-based environmental education activities, games, hikes, and animal encounters. Each season is structured around a group project and individual projects. Mornings will be spent engaging in activities directly related to our group project, while afternoons will be dedicated to individual projects and self-directed nature play and exploration.

Fall Projects: Great Hollow Field Guide (group), Autumn Tree Study (individual)

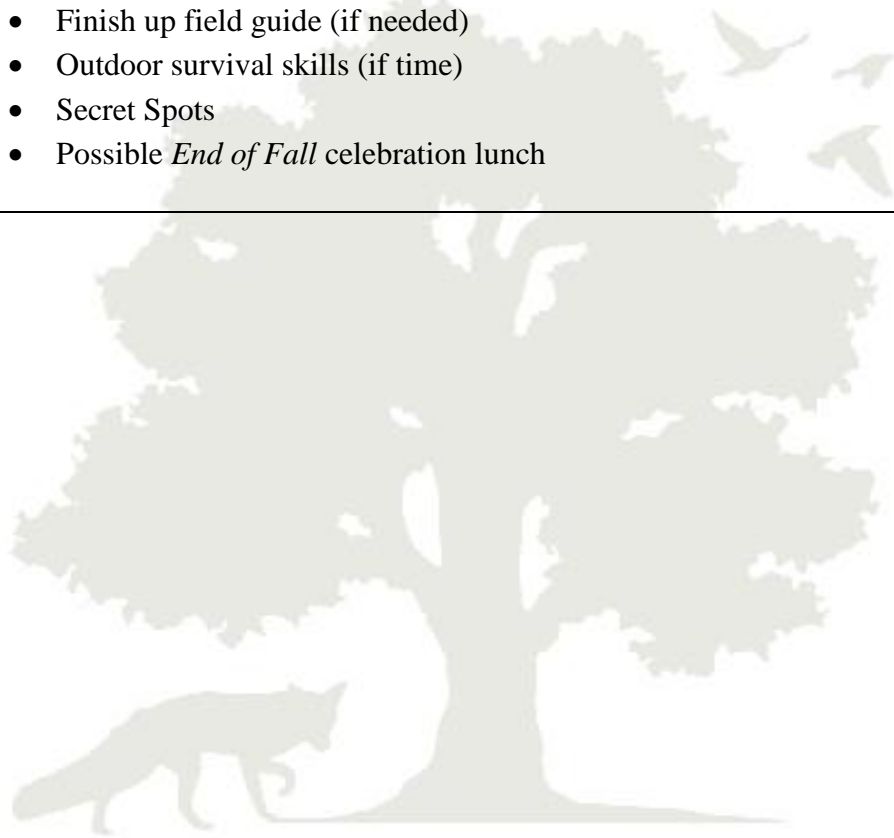
Winter Projects: TBD in collaboration with students

Spring Projects: TBD in collaboration with students

Date	Plan
9/17/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to the fall program—name games, program rules and logistics, discussion on what we want to learn, intro to our field guide group project and tree study individual projects, importance of being aware and strengthening observation skills• Journals and exploration pouches• Secret Spots (sit spots)—choose spots, safety guidelines
9/24/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dichotomous keys• Field guides• Journal entries vs. scientific recordings• Choose tree for tree study project, complete 1st observation• Harvest Moon (it's tonight!)• Secret Spots
10/1/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local birds—their calls, behaviors, colorations, silhouettes• Binocular use• Sound maps• Tree observation• Secret Spots
10/8/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local trees• How leaves change color

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reason for the seasons • Migration • Tree observation • Secret Spots
10/15/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Useful local plants—for eating and making things (black walnut, wild grape, cattail, tulip poplar, sassafras, oak, hickory, etc.) • Native vs. non-native species • Plant harvesting, craft • Tree observation • Secret Spots
10/22/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local mammals, reptiles, and amphibians • How they prep for winter • Tree observation • Secret Spots
10/29/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local FBI (fungi, bacteria, invertebrates) • FBI's role in decomposition • Food chains, trophic levels • Tree observation • Secret Spots
11/5/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps • Cardinal directions • Basic compass use • Tree observation • Secret Spots
11/12/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose focus(es) for field guide—birds, trees, useful plants, FBI, all, other? • Decide on bonus content for guide—<i>About Great Hollow</i>, <i>About Us</i>, <i>Our Map of Great Hollow</i>, etc. • Tree observation • Secret Spots
11/19/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection for field guide • Tree observation • Secret Spots
11/26/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection for field guide • Final tree observation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secret Spots
12/3/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct field guide • Secret Spots
12/10/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct field guide, cont. • Secret Spots
12/17/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish up field guide (if needed) • Outdoor survival skills (if time) • Secret Spots • Possible <i>End of Fall</i> celebration lunch



Great Hollow
 Nature Preserve & Ecological Research Center