



Great Hollow

Nature Preserve & Ecological Research Center



EDUCATION PROGRAM CATALOG



WELCOME

Great Hollow is pleased to offer onsite educational programs for school and youth groups ranging from pre-k to 8th grade at our 825-acre nature preserve in New Fairfield, CT. All programs include engaging activities that illustrate scientific themes and concepts. Multiple programs can be scheduled for the same trip, and we are always happy to customize programming to meet particular needs and interests.

SCHEDULE A PROGRAM

Onsite programs are two hours long and held primarily outdoors. Offsite programs can either be one hour indoor sessions or two hour outdoor sessions, if there is a suitable natural area on your grounds. Programs must be scheduled at least four weeks in advance. Please contact us with any questions or to schedule a program for your group.

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PRICING

Pricing begins at \$10/student for onsite programs and \$12/student for programs delivered on location at area schools. Minimum group size is 10 students and the maximum group size at any one time is 30. Please provide one adult chaperone per 10 students; there is no charge for adult chaperones or teachers.

CANCELLATION POLICY

There is no charge for programs canceled more than 48 hours in advance or for cancellations due to weather-related school closings. A \$50 fee will be assessed for all other cancellations.



Adaptations

ALL GRADES

Adaptations – Owls

Why do owls have sharp beaks? Why do they turn their heads almost completely around? How can they fly without making a sound? In this program students will get to meet one of our owl ambassadors, observe our birds of prey, and learn about the specialized physical traits and behaviors that owls and other species of birds have to help them survive in their habitats. *This program can only be done onsite at Great Hollow with groups of 20 students or less.*

Adaptations – Turtles & Other Herpetiles

Why do turtles have hard shells? Where do they live? Are they really that slow? In this program students will get to meet one of our turtle ambassadors, observe their behavior, and learn about the specialized physical traits and behaviors that turtles and other herpetiles have to help them survive in their habitats.

NGSS: 1-LS1-2; 2-LS4-1; 3-LS3-1; 3-LS4-2; 3-LS4-3; 3-LS4-4;

Biomimicry

GRADES 1-8

Did you know that VELCRO was invented by a man who noticed something peculiar when he took his dog for a walk? George de Mestral created the hook and loop fasteners after he noticed burdock seeds stuck on his dog's fur coat and his own wool socks. Through hands-on activities students will learn about biomimicry, an innovative method of problem solving that looks to the natural world for solutions to human challenges.

NGSS: 1-LS1-1; 2-LS2-2; 4-LS1-1; 4-ESS3-2; MS-LS4



Forest Ecology

GRADES 3-8

Students will hike Great Hollow's trails to explore the relationships between organisms and their forest habitat. By engaging in hands-on activities students will learn about the biotic and abiotic factors in a forest ecosystem, the adaptations of forest organisms, symbiotic relationships, and energy transfer through the trophic levels.

NGSS: 5-PS3-1; 5-LS2-1; MS-LS2-1; MS-LS2-2; MS-LS2-3; MS-LS2-4



Stream Ecology

GRADES 4-8

Students will determine the health of a stream ecosystem by engaging in biological sampling of macroinvertebrates and chemical testing of the water. Topics covered include biotic and abiotic factors of a stream ecosystem, water quality, biological indicator species, bioaccumulation, direct vs. indirect observation, and the effects of pollution on stream ecosystems.

NGSS: 4-LS1-1; 5-LS2-1; 5-ESS3-1; MS-LS1-4; MS-LS1-5; MS-LS2-1; MS-LS2-3; MS-LS2-4; MS-LS2-5; MS-ESS3-3



Winter Ecology

All Grades

Students will hike Great Hollow's trails to learn about the relationship between living things and their winter environments. Topics covered include winter adaptation, migration, and tracking animal prints in the snow (weather permitting).

NGSS: K-LS1-1; K-ESS2-2; K-ESS3-1; 4-LS1-1; 5-LS2-1; MS-LS1-4; MS-LS2-1; MS-LS2-2

Hiker Safety & First Aid

All Grades

Students will learn the basics of first aid and hiking safety such as what to wear, what to pack, and how to be found if lost. Students will hike into the woods and try their hand at emergency shelter building. For an additional \$4/student we can include a first aid kit activity where students will be able to make and bring home their own kits.

NGSS: K-LS1-1; 3-LS2-1; 3-LS4-3; 4-LS1-2





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