

Making the Grade: School Program Menu for 2nd Grades 2018-2019



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The following is a list of presentations offered to second grade classes in Jasper County. This is not a complete list, and for other options or questions about a program, please contact the naturalists. We work with teachers to fit our programming with their curriculum!

- All programs are free and materials will be provided unless otherwise noted.
- Although descriptions are for in-class, all programs can be adapted for outdoor locations.
- Please call or email at least 2 weeks in advance to guarantee your desired day and time.
- Plan for 30-40 minutes per program.
- Have your students come up with a list of questions for the naturalists before the scheduled program time.

Fall Programs (September-November)

Design a Pollinator

Learn about plant parts and life cycles, pollination, and how animals interact with the plant community. Students will discover that pollinators have adapted their mouth parts to collect nectar from specific types of flowers. We will use this information to create pollinator "mouths" that the students will use to find the correct flower shape for nectar collection and pollination.



***2-LS2-2**

Diary of a Fly

The story by Doreen Cronin will be read to the class, followed by a review of what insects are and some of their adaptations, focusing on some of the really cool things flies do! Each student will take on the perspective of a fly to write a first-person journal entry for "a day in the life of..." as a fly.

***W.2.1, W.2.3**



Pond Creatures

Students will be introduced to some common, yet very strange, creatures found in Iowa ponds. Using books, pictures, and models, the naturalist will explain life cycles and adaptations of fish, frogs, dragonflies, turtles and beavers. We will create a pond food web and depending on time allowed, students will design individual habitats or work together on a large classroom mural.

***2-LS4-1**



Winter Programs (December-February)

Everybody Needs a Home

Students compare their basic needs (food, water, shelter and space) and generalize that wildlife and other animals have similar basic needs. Similarities and differences between animal homes and our neighborhoods will be explored. We will also brainstorm how pollution and disturbance can alter habitats and what we can do to help.

***2-LS4-1, 2, ESS2-2**

Soil Science

A discussion on what soil is, how it forms and why it is so important (and fascinating!) will be led with the class. A demonstration will be presented on the 3 components of soil and their properties (sand, silt, clay). Students will learn about problems in Iowa with soil erosion and will brainstorm ways to solve those problems.

***2-ESS1-1**



Endangered, Extinct, Extirpated

Students will learn why we classify animals into these groups and what that means. We will focus on past and present animals in Iowa, recognizing the diversity of species impacted. Students will learn some success stories in Iowa, when animals were taken off the endangered species list, and why this occurred.

***2-LS4-1**



Spring Programs (March-April)

Water Water Everywhere

The amount of water on Earth will be demonstrated to the class and we will review the water cycle through a diagram and cloud experiment. Students will follow a raindrop through the water cycle in an interactive game; no two drops will follow the same path. A discussion of problems in Iowa with water pollution and erosion will be led. Students will then brainstorm ways we can help protect our waterways. At the end of the program, students will begin a creative writing project that tells their raindrop's journey.

***2-PS1-4, 2-ESS2-3**



Habitats Field Trip

Jacob Krumm Nature Preserve on the eastern edge of Jasper County offers a variety of different habitats to explore. Students will have a chance to discover the diversity of plants and animals that live within the lake, forest, and prairie while participating in a variety of different activities.

***2-LS2-1, 2-LS2-2, 2-LS4-1, 2-ESS1-1, 2-ESS2-2**

