

Field Trip Program- Wet and Wild

At The North Carolina Arboretum

Get ready for a wet and wild time! Children will learn about life cycles and the needs of insects, fish and amphibians by exploring outdoors and examining the environments in which they live. Ecosystem concepts will be explored as we discuss how plants and animals fit into an aquatic food chain. A “creek walk” in knee-deep water enables ecology to come alive for students as they use nets and magnifying boxes to capture everything from minnows to dragonfly nymphs.



Principles:

- Many insects are aquatic in their larval or nymph form, and are terrestrial as adults after undergoing a metamorphosis.
- There are differences in different species of aquatic animals, as well as in individuals of the same species.
- The presence of aquatic insects in a stream provides insight into water quality, which may be impacted by human activity.

Duration: 1.5 hours

Cost: \$6.00 per student/parent chaperone. Teachers with the school are free. Payment should be given to the instructor at the start of the program. A second program can be booked at a cost of an additional \$3.00 per student.

Months Offered: September to mid-November, mid-March to May.

NC Science Essential Standards:

Second Grade: 2.L.1, 2.L.2, 2.L.2.1

Starting Location: In front of the **Education Center with your bus** at the program start time (either 9:30 am or 12:00 pm) set upon booking the program. Groups arriving early may enjoy the property and facilities. Only school groups that have pre-registered for an exhibit visit may enter the exhibits at the Baker Exhibit Center.

What do my students need?

Students should wear clothing that is appropriate for the weather. In addition, students must be ready to enter the creek at the beginning of the program. Sandals or old tennis shoes may be worn in the creek (not flip flops!). A change of clothing is recommended. Students with physical disabilities or limitations are capable of participating in the creek walk, but the instructor should be told prior to day of the program to make any special arrangements.

Want to schedule this program? Contact Michelle Pearce, Youth Education Coordinator, at mpearce@ncarboretum.org or (828) 665-2492 ext. 624