

Field Trip Program: Habitats and Adaptations

At the North Carolina Arboretum

Investigate the habitat and adaptations of our state reptile, the Eastern Box Turtle! Learn about the changes that occur to their habitats (both good and bad) and how humans share space with these animals. Practice research techniques used by box turtle conservationists to measure, weigh, name, and even find out how old they are. Put your own adaptations to the test in a hiding game to camouflage in the woods like a box turtle, and go on a hike to see just how well these animals thrive in their habitats.

Principles:

- Changes to an organism's habitat can be either naturally occurring (seasonal change, natural disasters) or man-made (habitat loss/gain, pollution).
- Changes in a habitat can be harmful, beneficial, both, or neither.
- Animals use either behavioral or physical adaptations to survive.
- Humans can help with conservation efforts by participating in citizen science.



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-December, February-May.

NC Science Essential Standards:

Fourth Grade- 4.L.1.1, 4.L.1.2, 4.L.1.4

Starting Location: In front of the **Education Center** 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. A majority of the program will take place outdoors, so students, teachers and adult chaperones should wear sturdy footwear. Students with physical disabilities or limitations are capable of participating in the 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