



YMCA CAMP Y-KODA

OUTDOOR SKILLS & EDUCATION

Outdoor and Environmental Education Brochure

Learning about the natural world "...indoors is inherently different from 'being' in the outdoors. The moment you step outside and are receptive, you will receive different answers to questions, an increase in your sensory and inner life, all because the whole field of your experience is now larger and more complex. You are no longer within four walls but a component within a larger biological and ecological system."

John Cree and Marina Robb

DEAR TEACHERS,

Thank you for considering an environmental education program with Camp Y-Koda Outdoor Skills and Education. We offer a wide variety of high quality environmental education programs for students of all ages at a variety of locations including Camp Y-Koda, Maywood Environmental Park, the Sheboygan County Marsh, Kiel Marsh and Deland Park Beach. If you can't make it to us, we can bring nature to your classroom.

We believe that the best learning experiences are those designed to reinforce concepts being learned in the classroom. Therefore we will work with you to select and modify programs as needed to meet all of your student's needs. We also believe that environmental education is at its best when it is integrated and infused across curriculum, rather than being treated as a separate discipline or subject area. Our programs are designed around state and national standards and reflect best practices created by the North American Association of Environmental Education.

Our field experiences are designed around our local environment because we believe that the importance of where one lives is relevant to learning. Close to home - place based education encourages learners to form connections with, explore and understand their immediate surroundings. The knowledge and skills needed for this local connection provides a foundation for further examination of larger systems, bigger issues and an expanding understanding of the natural world and its complexities.

Our experiences are designed to be rooted in the real world so that learners have opportunities to be curious about careers in science and to allow development of knowledge and skills through direct experience with the environment and its issues.

Contact us to discuss what we can do for you and your students. We are your partner in education.

Sincerely,

Sarah

Sarah Dezwarte, M.S. Ed
Director of Education
Sheboygan County YMCA
Camp Y-Koda Outdoor Skills and Education

WHY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT

Tomorrow's leaders need to be equipped for tomorrow's challenges, and we must adequately prepare our children for the future they will inherit. That requires a commitment to providing children with environmental education that helps them become the educated thought leaders of tomorrow. It also means supporting teachers and caregivers as they engage their children in outdoor studies and environmental issues.

Raising an environmentally literate generation of problem solvers will help ensure that tomorrow's decision-makers are prepared for the challenges they will likely face. Studies have shown environmental education engages students in learning, raising test scores and encouraging youth to pursue careers in environmental and natural resources.

BENEFITS OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION (EE)

Research suggests that environmental education brings a slew of benefits to students. A few key findings include:

- **Studying EE Creates Enthusiastic Students, Innovative Teacher-Leaders:** EE offers opportunities for rich, hands-on, real world and relevant learning across the curriculum (Archie, 2003).
- **EE Helps Build Critical Thinking and Relationship Skills:** Environment-based education emphasizes specific critical thinking skills central to "good science" - questioning, investigating, forming hypotheses, interpreting data, analyzing, developing conclusions and solving problems (Archie, 2003).
- **EE Instructional Strategies Help Foster Leadership Qualities:** Environmental education emphasizes cooperative learning (i.e., working in teams or with partners), critical thinking and discussion, hands-on activities and a focus on action strategies with real-world applications (NAAEE & NEETF, 2001).
- **Self-Control/Self Discipline Benefits for Children with ADD:** Taylor and her colleagues found that children with attention-deficit disorder (ADD) benefited from more exposure to nature; the greener a child's everyday environment, the more manageable are the symptoms of ADD (Taylor, 2001).
- **Increased Focus/Improved Cognition:** Wells observed that proximity to nature, access to views of nature and daily exposure to natural settings increases the ability of children to focus and improves cognitive abilities (Wells, 2000).
- **Health Benefits:** At the school environment level, Bell and Dymont observed that children who experience school grounds or play areas with diverse natural settings are more physically active, more aware of good nutrition, more creative and more civil to one another (Bell, 2006).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Field experiences are available year-round. See the time of year recommendations on each page. Programs run rain or shine, so encourage students to dress in layers for all kinds of weather. Our philosophy is that there is no bad weather, only bad clothes. **Please see the included "How to Dress for the Weather" on page 16.** Bug spray, sunscreen, hats/sunglasses, water bottles and ponchos are recommended.

OUR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GOALS

- Promote responsible stewardship of our environment.
- Provide high quality hands-on education.
- Provide meaningful, developmentally appropriate learning opportunities for all learners.
- Foster a climate and culture of wonder and exploration that leads to asking questions and seeking evidence to answer questions.
- Provide learning experiences that support and reinforce classroom curricula.
- Design programs that are place based, local and aligned to standards and best practices in education.

CURRICULUM

All curriculum is aligned to the following standards:

- Wisconsin Model Academic Standards
- Common Core State Standards
- Next Generation Science Standards
- Wisconsin State Standards for Environmental Literacy and Sustainability

SCHOOL PROGRAM OPTIONS

- Field experiences at Camp Y-Koda, Maywood Environmental Park, the Sheboygan County Marsh, Kiel Marsh and Deland Park Beach.
- Outreach programs at your school.
- After-school programs at your school.
- Professional development opportunities for adults and teachers.
- District partnerships - we work with administrators to develop custom year-round programming.
- Service projects (invasive species removal, water quality testing, clean-up projects, citizen science).
- Special events for scouts, 4-H and other community clubs and groups.

CHAPERONES

All school groups must be accompanied by a classroom teacher as well as responsible chaperones. Our recommendation is 4 chaperones per 15-20 students. Chaperones are an important part of our field experience so please select chaperones who will be an asset to the program. Before leaving your school, please review the guidelines with students and parent chaperones. Parents and staff attending field trips as designated chaperones **should expect to actively support the learning process. The first 16 chaperones are free. After 16, fees apply at the student rate.**

We ask that chaperones:

- Dress for the weather.
- Leave cell phones and other electronics in their car.
- Assist with lunch.
- Help with supervision of children.
- Be enthusiastic learners.

RESERVATIONS

Please contact Sarah Dezwarte, Director of Education at sdezwarde@sheboygancountymca.org to make a program reservation. All reservations must be made via email.

To make a reservation, the following information is needed:

1. Number of students/participants.
2. Grade level of students/participants.
3. Modifications needed for special education students.
4. Two or three potential dates for the program.
5. Field experience name, location and activity selections (if applicable).

CONFIRMATION AND INVOICING

Confirmation will be sent via email. The invoice will come via email from Seth Cutright, Education Assistant. If you have questions or have not received your invoice, please contact Seth at scutright@sheboygancountymca.org. Invoices must be paid 14 days prior to your field experience.

WEATHER

We are a rain or shine field experience because we feel that children need to understand the importance of dressing for all kinds of weather. However, we believe in the power of the positive experience. We understand that not all students have equal opportunity to outdoor gear. Therefore, if the weather is severe, Sarah Dezwarte will contact you to discuss cancellation, rescheduling or program modifications for your group.

"Sunshine is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind braces us up, and snow is exhilarating; there is no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather."

- John Ruskin

Please plan to arrive no more than 15 minutes prior to the start of your scheduled field experience. Our staff will greet you at the planned start time of your scheduled field trip (if you arrive early, staff will still be setting up the program.) If you arrive early, please patiently wait with your students outside so that you are not disturbing other field experiences or programs that may be in progress.

FUNDING RESOURCES

Sponsor a Classroom

Funds individuals that may not be able to afford field trip expenses.

Go Outside Fund

Wisconsin Natural Resources Foundation

Target

Target Field Trip Grants @ Target.com

Target will award 5000 field trip grants up to \$800 each during the school year.

Lowes Charitable Foundation

Lowes Grants @ Lowes.com/community

Administers grants to schools that provide outdoor, hands-on science education to students in grades K-12 and assists schools in enhancing their core curriculum in all subjects.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAMS	Programs at Your School	Page	Location	4K	5K	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Amphibians	6	Your School Classroom								
	Bats	6	Your School Classroom								
	Last Voyageur	6	Your School Classroom								
	Lumberjacks of WI	7	Your School Classroom								
	Mammals	7	Your School Classroom								
	Monarchs	7	Your School Classroom								
	Owls	7	Your School Classroom								
	Field Experiences	Page	Location	4K	5K	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Habitat Hikes	8	Maywood								
	Monarch Butterflies	8	Maywood								
	Plants and Bees	8	Maywood								
	Outdoor Education Field Trips	Page	Location	4K	5K	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Great Lakes Field Trip	9	Deland Park								
	Sappin' and Sawin'	9	Maywood								
	Aquatic Bug Lab	10	Camp Y-Koda								
	Archery	10	Camp Y-Koda								
	Birds	10	Camp Y-Koda								
	Boating on the Lake	10	Camp Y-Koda								
	Fossils	10	Camp Y-Koda								
	Frogs	10	Camp Y-Koda								
	Let's Go Camping	11	Camp Y-Koda								
	Mammals	11	Camp Y-Koda								
	Monarch Butterflies	11	Camp Y-Koda								
	Phenology Detectives Hike	11	Camp Y-Koda								
	Playground	11	Camp Y-Koda								
	Salamanders	11	Camp Y-Koda								
	Snakes	11	Camp Y-Koda								
	Survival Skills	11	Camp Y-Koda								

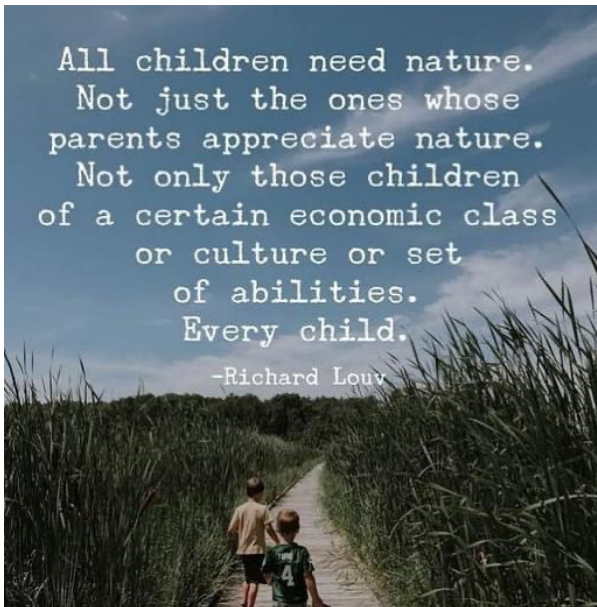
MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS	Programs at Your School	Page	Location	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Butterflies	10	Your School Classroom								
	Snake Ecology	10	Your School Classroom								
	Wolf Ecology Basics	10	Your School Classroom								
	Ecology Field Experiences	Page	Location	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Lake MI Ecology & Shipwreck Mapping	11	Deland Beach								
	Monarch Ecology	11	Camp Y-Koda								
	Wetland Ecology	11	Sheboygan Marsh or Kiel Marsh								
	Resident Outdoor Ecology Experience	11	Camp Y-Koda								
	Outdoor Adventure Day Field Trips	Page	Location	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Arachnology: the Rick	12	Camp Y-Koda								
	Archery	12	Camp Y-Koda								
	BB Gun	12	Camp Y-Koda								
	Canoeing and Kayaking	12	Camp Y-Koda								
	Climbing Wall	12	Camp Y-Koda								
	Compass Course	12	Camp Y-Koda								
	Geocaching 101	12	Camp Y-Koda								
	Insect Beat	12	Camp Y-Koda								
	Outdoor Survival	13	Camp Y-Koda								
	Team Building I & II	13	Camp Y-Koda								
	Recreation Field Trips	Page	Location	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Maywood Survival	14	Maywood								
	Team Challenge Series	14	Camp Y-Koda or Maywood								

CAMP Y-KODA OUTDOOR SKILLS & EDUCATION W3340 Sunset Road, Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

Camp Y-Koda is located on a beautiful 80-acre parcel just west of Sheboygan Falls. The property is bordered by the Sheboygan River to the north and east, has a three acre lake, wetlands, forests and more than five acres of prairie. Camp Y-Koda was founded in 1969 by the Sheboygan County YMCA and has offered summer camp experiences ever since. In 2001, Camp Y-Koda merged with the Outdoor Skills Center and officially became known as Camp Y-Koda Outdoor Skills and Education. The merger combined two organizations that shared the same passion of providing valuable outdoor experiences to youth, families and community members. Today, Camp Y-Koda is one of the premier summer day camps in the state, serving roughly 1900 campers each summer through more than 80 different camp choices. Camp doubles as a year-round, award-winning environmental education center serving more than 50 schools and tens of thousands of students annually.

MAYWOOD ENVIRONMENTAL PARK 3615 Mueller Road, Sheboygan, WI 53083

Maywood offers six diverse ecosystems including ponds, the Pigeon River, a maple forest and a prairie. In addition, there is an arboretum and a butterfly/hummingbird garden on its 135 acres, making it the perfect site for educational field trips. The Y-Koda Nature School 4K at Maywood is located at this site, as well as annual summer camp opportunities.



SHEBOYGAN COUNTY MARSH KOHLER CENTER FOR MARSH EDUCATION

W7039 County Road S R, Elkhart Lake, WI 53020
Sheboygan Marsh Wildlife Area lies in northwestern Sheboygan County just a mile west and north of Elkhart Lake. The area historically known as Sheboygan Marsh includes over 14,000 acres of land and surface water. It contains the largest restored wetland in the Wisconsin watersheds of Lakes Michigan and Superior. The marsh lies in Wisconsin's ecological tension zone. It is also located within the inter-lobate moraine that was deposited by glaciers 12,000 to 14,000 years ago during the Wisconsin Ice Age. Large areas of deep and shallow marshes, shrub swamps, lowland forests, wet meadows and upland grasslands (prairies) are the dominant ecosystems of the wildlife area. The Sheboygan River flows through the marsh and its waters are held back by a dam at the northeast corner of the marsh. The Sheboygan Marsh lies in a 133-square-mile watershed.

KIEL MARSH/HERMITAGE CONSERVATION CLUB N9426 State Road 67, Elkhart Lake, WI 53020

Kiel Marsh Wildlife Area is an 843-acre property located just south of the city of Kiel in east-central Wisconsin. The property lies at the junction of Sheboygan, Calumet and Manitowoc counties. The Sheboygan River meanders lazily for three miles through the entire length of the property. An extensive shallow water marsh of cattail and other emergent aquatic plants parallels the main river channel on both sides. Programs done at the Kiel Marsh are held on the Hermitage Conservation Club property.

DELAND PARK BEACH 715 Broughton Drive, Sheboygan, WI, 53081

Deland Park Beach is one of Sheboygan's many beaches on beautiful Lake Michigan. The beach was modified for human use and consists of soft sand from the water all the way to the sidewalk that borders the park. Recently, thanks to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, the beach is being restored to improve its health so that this rare ecosystem can once again support native flora and fauna.

HIGH SCHOOL	Field Experiences	Page	Location	9	10	11	12
	Amphibian Case Study	15	Camp Y-Koda				
	Ecosystem Tour	15	Maywood				
	Freshwater Mussel Ecology	15	Your School Classroom				
	Pollinators	15	Camp Y-Koda				
	Wetland Monitoring and Data Collection	15	Camp Y-Koda				
	Winter Twig ID	15	Camp Y-Koda				



We come to your school! The outreach classroom programs on page 6 are designed especially for your classroom.

We will send an environmental educator to your classroom to present a hands-on program to your students.

AMPHIBIANS

Grades..... 4K - 3
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$3.25 per Student
Limit..... 30 Students
When..... Year Round

Students will learn what it means to be an amphibian through an interactive PowerPoint presentation in the first part of this program. They will observe amphibian life cycles, and look at some of the amphibians living in Wisconsin and listen to their calls. One student will be dressed to look like a frog to demonstrate structure and function.

BATS

Grades..... 2 - 5
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$3.25 per Student
Limit..... 30 Students
When..... Year Round

Don't bat your eyes at this one! This program begins with an interactive PowerPoint presentation. During the presentation, students compare their skeletons to a bat's skeleton, view and discuss bat structure and function and learn about a few common bat myths. After the presentation, the students will take an up-close look at real bat skulls from the vampire bat, little brown bat, big brown bat and the fruit bat. The program will wrap up with a quick echolocation activity and finally an activity demonstrating how female bats find and care for their young in the pup-filled colony after a night out hunting for prey.

LAST VOYAGEUR

Grades..... 3 - 6
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$3.25 per Student
Limit..... 30 Students
When..... Year Round

Travel back in time to learn more about the fur trade and Native Americans during this time period. Students will look at commonly traded furs. One student will be dressed to look like a traditional fur trader from the 1600's.

LUMBERJACKS OF WISCONSIN

Grade 4
Length..... 1 ½ Hours
Fee \$4.00 per Student
Limit..... 30 Students
When..... Year Round, except May

How did Wisconsin become the state we see today? Lumberjacks largely influenced our history. Meet one of our lumberjacks as he shares life stories and shows some of the tools he used to make his living. Students will spend the first part of the time in the classroom, then go outside to learn about lumberjack tools and activities. This portion is hands-on.

MAMMALS

Grades..... 1 - 3
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$3.25 per Student
Limit..... 30 Students
When..... Year Round

Students will have the opportunity to take a close look at what mammals live here in Wisconsin. Some will be familiar while others are little known about. Students use the words herbivore, carnivore, omnivore, predator and prey during the "fur guessing game." A skull investigation will be posed to the students as they try to gather evidence to determine if various mammal skulls belong to an herbivore, carnivore or omnivore.



MONARCHS

Grades..... 1 - 3
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$3.25 per Student
Limit..... 30 Students
When..... July, August, September, Summer School

Join us as we explore why monarchs are insects, their life cycle and simulate the challenges of their long migration. Students will view monarch parts under a microscope as we move through stations.

OWLS

Grades..... 5K - 2
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$3.25 per Student
Limit..... 30 Students
When..... Year Round

Students will explore owl wings, skulls and talons hands-on. They will also learn about their structure and function. They will take a look at which owls live here in Wisconsin and compare sizes and their calls. During the last portion of the program, students become owl scientists as they ask the question "What do barn owls eat?" They will gather evidence as they dissect an owl pellet and match bones to a bone sorting chart.



LOCATIONS



Maywood



Deland Beach

FIELD EXPERIENCES

HABITAT HIKES

Grades..... 4K - 1

Length..... 1 ½ or 2 ½ Hours

Fee \$3.50 or \$4.50 per Student

Limit..... 60 Students

When..... Year Round



Habitat hikes are led by an environmental educator. Students will learn about at least two different habitats and some of the animals that live there. Habitat hikes are customizable based on your classroom curriculum. Hike themes change with the seasons.

MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

Grades..... 2 - 5

Length..... 2 ½ Hours

Fee \$4.50 per Student

Limit..... 60 Students

When..... September, October, Summer School



This field experience is available during the first week of September through the first week of October, the peak of Monarch migration. Students will move through stations to view live Monarchs, learn about their life cycle, dress up like a butterfly and use bubbles and nets to learn how to safely catch them. Students will learn how to identify milkweed, the main food source for Monarch caterpillars and learn about the challenges of their long migration.

PLANTS AND BEES

Grades..... 2 - 5

Length..... 2 ½ Hours

Fee \$4.50 per Student

Limit..... 60 Students

When..... September, October, May, June



Students will view plant parts through microscopes, learn how seeds travel and learn the buzz on bees. Students will also be able to view the educational bee hive with real bees.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION FIELD TRIPS

GREAT LAKES FIELD TRIP

Grade 3

Length..... 3 Hours

Fee \$6.00 per Student

Limit..... 60 Students

When..... September, October



As scientists, students will investigate the beach at Deland Park in Sheboygan looking for signs of a healthy ecosystem. They will also participate in several real-life science investigations, asking questions and defining problems along the way. This is a ½ day program.

SAPPIN' AND SAWIN'

Grade 4

Length..... 5 Hours

Fee \$7.25 per Student

Limit..... 60 Students

When..... March



This program combines Maywood's Maple Sugar Program with Camp Y-Koda's Lumberjacks of WI program! Students will rotate through both part 1 and 2 of the program between 9:30am and 1:45pm.

Part I: Maywood Maple Sugar Program

The Maywood Maple Sugar Program introduces students to Wisconsin's annual spring tradition of "sugaring." Ever since the Native Americans discovered the flow of sweet maple sap in early spring, people have made maple syrup. Students will learn the science behind the sap, and see an old time sugaring operation in use. In addition, students will learn firsthand how to tap a tree while building an understanding for proper care of our forests. However, tasting real syrup on pancakes during their Maywood visit has always been a favorite of students and teachers alike. Please note this portion can be done as a stand-alone program at \$4.25 per student for 2 -2 ½ hours depending on group size.

Part II: Lumberjacks of Wisconsin

How did Wisconsin become the state we see today? Lumberjacks largely influenced our history. Meet one of our lumberjacks as he shares life stories and shows some of the tools he used to make his living. Students will spend the first part of the time in the classroom, then go outside to learn about lumberjack tools and activities. This portion is hands-on. Students are encouraged to dress like lumberjacks for this field experience.

CAMP Y-KODA OUTDOOR EDUCATION FIELD TRIPS

Outdoor education field trips at Camp Y-Koda include four of the activities listed on pages 8 - 9. Review the list of options for students to build their own outdoor education day.



AQUATIC BUG LAB

Grade 4K - Grade 3

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 35 Students

When..... September - November, April - June

Explore with world of aquatic macro-invertebrates! Some aquatic macro-invertebrates spend their entire lives living in water, although many just live in the water when they are immature. As they reach maturity, larvae metamorphose and leave the water, spending their adult life on land. In many cases, the insects are adults for a very short time. Macro-invertebrates are very important because they provide food to many animals like fish, frogs, turtles, and each other.

We will spend our first 15 minutes playing a game called fish and bug. Here students will get an idea of how the predator prey relationship works between macro-invertebrates and their predators, but more importantly students will become experts in the hiding strategies macro-invertebrates use for survival from predators. Each student will be given a net and will search those hiding places in our lake to find as many macro-invertebrates as they can.

ARCHERY

Grade 2 - 3

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 35 Students

When..... September - November, April - June

Students will learn the parts of the bow and arrow. They will learn about safety and then proper shooting technique on a compound bow. The program will end with a short competition, time permitting.

BIRDS

Grade 4K - Grade 3

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 35 Students

When..... September - November, April - June

Together we will explore bird skulls. We will look at the structure and function and categorize each skull by its characteristics and physical adaptations. We will also look at various bird eggs, and learn a few birding basics using Wild Republic Plush birds. The activity will end with a brief silent sit to try to identify by sight and sound what kinds of birds inhabit our camp property.

BOATING ON THE LAKE

Grade 4K - Grade 3

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 35 Students

When..... September - November, April - June

Take a journey around our lake in one of our camp row boats! View painted turtles, Red-Winged Black Birds, fish and listen to frog calls. After exploring the lake by boat, build a sand castle on our beach, or carve an imaginary river in the sand. Our instructor will be your lifeguard so please plan to have 4-5 chaperones willing to row boats with students. Lifejackets are provided.

FOSSILS

Grade 4K - Grade 3

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 35 Students

When..... September - November, April - June

Fossils are evidence of remains of once-living plants or animals. They provide evidence of the past existence of a wide variety of life-forms, most of which have become extinct. The fossil record also provides evidence that populations have undergone change through response to changes in their environment. Students will spend a morning or afternoon as a paleontologist exploring molds and casts and sorting fossils, and then participate in a mini-fossil dig.

FROGS

Grade 4K - Grade 3

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 35 Students

When..... September - November, April - June

Frogs are one of the gateways to loving the outdoors! Catching a frog is sometimes a child's first interaction with nature. During this program students will explore structure and function of the frog including both physical and behavioral adaptations through a dress up activity. We will take a quick look at the frogs that live in Wisconsin and listen to a few of their calls. The program ends with a frog hunt! Students will learn how to catch frogs with nets without injuring the frog. Keep all hands free of bug spray for this activity!

**CAMP Y-KODA
OUTDOOR EDUCATION FIELD TRIPS**

Outdoor education field trips at Camp Y-Koda include four of the activities listed on pages 8 - 9. Review the list of options for students to build their own outdoor education day.



LET'S GO CAMPING

Grade 4K - Grade 3
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$8.00 per Student
Limit..... 35 Students
When..... September - November, April - June

This is an introduction to camping! This program includes how to dress in layers, common campsite games, tent play and roasted apple slices with cinnamon and sugar over a camp fire.

MAMMALS

Grade 4K - Grade 3
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$8.00 per Student
Limit..... 35 Students
When..... September - November, April - June

This one is ALL hands-on! Play Who Am I? and learn about 10 Wisconsin Mammals. Then look at and feel real mammal furs. The last part of the activity is spent using telemetry to find a collared mammal. Students take turns role playing scientists and the mammal during this fun, interactive hide and seek like activity.

MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

Grade 4K - Grade 3
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$8.00 per Student
Limit..... 35 Students
When September - November, April - June

Students will learn about Monarchs and their treacherous journey to Mexico and the many challenges they encounter along the way. Students will examine the life cycle of the Monarch and learn about the issues Monarchs are facing and how they can help.

PHENOLOGY DETECTIVES HIKE

Grade 4K - Grade 3
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$8.00 per Student
Limit..... 35 Students
When..... September - November, April - June

Phenology is nature's calendar - when Trilliums bloom, when a robin builds its nest and when leaves turn color in the fall. Together we will hike and observe the plants and animals living among us! Making these observations encourages us to have an inquisitive eye, develop our own science questions, and make connections to our natural environment!

PLAYGROUND

Grade 4K - Grade 3
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$8.00 per Student
Limit..... 35 Students
When..... September - November, April - June

Do your students need some unstructured playground time? Students will spend an hour playing, swinging, climbing and running. We do offer a few minutes of playground time during lunch, but according to the some students it just isn't enough time!

SALAMANDERS

Grade 4K - Grade 3
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$8.00 per Student
Limit..... 35 Students
When..... September - November, April - June

Explore the world of amphibians by learning about salamanders! Salamanders, with their bright colors, potential toxicity, teeth, and ability to remain unseen makes these small quirky critters fun to investigate. They're also quite elusive. To have any luck finding one, learning about their habitat, and behavior is a must. This session will include a salamander hunt using leave no trace ethics, a craft and a visit with one of our ambassador salamanders. **This activity may have limited availability.**

SNAKES

Grade 4K - Grade 3
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$8.00 per Student
Limit..... 35 Students
When..... September - November, April - June

Are snakes really scary? We don't think so! Learn about how snakes move, what they eat, how they shed and what makes them reptiles.

The second half of the program will feature a snake craft and a chance to meet and hold one of our snake ambassadors!



SURVIVAL SKILLS

Grade 2 - 3
Length..... 1 Hour
Fee \$8.00 per Student
Limit..... 35 Students
When..... September - November, April - June

This activity is a basic introduction to survival skills. Students will discover the rules of 3s and learn how to prioritize which rules are most urgent in a survival situation. Every student will attempt to use a magnesium strip and striker to ignite tinder (cotton ball) for fire building skills. Students will then use team work to create an overnight debris hut in one of our two primitive areas at camp.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT YOUR SCHOOL



We come to your school! The outreach classroom programs on page 10 are designed especially for your classroom.

We will send an environmental educator to your classroom to present a hands-on program to your students.

BUTTERFLIES

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$3.25 per Student

Limit..... 30 Students

When..... September, October, Summer School

Students will learn about Monarchs and their treacherous journey to Mexico and the many challenges they encounter along the way. Students will examine the life cycle of the Monarch and learn about the issues Monarchs are facing and how they can help.



SNAKE ECOLOGY

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$3.25 per Student

Limit..... 30 Students

When..... Year Round

The snake program is a student favorite! It is no secret that people have long feared snakes. For centuries, snakes have been misunderstood, under-appreciated, even heavily persecuted. However, most of us are enthralled with them and our natural curiosity seeks to better understand them. Students will learn general snake biology and behavior to help them better understand the importance of snakes and their structure and function. We will discuss life cycle, adaptations and look at the snakes native to WI. The best part is that we bring a live snake for students to hold.



WOLF ECOLOGY BASICS

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$3.25 per Student

Limit..... 30 Students

When..... Year Round

What is biodiversity? Do wolves have an impact on biodiversity? This is a current issues program as wolves have become a very controversial topic in Wisconsin. During a PowerPoint presentation, students will learn about basic wolf ecology and how populations are studied by scientists and what scientists have learned about wolves by studying them. Students will also do a herbivore, omnivore and carnivore skull investigation, pass around real wolf pelts and use telemetry to track a wolf.

LAKE MICHIGAN ECOLOGY & SHIPWRECK MAPPING

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 3 Hours

Fee \$6.00 per Student

Limit..... 60 Students

When..... September, October



Students spend the day on the beach of Lake Michigan as a scientist. They will map the Lottie Cooper shipwreck for artifacts like an underwater archeologist and carry out an investigation during a beach quadrat study along a transect and more. This is a ½ day field trip.

RESIDENT OUTDOOR ECOLOGY EXPERIENCE

Grades..... 6 - 12

Length..... 1, 2 or 3 Days

Fee \$15 - \$25 per Student, per Day
(building rental for lodges quoted separately)

Limit..... 60 Students

When..... September, October, November



Resident: Students will stay overnight in one of our many bunk rooms/cabins.

Outdoor: Ecology experiences will be designed for your students that take place in the outdoors.

Ecology: The students will view the topic through the lens of ecology. They will ask questions, define problems, develop models, plan and carry out investigations and use real life techniques and equipment.

Experience: Educational experiences that are designed to be meaningful and high quality in nature that meet standards and best practices.

Please call to discuss the options. All resident programs are designed for you.

MONARCH ECOLOGY

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 3 Hours

Fee \$6.00 per Student

Limit..... 60 Students

When..... September, October



Explore Monarchs and the challenges they face as they try to survive in Wisconsin. Students will ask questions, define problems and analyze data as they learn about these magnificent creatures.

WETLAND ECOLOGY

Grades..... 5 - 12

Length..... 7 Hours

Fee \$28.50 per Student

Limit..... 60 Students

When..... September, October, May, June



This two-day field experience is held at the beautiful Sheboygan or Kiel Marshes. The wetland ecology daily activities are outlined below.

Day One

The students will partake in a canoe tour of the wetland learning about the natural history, and observing biodiversity and ecological interactions within the area. Discussions will be generated around key concepts including: succession, ecosystems, community, food chains, wetland functions and more. Students will participate in an activity showing how wetlands have been diminished over time.

Day Two

On the second day, students will use the scientific method to determine if the marsh is a healthy ecosystem based on macro invertebrate sampling and identification. Students will also participate in activities that demonstrate the relationship of predator and prey, and competition.

LOCATIONS



Camp



Deland Beach



**Sheboygan Marsh
or Kiel Marsh**



CAMP Y-KODA OUTDOOR EDUCATION FIELD TRIPS

Outdoor education field trips at Camp Y-Koda include four of the activities listed on pages 12 - 13. Review the list of options for students to build their own outdoor education day.



ARACHNOLOGY: THE TICK

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 100 Students

When..... Year Round

Have you ever thought about becoming an Arachnologist? Discover how the tick population depends on the Oak Tree and White Footed Mouse to complete its life cycle. Students will sample camp grounds for ticks using a tick drag. They will count the ticks and then estimate the population of ticks living at Camp Y-Koda. Answer questions like, Where are ticks most likely to be - in the trees? The dangers of ticks will also be discussed and how to keep yourself safe while using the outdoors.

ARCHERY

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 100 Students

When..... Year Round

Students will learn the parts of the bow and arrow. They will learn about safety and then proper shooting technique on a compound bow. The program will end with a short competition, time permitting.

BB GUN

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 100 Students

When..... Year Round

Gain an appreciation for this sport, while learning safety and technique from our qualified staff.

CANOEING AND KAYAKING

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 100 Students

When..... September, October, May, June

Students will briefly learn canoe and kayak techniques. The majority of the time will be spent paddling around the pond.

CLIMBING WALL

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$9.00 per Student

Limit..... 100 Students

When..... Year Round

This is a student favorite! Participants will get a chance to climb our 40 foot rock wall. This is a great activity for encouragement from classmates. We also stress choosing a goal on the wall and trying to get to it.

COMPASS COURSE

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 100 Students

When..... Year Round

Students will learn how to use a compass and then test their skills on our course.

GEOCACHING 101

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 100 Students

When..... Year Round

Find caches hidden around camp using hand held GPS units. Instruction focuses on GPS basics and geocaching etiquette.

INSECT BEAT

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 1 Hour

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 100 Students

When..... Year Round

Where do insects spend most of their time? The answer is in the trees! Students will learn how to use a beat sheet to survey insects living in trees. Students will pose questions like - which kind of tree hosts the most different species of insects? Or which family of insects are most often found in trees? Students will select the question they want to explore within their group, formulate a hypothesis and then set out on camp property with their beat sheet to observe, and record data. Students will come together at the end of the session to share their results with the group.

OUTDOOR SURVIVAL**Grades..... 6 - 8****Length..... 1 Hour****Fee \$8.00 per Student****Limit..... 100 Students****When..... Year Round**

We will put your campers to the test with a survival scenario. Students will also learn fire building techniques and build shelters at our primitive site.

TEAM BUILDING I**ROPE SWING AND ISLANDS****Grades..... 6 - 8****Length..... 1 Hour****Fee \$8.00 per Student****Limit..... 100 Students****When..... Year Round**

This is a great fall activity for the beginning of the school year, but is available from April - November. After each team building activity, students will be asked to reflect on their use of communication with their classmates.

Rope Swing

The group must figure out how to get from one side of an imaginary river to the other by use of a rope that is hanging in the middle. They will not have any resources to get the rope and once they do, they must all get across to the other side.

Islands

The group must cross from a mainland to another mainland by way of an island in the middle. They will have one board that they can use to get across, but the board does not reach from island to island. The board is not allowed to touch the ground.

TEAM BUILDING II**BLIND HUNTER, HOT CHOCOLATE AND ROPE MAZE****Grades..... 6 - 8****Length..... 1 Hour****Fee \$8.00 per Student****Limit..... 100 Students****When..... Year Round**

This is a great fall activity for the beginning of the school year, but is available from April - November. These team building events stress leadership, communication, cooperation and leading under pressure. After each team building activity, students will be asked to reflect on their use of communication with their classmates.

Blind Hunter

The group will attempt to help a blindfolded "hunter" find three objects. The tasks focus on the aspects of communication and giving and following directions.

Hot Chocolate

Students will work as a team as they try to float on moving marshmallows to conquer the hot chocolate river.

Rope Maze

Students will be blind folded and attached to a web of ropes. The student who finds the cone instantly becomes the leader as they are the only one able to verbally communicate with the rest of the group to reach a common goal.



MIDDLE SCHOOL RECREATION FIELD TRIPS

MAYWOOD SURVIVAL

Grades..... 6 - 12

Length..... 6 Hours

Fee \$10.00 per Student

Limit..... 60 Students

When..... November, April



Join us as you learn about survival. Topics include fire building, using your own compass, shelter building and more. Students will also make and take home their own burn bowl.



LOCATIONS



Camp



Maywood

TEAM CHALLENGE SERIES FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Grades..... 6 - 8

Length..... 3 Hours

Fee \$8.00 per Student

Limit..... 100 Students

When..... September, October, November

This can be a ½ day or full day field trip.

Grade 6 Activities



- Team Shelter Building
- Birthday Line-up/Human Knot
- Balloon Relay, Balloon Race
- Blind Hunter and Ski Race

Grade 7 Activities

- Traffic Jam
- Wall
- Islands
- Rope Swing



Grade 8 Activities



- Blind Line, Tennis Ball Toss
- Fire Challenge
- Log Birthday Line-up, Rope Swing
- Gaga Ball and Rock, Paper, Scissors



AMPHIBIAN CASE STUDY

Grades..... 9 - 12
Length..... 3 Hours
Fee \$5.00 per Student
Limit..... 30 Students
When..... May, June



Students learn how to identify frogs and toads by call. They will apply this knowledge during a frog call hike to inventory calling amphibians and analyze call patterns within the context of atmospheric and habitat conditions.

ECOSYSTEM TOUR

Grades..... 9 - 12
Length..... 3 Hours
Fee \$5.00 per Student
Limit..... 60 Students
When..... September, October, November



Students will tour three of Maywood's ecosystems: river, prairie and forest with an environmental educator. They will learn about food webs, flora and fauna function and structure. Students will also participate in sampling techniques to determine the health of a stream after collecting macro-invertebrates and survey a prairie for biodiversity of species.

FRESHWATER MUSSEL ECOLOGY

Grades..... 9 - 12
Length..... 4 ½ Hours
Fee \$7.25 per Student
Limit..... 30 Students
When..... September, October, Summer School



This program has two parts. The first part begins with a presentation in your classroom. An environmental educator will do a 30-minute PowerPoint presentation on biology of freshwater mussels and will discuss their critical importance to stream health.

The second part is a field experience. The 4 hour field program occurs on the Sheboygan River. Students will spend the morning or afternoon as a biologist sampling mussels and working to ID them in the field using a key. Students will go to areas on the river conducive to mussel surveys via canoe.

This program is limited to 20 participants in the field at a time. Therefore, teachers with larger groups may need to book multiple field days.

LOCATIONS**Camp****Maywood****Your School****POLLINATORS**

Grades..... 9 - 12
Length..... 3 Hours
Fee \$5.00 per Student
Limit..... 60 Students
When..... September, October, Summer School



Students learn how to observe, quantify and record how plants change across seasons. They participate in a nationwide citizen science effort to track phenology (seasonal change) and study the effects of climate change on plants and animals. Applying these concepts to conservation issues, they consider supporting pollinator diversity in the local landscape by planting phenologically diverse gardens.

WETLAND MONITORING AND DATA COLLECTION

Grades..... 9 - 12
Length..... 3 Hours
Fee \$5.00 per Student
Limit..... 60 Students
When..... September, October, Summer School



Students learn about temporary bodies of water and go on a field trip to map this type of wetland habitat and describe the plants and animals living there.

WINTER TWIG ID

Grades..... 9 - 12
Length..... 3 Hours
Fee \$5.00 per Student
Limit..... 30 Students
When..... Year Round



Students will have an in-depth opportunity to learn about twig identification. They will first learn about twig parts and then try to identify a twig with a magnifying lens and a dichotomous twig key.

DON'T FORGET: FIELD TRIP TOMORROW!

- Send a bag lunch and something to drink.
- Please check the weather and **dress in layers** for all kinds of weather.
- This field trip is rain or shine. **We will be outside all day!** Thank you!



HOW MANY LAYERS WILL YOU WEAR?

Directions: Check the weather.

- Circle the clothing items you will wear on your field trip.
- Remember dressing in layers is important!

“There is no such thing as bad weather,
only bad clothing”

