



Wildlife Conservation Homeschool 2019-2020



Ages 9-14 • 10AM-1PM • NO Parent Participation Required

Always come prepared with extra clothes and shoes. We recommend a water bottle, snacks, hat, sun screen, insect repellent, and folder (to hold additional materials). To receive emails for class updates and supplemental material: please email Eddy at eduardo.ibarra@miamidade.gov

September “Scientific method and Intro to Ecology”

Date: September 4, 2019 Activity: Hike Deering trails and Experimentation

Description: Analyze plant diversity and do egg drop experiment. Students will record observations of plants and rain levels and define the importance of these abiotic factors to plants. Analyze the steps in constructing a science experiments and to observe flora diversity

Date: September 11, 2019 Activity: Survey methods

Description: Learn different survey methods and apply them in several different habitats in order to predict flora and fauna populations. Students will also select plants to transplant into grow beds. Participants will also collect data on the plants in their grow beds.

Date: September 18, 2019 Activity: Build a rain gauge for native garden

Description: Students will build a rain gauge for their native garden. They will so explore the public trails for possible wildlife habitats that can be added to their native garden. Students will design and create identification cards for the public to learn about their project.

Date: September 18, 2019 Activity: Soil Ecology

Description: Students will collect soil from various ecosystems and compare students will use microscopes to get a deeper understanding of how soil composition impacts the health of the environment

November “Tropical Hardwood hammock and slough”

Date: November 6, 2019 Activity: Survey the Tropical Hardwood Hammock

Description: Students will decide and design on how to manipulate of one environmental factor of their plots and write predictions of how it will affect their grow bed. Students will also survey the tropical hardwood hammock for insects and describe how they can possible recruit them their grow bed. Participants will also collect data on the plants in their grow beds.

Date: November 13, 2019 Activity: Geology hike

Description: Students will build and impellent their environmental change. The class will discover the influence of lime stone on the native landscape. Students will hike off trail for various geological formations. Participants will also collect data on the wildlife in their grow beds

Date: November 20, 2019 Activity: Deering Pump station

Description: Students will visit the Deering Pump station to monitor the status of the Power station restoration project. Students will survey for insects, plants and fish located at the pump station property. Participants will also help manage and eradicate invasive plants.

January “Pine Rocklands and Natural History”

Date: January 8th, 2020 Activity: Mangrove Hike & Cleanup

Description: Measure influence of environmental gradient on the class’s grow bed. Students will explore the Pine Rocklands and apply their understanding to compare the difference in biodiversity to the Tropical Hardwood hammock. Students will survey the flora and fauna found in globally endangered habitat.

Date: January 15th, 2020 Activity: Bike through Pine Rocklands

Description: Participants will bike through the Pine Rocklands looking for endangered gopher tortoises, invasive red tail boas and seeds to add to their native garden bed. Students will define life history and determine the pros and cons slow and fast life history. Students will apply their understanding in predicting population sizes based of abiotic factors found at Deering Estate.

Date: January 22th, 2020 Activity: Algae & Microorganism Identification with FIU

Description: Sketch and describe status of grow bed. Students will discover Deering’s history by learning different archeological techniques in our mock dig site. Participants will also collect data on the wildlife in their grow beds.

Date: January 29th, 2020 Activity: Field Trip to ENP

Description: Field Trip to Everglades National Park (Long Pine Key)

March “Mangroves and Saltmarsh”

Date: March 4th, 2020 Activity: Mangrove Hike

Description: The will analyze the food chain in the Mangroves by hiking to the mouth of cutler creek. The class will survey for animals found in this costal ecosystem. Students will examine the interactions amongst predatory-prey populations and connect the influence of abiotic factors on biotic relationships. Students will apply their understanding of the food chain found in the Mangroves and predict the influence of time on the development of a stable wildlife community.

Date: March 11th, 2020 Activity: Tram ride to the Deering North Addition

Description: Measure influence of environmental gradient on the classes grow bed and conclude the effects of the various environmental gradient. Participants will also collect data on the plants in their grow beds. Will take a tram ride to the Deering North Addition and investigate the effects of fire on ecosystems.

Date: March 18th, 2020 Activity: Hike through Cutler Creek

Description: The class will hike through cutler creek and study the effects of topography and water on south Florida ecosystems. Students will identify factors that will effect mangroves overtime.

Date: March 25th, 2020 Activity: Hike to the crash airplane

Description: Students will locate a crash airplane in Mangroves. Participants will also collect data on the wildlife in their garden beds and draw conclusions on effective ways to implement native gardening in their home. The class will make final sketches of their garden beds repot plants to take home