



DEERING ESTATE

Wildlife Conservation Homeschool 2022-2023

September “Eyes on the Sky”

Date: September 7, 2022

Activity: Rocket Launch and Deering Estate Walk-through

Description: The students will learn about the scientific method by conducting an engineering experiment where they learn how to build a rocket. The class will also learn chemical reactions which are used to propel the rockets into the air.

Date: September 14, 2022

Activity: Building a Rollercoaster and Tram Ride

Description: In this engineering project the class will explore the difference between potential and kinetic energies as they build a rollercoaster. The students will then observe the behavior of various objects as they go through the tracks.

Date: September 21, 2022

Activity: Restoring the Butterfly Garden

Description: This lesson will teach the students the skills to plant and maintain a garden and why humans began cultivating certain plants that were useful to the community. The class will also discuss the importance of incorporating native species in daily gardening and the impact it can have on the native wildlife found throughout our area.

Date: September 28, 2022

Activity: Wing and Beak Design

Description: There are thousands of species of birds in the world and they all have incredible adaptations that allow them to survive in many different habitats. The students will explore the local species of birds and replicate parts of their anatomy that allows them to eat and fly.

To receive emails for class updates and supplemental material:

Please email Nahuel at Nahuel.Medina@miamidade.gov

Please note scheduled activities are subject to change.



DEERING ESTATE

Wildlife Conservation Homeschool 2022-2023

November “Down to Earth”

Date: November 2, 2022

Activity: Rock lab and acidic rock experiment

Description: Students will learn the difference between igneous/metamorphic/sedimentary rocks with the rock lab and make rock guides. Students will set up an acidic rock experiment dissolving limestone in different concentrations of vinegar/water solutions. We will check them and weigh them every week.

Date: November 9, 2022

Activity: Sugar Cube Experiment and Solution Hole Hike

Description: Students will investigate how water can cause erosion and dissolve rock material and compare it to limestone. Students will also go on a hike and look for solution holes found here in the estate.

Date: November 16, 2022

Activity: Volcanoes and Rock Cycle Experiment

Description: Students will recreate volcanoes using clay and learn how plate tectonics impact the Earth. Students will learn about the rock cycle using starbursts and how different rocks are formed.

Date: November 23, 2022 -- NO CLASS -- Happy Thanksgiving

Date: November 30, 2022

Activity: Pine Rocklands hike

Description: Students learn how this whole environment grows in minimal amounts of soil and they can see the sedimentary rock up close and learn about the Miami rock ridge.

To receive emails for class updates and supplemental material:

Please email Nahuel at Nahuel.Medina@miamidade.gov

Please note scheduled activities are subject to change.



DEERING ESTATE

Wildlife Conservation Homeschool 2022-2023

January “Into the Woods”

Date: January 4, 2023

Activity: Ethnobotany Guides

Description: Students will hike around the Deering Estate learning about the different medicinal plants that Native Americans would use on a daily basis. They will log each species into a take-home field guide with descriptions of the plants along with real life examples.

Date: January 11, 2023

Activity: Frog Dissection and Hardwood Hammock Hike

Description: Students will be dissecting frogs in order to learn basic internal and external anatomy of amphibians. After, students will be hiking into the Hardwood Hammock where we can find our own native and non-native species of frogs here at the Deering Estate.

Date: January 18, 2023

Activity: Terrarium and Composting

Description: Students will build their own terrariums learning about the water cycle and abiotic and biotic factors that are needed to sustain an ecosystem. Students will also learn about the benefits of composting and how they can compost at home.

Date: January 25, 2023

Activity: Cliff Hike

Description: Students will hike to Deering’s famous “cliffs.” Learning about the Hardwood Hammock, students will be looking for a giant shallow solution hole that they can venture down into and explore. Different plants and animals can live in this area thanks to the added shelter and security the limestone walls provide.

To receive emails for class updates and supplemental material:

Please email Nahuel at Nahuel.Medina@miamidade.gov

Please note scheduled activities are subject to change.



DEERING ESTATE

Wildlife Conservation Homeschool 2022-2023

March “Keepers of the Wild”

Date: March 1, 2023

Activity: Saltmarsh Hike and Wildlife Camera Setup

Description: Students will be taking a tram ride to the northern addition of Saltmarsh habitat at the Deering Estate to see how the ecotones look up close and personal. Students will also set out the wildlife cameras in the park to try and capture some images of the sneaky residents usually seen at night.

Date: March 8, 2023

Activity: Fishing at the Deering Powers Property

Description: Bring your fishing rods! We will be catching and documenting the species of fish found in the reservoir at the Deering powers property. Students will learn how the man-made waterways affect how fish make their way from fresh to saltwater environments.

Date: March 15, 2023

Activity: Birding the Estate

Description: March marks the beginning of major migration for different species of birds. Students will be using binoculars and/or cameras from home to document the species that use the Deering Estate as a stop on their journey to their breeding grounds.

Date: March 22, 2023

Activity: Retrieving and Reviewing the Wildlife Cameras

Description: Students will be hiking to retrieve the wildlife cameras and reviewing the footage to see if anything triggered the camera and was recorded. Students will learn the importance of tracking and studying different species in order to safely study population dynamics at the Deering Estate.

To receive emails for class updates and supplemental material:

Please email Nahuel at Nahuel.Medina@miamidade.gov

Please note scheduled activities are subject to change.