



Fieldtrip and Outreach Guide 2025 - 2026



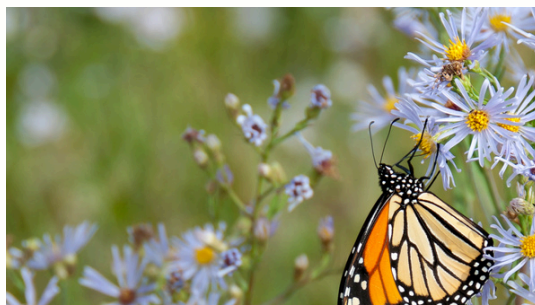
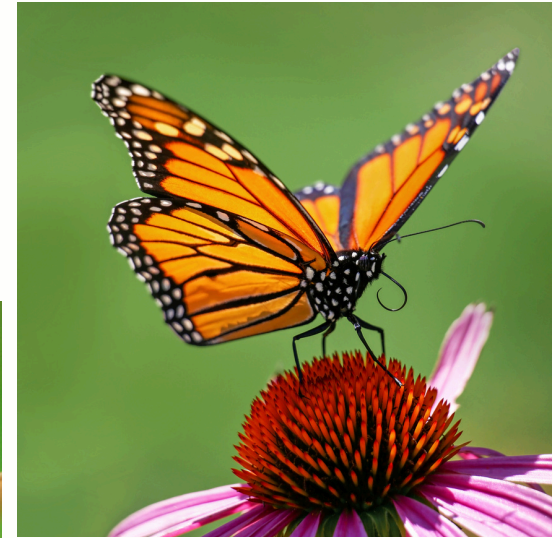
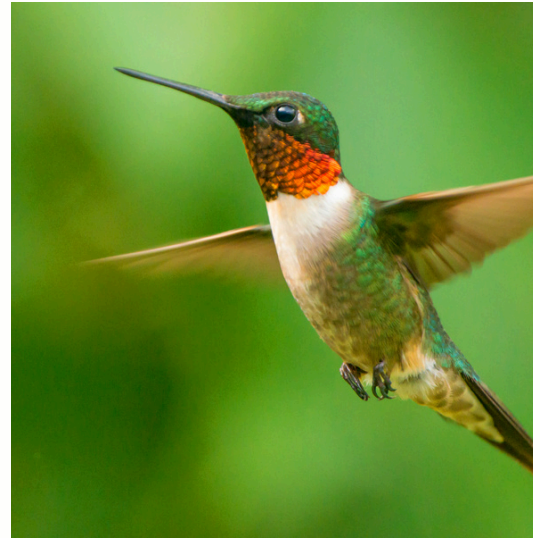
Castellow Hammock Park & Nature Center

305-242-7688 | EcoAdventures@MiamiDade.gov



Tables of Contents

- Welcome Letter
- Castellow Hammock Park & Nature Center
- Fee's
- Fieldtrip Q & A's



Welcome Letter to Educators



Dear Educators,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! We're thrilled to have you join us on this exciting journey of exploration and learning through Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces - Miami EcoAdventures. This year, we invite you and your students to dive into the wonders of South Florida's diverse ecosystems at seven incredible locations: A.D. Barnes Park Nature Center, Arch Creek Park, Preserve, and Museum, Bill Sadowski Park and Nature Center, Castellow Hammock Preserve and Nature Center, Crandon Park, Deering Estate, and Greynolds Park. Each destination is a unique treasure trove of experiences that will ignite curiosity and foster a deep appreciation for our natural world!

Get ready for playful hikes, engaging activities, and hands-on learning that will connect students to the vibrant wildlife, lush landscapes, and rich history that define our region. From the serene waters of Crandon Park to the lush canopies of Castellow Hammock, every trip promises to be an adventure filled with discovery. We can't wait to embark on this eco-exploration with you and your students, helping them understand the importance of conservation and stewardship in our beautiful South Florida environment.

Here's to a fantastic year of adventure and learning!

Warm regards,
The Miami EcoAdventures Team

Castellow Hammock Park and Nature Center “Roots and Wings: A Journey Through Native Plants”

Dig into horticulture and history at Castellow Hammock, where tropical trees and fluttering birds create a vibrant living classroom. Discover sustainable farming practices and explore how early settlers coexisted with this beautiful landscape.

Educators may choose one talk and/or one activity for their field trip experience.

To tailor the visit to your group's interests and goals, review the available options and select the combination that best fits your learning objectives.

Hike with a Focus:

- Butterfly Garden Hike: Step into a living fairytale! Students will wander through a vibrant garden to see the magical transformation of caterpillars into butterflies and learn how these delicate beauties help our world bloom. Recommended grade levels: K - 12th Grade (F)
- Hummingbird Hike (Seasonal – Oct to Mar): Prepare for an encounter with tiny, flying jewels! This seasonal hike is a chance to watch hummingbirds zipping and buzzing around, showing off their incredible speed and dazzling colors. Recommended grade levels: K - 12th Grade (F)
- Natural Areas Hike: Explore native habitats on a guided hike, observing plants and wildlife while learning about the importance of conservation. Recommended grade levels: K - 12th Grade (F)
- Things with Wings: Ready to explore the amazing world of flight? This field trip lets students get up close with all sorts of birds and insects, discovering their unique tricks and adaptations that help them soar through the sky. Recommended grade levels: K - 8th Grade (F) (O)

Fieldtrip (F) and Outreach (O) offered September – May only.

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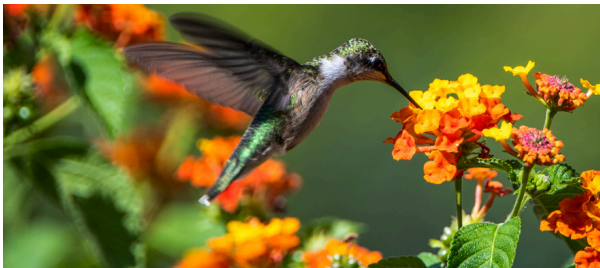


Castellow Hammock Park and Nature Center

Educators may choose one talk and/or one activity for their field trip experience.

Activity with Intentions:

- Animal Adaptations: Wings and Beak Designs - Learn how animals have evolved unique wing and beak structures to survive and thrive in their environments through interactive observation and discussion. Recommended grade levels: K - 8th Grade (F) (O)
- Alternative Energy: Explore renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and hydro power through demonstrations and activities that highlight sustainable solutions. Recommended grade levels: 3rd - 12th (F) (O)
- Build your Own Terrarium: Create a self-contained ecosystem while learning about plant life cycles, water cycles, and the balance required to sustain life. Students must bring their own container. (F) (O)



- Green Careers: What if your dream job could help save the planet? This trip introduces students to awesome "green" careers and gives them a taste of what it's like to work in fields like conservation, sustainability, and more. Recommended grade levels: K - 12th Grade (F) (O)
- Rocket Launch: Explore the science of propulsion by building and launching model rockets, while learning about Newton's laws of motion. Recommended grade levels: K - 12th Grade (F) (O)
- Water Filtration: Design and test your own water filtration system to learn how pollutants are removed from water and the importance of clean water access. Recommended grade levels: 3rd - 8th Grade (F) (O)

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Fee's

FIELDTRIP PROGRAM

Bring your class or scout troop to the nature center and learn through our many hands-on educational talks. A field trip typically consists of a minimum 1.5-hour program at the nature center, during which students take part in the environmental topics of your choice. We can provide extended day's programming catered to your specific needs, so contact us to learn more.

- \$8.75 per child participant for 1 land-based program
- \$12.00 per child participant for 2 land-based programs
- \$15.00 per child participant for 1 land-based + 1 water-based program
- \$15.00 per child participant for 1 water-based program

Teachers are free. Any adults beyond these ratios will be required to pay the \$15.00 fee.

For land-based programs, we allow one (1) free adult chaperone for every ten (10) students. For water-based programs, a ratio of one (1) free adult chaperone for every six (6) students is required.

Time: 10:00AM - 3:00PM (Extended programming time or later time request will be at an additional fee. Contact the business office for details at (305) 242-7688.

Our programs can accommodate a minimum of 20 and a maximum of 100 participants per day. If your group does not meet one of these requirements, please consult with our staff as alternative options may be available.

OUTREACH PROGRAM

An outreach program travels to you! We come to your location with your program of choice or a general information booth. We generally service Miami-Dade County region. Prices may vary based on distance and needs.

Fee: \$275 for the first class of 30 students. \$6 per student for each additional program requested (class size no more than 30 students). Fees may vary based on distance and needs. Please contact the business office for details at (305) 242-7688.

Time: 10:00AM - 3:00PM - Variable depending on needs.

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Fieldtrip Q&A's

How can we make a reservation?

To make a reservation, please contact Angelina Hellriegel (305) 242-7688 or Angelina.Hellriegel@miamidade.gov for reservations. We recommend booking at least four weeks in advance to secure your preferred date and time. When you contact us, please have at least two dates that work for you and your group.

How is payment made?

A 50% non-refundable deposit is due within 10 business days of you receiving the invoice. This deposit is applied to your balance. Payment can be made via cash, credit card, check (No personal checks), or purchase order. Full payment is required BEFORE your program can commence the morning of. Final payment based on your final head count which must be provided 5 business days before your program date.

What is the cancellation policy?

Miami EcoAdventures requires 5 business days advanced notice of any changes to booking or cancellations. Any cancellation received within 5 business days of the program will forfeit the deposit fee. No-shows will be charged 100% of trip total. Field Trip sites may cancel programs and activities when weather or other circumstances beyond our control make it necessary. Every attempt will be made to reschedule your field trip date. Groups that arrive at the program site with fewer people than originally booked and did not provide an adjustment prior to the program date within the required time frame will not receive a refund for the students not in attendance. All cancellations must be made in writing and sent via email to EcoAdventures@miamidade.gov.

Where is the park located?

Castellow Hammock Park and Nature Center: 22301 SW 162nd Ave., Miami, FL. 33170



Fieldtrip Q&A's

What is the duration of a fieldtrip?

Programs are scheduled in a 1.5-hour to 3-hour block between 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM. However, these times are flexible, and groups are welcome to stay the day until 4:00 PM after their program has concluded.

Is transportation provided?

Transportation is not included, so please arrange your own transportation to the nature center.

Can we eat lunch at the nature center?

Yes, designated outdoor picnic areas are available for lunch. Please let us know if you plan to have lunch on site. Lunches should be packed in sturdy boxes or coolers. It is the responsibility of the fieldtrip chaperones to unload and load lunches before and after your visit. We do not offer carts or dolly's to move the lunches. Please plan to clean up after your group.

Is there a bathroom available?

Yes, all our locations have restroom facilities. Please remind students to use them before we begin our activities.

What should students wear?

We recommend comfortable clothing, closed-toe shoes, and hats for sun protection. Dress for the weather!

What should we bring?

Please bring refillable water bottles, snacks, sunscreen, and any necessary personal items. We do not recommend students bring cell phones or electronics that could be damaged by the elements or natural areas.



Fieldtrip Q&A's

What if it rains?

We monitor weather conditions closely. In case of rain, some activities may be moved indoors or rescheduled. We'll keep you updated!

Are there any age restrictions for activities?

Most activities are suitable for all ages, but some may have specific recommendations. Check the activity descriptions for details.

Are there any safety guidelines we should follow?

Yes, we provide a safety briefing at the start of the trip. We ask that educators and chaperones attended the visit ensure students follow all guidelines for their safety. Groups that do not follow safety rules will be asked to leave with no option for a refund.

Loud noises keep animals in hiding and reduce your chances of seeing them. Therefore, be kind to the animals and plants at the park. Harassing wildlife is against the law and can harm the animals. Feeding the animals encourages them to be dependent on humans, which leads to increased chances of humans being bitten by that animal. Plants require their leaves to make food and their flowers to produce seeds so please do not pick the leaves, flowers, or bark of the plants. Please make sure this information is relayed to all participants and trip supervisors.

Can you accommodate people with special needs?

Yes, we strive to make our programs accessible for all. Please inform us in advance of any specific accommodations required, and we will do our best to assist.

How can we provide feedback after our visit?

We welcome your feedback! After your trip, please fill out the survey provided or contact us directly with your thoughts.

