

# Making the Grade: School Program Menu for 1st Grades 2018-2019



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The following is a list of presentations offered to first grade classes in Jasper County. This is not a complete list, and for other options or questions about a program, please contact the naturalists. We work with teachers to fit our programming with their curriculum!

- All programs are free and materials will be provided unless otherwise noted.
- Although descriptions are for in-class, all programs can be adapted for outdoor locations.
- Please call or email at least 2 weeks in advance to guarantee your desired day and time.
- Plan for 30-40 minutes per program.
- Have your students come up with a list of questions for the naturalists before the scheduled program time.

## Fall Programs (September-November)

### **Big Brown Bat**

Students will explore the intriguing lives of both local and exotic bats through several hands on activities. We will dig through the bat lunch box to see what different bats eat, discuss their use of echolocation, and look at mounted examples of local bats.



**\*1-LS3-1, 1-LS1-2**

### **Animal Superpowers**

Students will be introduced to animal adaptations and how adaptations help animals survive in unique habitats. We will investigate how these traits may be helpful to humans by creating superheroes with animal adaptations for superpowers. Students will share how these superpowers would be beneficial to them.

**\*1-LS1-1**



### **Rockin' Reptiles vs Awesome Amphibians**

The naturalist will discuss reptile and amphibian characteristics using pictures, models and live examples (if available) of common reptiles and amphibians found in Iowa for the students to observe.

**\*1-LS3-1, 1-LS1-2**



## Winter Programs (December-February)

### **Tricky Tracks**

Students will become nature detectives to learn what clues to look for when tracking animals. We will discuss differences in animal tracks and the students will make their own tracks using rubber track molds that the naturalist provides and a simple claydough which will be provided by the teacher. Recipe for the claydough is available upon request.



**\*1-LS3-1**

### **Extraterrestrial Explorations**

Students will be introduced to how the earth and moon move in relation to our sun, how the moon changes each month, which planets are in our solar system, and some common constellations. Students will learn how a sky map is used and what exciting things are currently happening in the universe!

**\*1-ESS1-1, 1-ESS1-2**

### **Plenty of Penguins**

December and January are good months for a program on penguins. Storybooks, puppets, life-size poster of the Emperor penguin, life-size egg, and other visual aids will help students learn more about these fascinating animals and the places they live. We will compare students' heights with the height of the emperor penguin and their hands and feet with the size of the emperor's egg and chick. One student will help demonstrate to the class how difficult it is to be an emperor penguin dad!

**\*1-LS3-1, 1-LS1-2**



## Spring Programs (March-April)

### **Iowa Mammals**

Students will see and touch furs from common mammals and will learn about where they live, what they eat, and how they move. They will be able to feel the difference in the type of fur/hair and see how the animals use camouflage. A mammal charade game will be played if time allows.



**\*1-LS3-1, 1-LS1-1**

### **From Tadpole to Frog**

The naturalist will use storybooks, pictures and puppets to demonstrate the life cycle of a frog. The class will learn how to identify a few common frogs in Iowa by sight and sound. Live examples of tadpoles and frogs will be brought for observation, if available.



**\*1-LS1-2, 1-LS3-1**