

Making the Grade: School Program Menu for Kindergarten 2018-2019



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The following is a list of presentations offered to Kindergarten 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)

Migrating Monarchs

Storybooks, a puppet and pictures will be used to demonstrate the monarch butterfly's life cycle and special adaptations. A brief discussion on migration will be followed by tagging monarch butterflies (naturalist will provide, or, tag classroom-raised butterflies). The monarchs will be released in the schoolyard. This program is only offered the first 2-3 weeks of September while the monarchs are migrating.

***K-LS1-1, K-ESS3-1, K-ESS3-3**



Turkey Talk

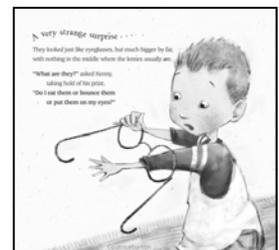
Here's a great program for November! The naturalist will share information about wild turkeys using a puppet, books and pictures. Students will learn a little history about wild turkeys in Iowa, look at real feathers and learn other cool facts about Thanksgiving's #1 bird!

***K-LS1-1, K-ESS3-1**

Take A Closer Look

Students will look a little closer to discover a whole new miniature world. We will read "The Looking Book" which is about two boys who use new "lookers" to observe things that had previously gone unnoticed.

The class will have the opportunity to use hand lenses and simple microscopes to get a closer look at flower parts, fish scales, and other natural items, making note of the shapes and patterns they see.



***K-GA2, K-GA3, K2-ETS1-1**

Winter Programs (December-February)

Special Snowflakes

Students will explore the origin of snow. What is it? Where does it come from? Why are snowflakes so special? We'll read a story, dramatize a falling snowflake, and make our very own unique snowflakes. Some of the concepts we cover include seasonal weather observations, symmetry, hexagons and groups of six.



***K-GA2, K-GA3, K-ESS2-1**

Groundhog's Day

A discussion on the life of groundhogs will be led using a puppet and other pictures. Students will make connections by learning about Punxsutawney Phil, predicting what will happen on Groundhog's Day this year, and learning what that means for us! The class will also make groundhog headbands (scissors and staplers are needed) and sing a groundhog song!

***K-LS1, K-ESS2-2**

Curious About Camouflage

Students will hunt for insects hidden within the pages of Ruth Heller's "How to Hide a Butterfly". We will discuss how camouflage can help an animal to catch it's dinner or to keep from being someone's dinner. Animal skins will be introduced as we brainstorm: Which animals and insects use camouflage? Why? The class will also play a game that illustrates just how well "blending in" really works.

***K-LS1-1**



Spring Programs (March-April)

Turtle Crossing

A turtle story will be used to highlight the painted turtle's life cycle and habitat. Comparisons will be made between different kinds of turtles. A live turtle will be brought to the classroom for the students to observe and make discoveries with!

***K-LS1-1, K-ESS2-2**



The Curious Garden

Peter Brown's "Curious Garden" will be read to the class. The book shows a young boy's journey to turn a dark and gloomy city into a diverse, vibrant garden. Using a matching board students learn about how the fruits and vegetables we eat grow. Each class will be given flower seeds to start their own curious garden!

***K-ESS2-1, K-ESS3-1, K-ESS3-3**

