



## 2023-2024 HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Join Lyonia Environmental Center staff for a series of indoor and outdoor homeschool adventures that focus on Volusia County's ecosystems, native plants, and wildlife.

### ON-SITE PROGRAMS

Staff and guests will present these programs in the LEC classroom and Lyonia Preserve. This 360-acre preserve is home to native plants and abundant wildlife, including the Florida scrub jay and gopher tortoise. Wear closed-toe shoes, bring drinking water, and be prepared to hike on sugar sand trails.

**PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE PROGRAM WITH THEIR CHILD OR THEY MAY DROP THEM OFF.**

**OFF-SITE PROGRAMS** Staff and guests will present these programs at various off-site locations in Volusia County.

**PARENTS ARE REQUIRED TO STAY WITH THEIR CHILD FOR THE PROGRAM.**

### PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Spots are offered on a first come, first served basis. Programs may be modified at any time as needed.

**REGISTRATION AND PRE-PAYMENT ARE REQUIRED.**

**Cost: \$8 per child per program. One adult free. Additional adults \$8.**

**Cancellation policy: Full refund with two-week notice given**

Call 386-789-7207, ext. #21026, or email Shari Smith at [ssmith@volusia.org](mailto:ssmith@volusia.org).



### SEINE NETTING & ESTUARINE STUDY

Grades 4-10

10 a.m. to noon

Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2023

**Spruce Creek Park**  
**6250 S. Ridgewood Avenue**  
**Port Orange**

**OUTDOOR:** Estuaries provide vital nesting and feeding habitats for many aquatic plants and animals. Learn about various species that depend on them as we explore mangroves and collect aquatic species that live here.



### CREEPY, CRAWLY SPIDERS

Grades 1-10

10 a.m. to noon

Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2023

**Lyonia Environmental Center**  
**2150 Eustace Avenue**  
**Deltona**

**INDOOR/OUTDOOR:** Eight legs...lots of eyes...FANGS! Though they may seem creepy, they have an important job to do. We'll take a closer look at these often-misunderstood arachnids and learn what they eat, how they make their webs, and why they're good to have around. We'll make a couple of fun spider crafts to take home too!



## SOIL DETECTIVES

Grades 1-10

10 a.m. to noon

Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2023

**Lyonia Environmental Center**  
2150 Eustace Avenue  
Deltona

**INDOOR/OUTDOOR:** Healthy soil is so much more than dirt and important for everyday life! We'll be taking a short hike in Lyonia Preserve, collecting soil samples from different areas, and examining them under the microscope. We'll even be learning to make edible "soil!" Are you brave enough to try it?



## WRACK IT UP

Grades 1-10

10 a.m. to noon

Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023

**Toronita Beach Park**  
4200 S. Atlantic Avenue  
Wilbur-by-the-Sea

**OUTDOOR:** The wrack line feeds hungry shore birds, forms new dunes, and provides cover for wildlife, among other things! We'll be discussing the importance of beach wrack and learning about erosion, coastal armoring and beach raking. Test your observation skills while looking for clues in a fun beach scavenger hunt. We'll leave the area better than we found it by doing a beach cleanup.



## GIFTS FROM NATURE

Grades 1-10

10 a.m. to noon

Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2023

**Lyonia Environmental Center**  
2150 Eustace Avenue  
Deltona

**INDOOR/OUTDOOR:** Winter can be a trying time for animals. How do the animals of the scrub keep warm when it gets cold, and how do they find enough to eat? Learn the answers as we visit the outdoor classroom and hike the blue trail of Lyonia Preserve. Following the hike and discussion, we'll return indoors to make a snowman-inspired grapevine wreath and sip some hot apple cider.



## BUNDLE-UP BIRDING HIKE

Grades 4-10

10 a.m. to noon

Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024

**North Peninsula State Park**  
40 Highbridge Road  
Ormond Beach

**OUTDOOR:** Let's brave the cooler temps and learn about coastal strand and maritime hammock ecosystems as we hike the invigorating 2.5-mile Coastal Strand Trail. Bring binoculars if you have them, and let's see how many native and migratory bird species we can find.



## "OWL" ALWAYS LOVE YOU VALENTINE!

Grades 1-10

10 a.m. to noon

Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2024

**Lyonia Environmental Center**  
2150 Eustace Avenue  
Deltona

**INDOOR:** How much does an owl weigh? How long do they live? What species of owls live in Volusia County? Do they have any predators? Learn the answers to these questions and much more about our feathered friends of the night. Meet a live owl and learn about some of the unique adaptations that help them survive. Create a take-home Valentine owl craft.



## THE SCOOP ON SCAT

**Grades 1-10**

**10 a.m. to noon**

**Wednesday, March 20, 2024**

**Lyonia Environmental Center  
2150 Eustace Avenue  
Deltona**

**INDOOR/OUTDOOR:** Calling all excrement explorers! You can tell a lot about an animal by what it leaves behind. Learn about the scoop on scat and become a dung detective! You may be surprised at how many differences there are in the purpose of poop. We'll be taking a hike in Lyonia Preserve to see if we can spot some scat following the lesson.



## THE INDIAN RIVER LAGOON NEEDS YOU!

**Grades 4-10**

**10 a.m. to noon**

**Wednesday, April 17, 2024**

**Lyonia Environmental Center  
2150 Eustace Avenue  
Deltona**

**INDOOR:** What is 156 miles long, spans five counties, and is home to over 4,000 species of plants and animals? The Indian River Lagoon! Learn about this amazing biologically diverse area, the threats it faces, what is being done and how you can be involved in helping to protect this complex ecosystem. Participate in a hands-on conservation activity.



## WE'VE COME A LONG WAY BABY!

**Grades 1-10**

**10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, May 15, 2024**

**DeLeon Springs State Park  
601 Ponce DeLeon Boulevard  
DeLeon Springs**

**This program requires an additional park entrance fee of \$6 per car.**

**INDOOR/OUTDOOR:** What was life like at the park in the late 1800s and early 1900s? We'll take a step back in time to learn about the history and changes that have occurred in the past century as we hike the nature trail and view the artifacts. Tap into your artistic side as we reflect on what we learned and paint an original watercolor painting. We will finish up our homeschool program season with a celebration lunch and a quick dip in the spring to cool off (optional).