FIELD TRIP PROGRAMS

Students can enjoy interpretive tours of the LEC Gallery and Lyonia Preserve! If you wish, you can customize your day from a menu of programs linked to CPALMS Standards. Programs usually last 2 to 2½ hours. To schedule a program, contact Shari Smith at ssmith@volusia.org or 386-789-7207, ext. #21026.

3 T’s: Turtles, Tortoises and Terrapins

What’s the difference between a turtle, tortoise and terrapin? Students will learn about the “landlord of the scrub,” the gopher tortoise, Volusia County’s threatened and endangered sea turtle species, as well as diamondback terrapins that live in estuaries. This indoor activity will provide aquatic and terrestrial fun as we learn about the adaptations of these chelonians and create a take-home craft.

Bee Positive

Students will learn about mason bees and the important role pollinators play. They can make a positive impact by making a beehouse to observe at home and helping these important pollinators survive, which is critical to our food supply.

Animal Adaptations

In this hands-on interactive program, students will learn fun facts about the survival skills, adaptations, and diet of several native preserved animal specimens (taxidermied animals). The Florida black bear, bobcat, wild turkey, eastern diamondback rattlesnake and raccoon are used.

Marvelous Metamorphosis

Butterflies and moths are beautiful, amazing insects! Students will be intrigued with the metamorphosis process as they learn to identify the stages of a butterfly’s life cycle, migration patterns and the importance of host plants. This is an indoor activity with a take-home craft.
Owl Pellet Lab

Owls can’t digest bones, fur and feathers and, therefore, regurgitate them in pellets. In this hands-on lab, participants will learn basic owl anatomy and which species of owls are frequently found in Volusia County. They will also examine the contents of owl pellets while learning what and how owls eat. Bones may be taken home. This is an indoor activity.

Reptile Round-up: Live Animal Encounter

Meet one of LEC’s reptile animal ambassadors! Students will learn about reptile adaptations and how they differ from mammals and birds. This program features species native to Florida, as well as others from far away. This program may be held indoors or outdoors.

Secret Weapons

Many insects spit, spray, sting and bite in response to being disturbed or threatened. Sometimes an insect’s physical appearance itself can be a type of self-defense. Students will make a take-home craft and learn about insects, scorpions, spiders and other creatures that use these tactics and how these adaptations have helped them survive for centuries.

Skulls, Scats and Tracks

Skulls, scats and tracks can tell us a lot! Students will learn how to identify evidence left behind to determine which animals live in or travel through a habitat. This hands-on activity may be offered as an indoor or outdoor activity.

Ssslitherin’ Snakes

Florida is home to many species of snakes. In this interactive program, students will learn about snake anatomy and diet and how to recognize the four most common venomous snakes found in Volusia County. Students will learn to appreciate the important role these amazing reptiles play in Florida’s ecology as we discuss food chains and life cycles. An encounter with one of LEC’s live, nonvenomous snakes is also possible during this activity.