



 Cleveland Metroparks®

CANALWAY CENTER

GROUP PROGRAM GUIDE



clevelandmetroparks.com | 216-206-1000



CanalWay Center

4524 East 49th Street | Cuyahoga Heights, Ohio 44125
216-206-1000 | clevelandmetroparks.com



Scheduling a Program

Reservations are required for all group programs. Appointments must be made at least two weeks in advance. Three months is preferred. Programs are free of charge for groups within Cuyahoga County and Hinckley Township. Most programs are 45 - 60 minutes, but can be adjusted to fit the needs of the group.

To schedule a program, please call 216-206-1000 or email CanalWay@Clevelandmetroparks.com with the following information:

- Program choice(s)
- Preferred and alternate dates and times
- Group name, address, phone number, email and contact person
- Grade/age level and number of people in your group (10-person minimum)
- Any special needs of the group
- Program location, school or at CanalWay Center and Ohio & Erie Canal, Lakefront, Washington, Bedford Reservations

Programs at our locations

- Many programs are intended to have an outdoor component. Please dress for the weather.
- Program length varies by program and by age
- Call if you are unable to keep your appointment or group size changes
- Programs for schools align with Ohio's Learning Standards

Programs at your location

- If your group is unable to visit one of our locations, we may be able to visit your location for free within Cuyahoga County and Hinckley Township. If scheduling allows, we can provide programs outside the Park District for a fee.
- Programs at your location must have a minimum of 20 people.



Customized Programs

Many programs can be customized to meet your needs. Looking for something other than what is offered in the program guide? Call to discuss options.

Transportation vouchers

Schools in Cuyahoga County and Hinckley Township may apply for full or partial reimbursement from the Field Trip Transportation Fund to support the cost of travel to one of our locations for a program. Please inquire about the process and how to apply.

ADA Statement

Cleveland Metroparks staff can adapt many programs to be accessible to anyone who would like to participate assuming they meet the essential eligibility criteria. Reasonable accommodation can also be made. Please make a request at the time of registration but no later than 72 business hours prior to the program. Contact us at 216-206-1000. clevelandmetroparks.com/parks/visit/parks/ohio-erie-canal-reservation/canalway-center.



Nature Programs



Nature Programs



Programs listed in this section can be presented for ANY age group at the center, one of our reservations or your location. If you are at one of our locations an outdoor component will be included.

Ohio Mammals

(adaptations, food webs and chains, habitats and classification)

Mammals possess special characteristics that separate them from other animals in nature. This program will highlight the common mammals of Northeast Ohio and their unique adaptations, characteristics and behaviors.

Ohio Birds

(adaptations, food webs and chains, habitats and classification)

What birds might you see at your feeders or in your backyard? We will explore the many different birds you may see in Cleveland Metroparks and the habitats you will find them in.



Tree-mendous Trees

(adaptation, classification, photosynthesis, life cycle)

Discover the different parts of trees such as roots, trunk, branches and leaves. We'll discover the importance of our native trees and how they change through the seasons.

Interesting Insects

(adaptations, food webs and chains, habitats and classification)

We will learn about the characteristics of the insect and discuss some of the insects that live in Ohio, the stages of their life cycles and how important they are to the world around us. Bug netting offered seasonally.



Claws, Scales & Tails

(adaptations, food webs and chains, habitats and classification)

This program will explore some of Ohio's reptiles. We will learn about snakes and turtles using skins, bones, and shells. Live animals may be part of this program.

Senses Exploration

(senses, adaptations, observation of living things, respect for living things)

We will use our five senses to compare and better understand the ways animals use their senses. There will be activities to put some of your senses to the test.

Living vs Non-Living

(observation of living things, basic needs, respect for living things)

This program focuses on what all living things have in common. We will compare and contrast the characteristics that define living and non-living things.

Happenin' Habitat

(adaptations, ecosystems, comparison, interdependencies, human impact on ecosystems, cycles, wetlands, biodiversity)

All living things need food, water, and shelter to survive. Investigate how animals live in different Ohio ecosystems such as forests, fields and wetlands.

***If program is at one of our locations we will hike to explore to nearby habitats.**



Life Cycles

(stages, metamorphosis, change, traits, adaptations)

All living things grow and change whether they start as a seed, an egg, or are born alive. This program will introduce the life cycle of several different animals and plants.

Nature Programs



Nature Programs



Animal Adaptations

(adaptations, ecosystems, comparison, classification, describe, sort)

Every animal has a variety of physical and behavioral modifications to help it function more efficiently. We will learn how an animal's characteristics enable it to find food and survive in its environment.

Nature Finds A Way at the Lakefront

(positive outdoor experience, adaptations, ecosystems, comparison, interdependencies, human impact on ecosystems, cycles, wetlands)

The Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve, once known as Dike 14, tells an interesting story of how Cleveland's Lakefront has grown. What was once a dumping site for trash, vehicles and river dredging is now home to a variety of plants and animals.

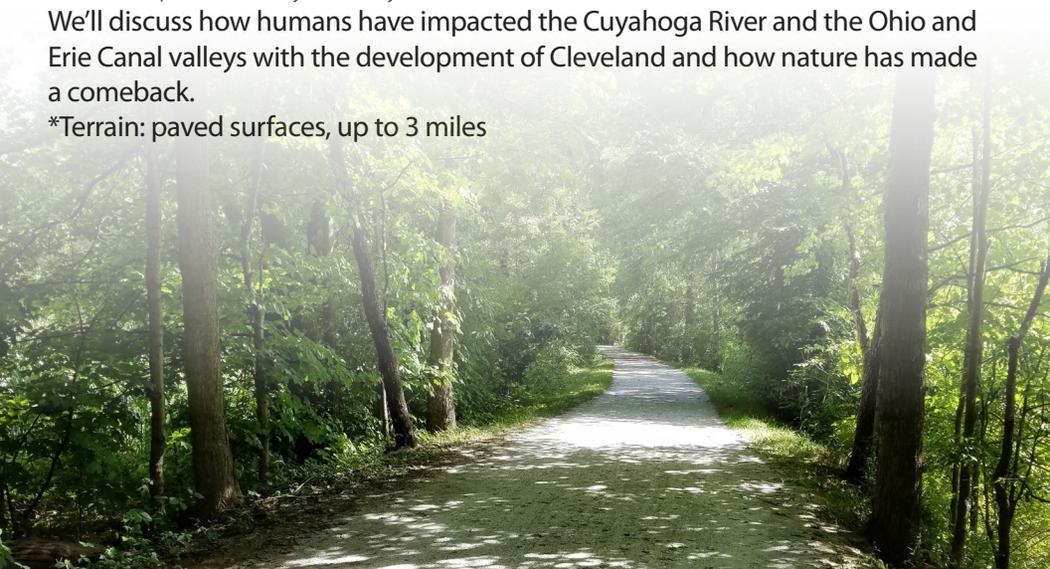
*Terrain: natural surfaces, up to 2 miles

Nature of the Cuyahoga Valley Through Time

(positive outdoor experience, adaptations, ecosystems, comparison, interdependencies, human impact on ecosystems, cycles, wetlands)

We'll discuss how humans have impacted the Cuyahoga River and the Ohio and Erie Canal valleys with the development of Cleveland and how nature has made a comeback.

*Terrain: paved surfaces, up to 3 miles



Food Chain and Energy Flow

(adaptations, food webs and chains, habitats and classification, producer, consumer, predator, prey carrying capacity)

Explore the relationship between herbivores and carnivores. Discover how energy is transferred through a community from producer to decomposer. We will use activities related to food chains to demonstrate the transfer of energy.

Water Cycle

(water forms, erosion, sedimentation)

Water is a powerful force that can shape the environment around us. We will gain a better understanding of where water goes, where it collects, and how it is part of a never-ending cycle.

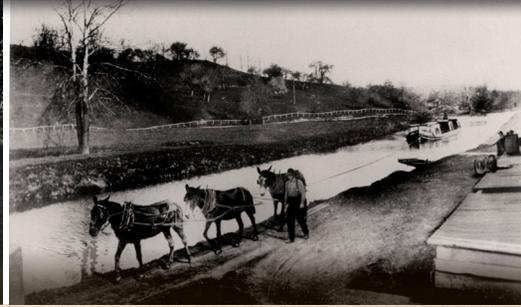


Towpath Trail Tours

Towpath Trail Tours

Travel along the Ohio and Erie Canal Towpath on a cart tour. We'll discuss the past and the present people and animals call this valley their home. This accessible cart can accommodate groups of 10 or less. This program does have a fee that varies with the length of the program and the time of day. Call for details.

History Programs



History Programs



Indoor presentations for adult groups

Ohio and Erie Canal Life

(transportation, timelines, maps, economic decision making, production and consumption, markets)

Learn about changes in transportation over time and about the Ohio and Erie Canal in this interactive, hands-on program.

The Ohio and Erie Canal: Why a Big Ditch was a Big Deal

Explore the ins and outs of the canal including its construction, route and effect on the development of Ohio.

Cleveland: Village to 5th City

Starting with the establishment of Western Reserve, explore the impact of the Ohio and Erie Canal and growth of the Cleveland area over the city's first 100 years.

Ohio's Wildlife Past & Present

Did you know that wolves and bears were a common sight for early settlers? That there was a time when deer and beaver could not be found? Why bald eagles have made an amazing comeback? Find out about these animals and more who live or have lived in Ohio.

Fires on the Water

(natural resources, transportation, timelines, economic decision making, production and consumption)

In 1969, a relatively small fire on the Cuyahoga River helped fan the flames of the environmental movement. We'll examine the factors that led to fires on the Cuyahoga and other rivers, the reasons why our fire became so famous, and delve into the science of how it could happen.

Flats Bridges

(transportation, timelines, technology, maps, economic decision making)

A pictorial and historical presentation on the types of bridges that cross the Cuyahoga River in the flats and how they work. We'll discuss the major parts of bridges, a bit of the engineering behind them, and considerations for bridge builders.

Great Lakes Exposition 1936-1937

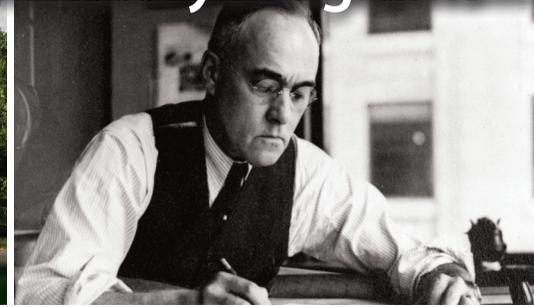
(transportation, timelines, maps, economic decision making, production and consumption, markets, technology)

In the midst of the Great Depression, Cleveland held itself a massive 100th birthday party to show off its industrial might, as well as its cultural and natural history. Take a look at how civic and business leaders built a massive exposition on the lakefront, and the impact it had on the City of Cleveland.

History Programs



History Programs



Great Lakes Cargo Ships

(transportation, technology, timelines, maps, economic decision making, production and consumption, markets, natural resources)

Cleveland is a port city and ships are vital to our economy. Since before William Gordon (of Gordon Park and Gordon Square Arts District fame) orchestrated the first shipment of iron ore from Lake Superior to Cleveland, we've been receiving raw materials by bulk cargo ship. We'll discuss how these behemoths of transportation work and where you can go to see them in action.

Cleveland's Union Terminal Tower

(transportation, maps, economic decision making, markets, technology)

One of North America's largest building projects of the early 1900s was a massive transportation hub built on a bluff above the former Ohio and Erie Canal. The project razed over 1000 buildings, changed Cleveland's skyline, and erected the nation's tallest building outside of New York City. Today, development along Rivergate Park, the Red Line Greenway, and Irishtown Bend benefit from those actions. Build upon what you know about the iconic tower complex.

Irishtown Bend

(communities, transportation, maps, economic decision making, production and consumption, markets)

A hillside along the Cuyahoga River provided community for many of the Irish immigrants that poured into the region in the 1800s. We'll consider conditions in the area that led to Clevelanders looking down on Irishtown Bend and labeling it a shantytown. We'll also take a glimpse at the recreational wonders and greenspaces planned for the area.

Towpath Trail Update

(transportation, timelines, maps, economic decision making, communities)

The Towpath Trail attempts to follow an historic path alongside the former Ohio and Erie Canal. The northernmost section will be the spine of a network of trails integral to re-connecting Cleveland neighborhoods. We'll discuss the planning and the process involved as they race to complete the area's defining recreation trail.

Cleveland Metroparks History

(transportation, timelines, maps, economic decision making)

Take a snapshot look at how William Stinchcomb planted the idea of a connected ring of parks outside the City of Cleveland, and how it grew into your Cleveland Metroparks.

