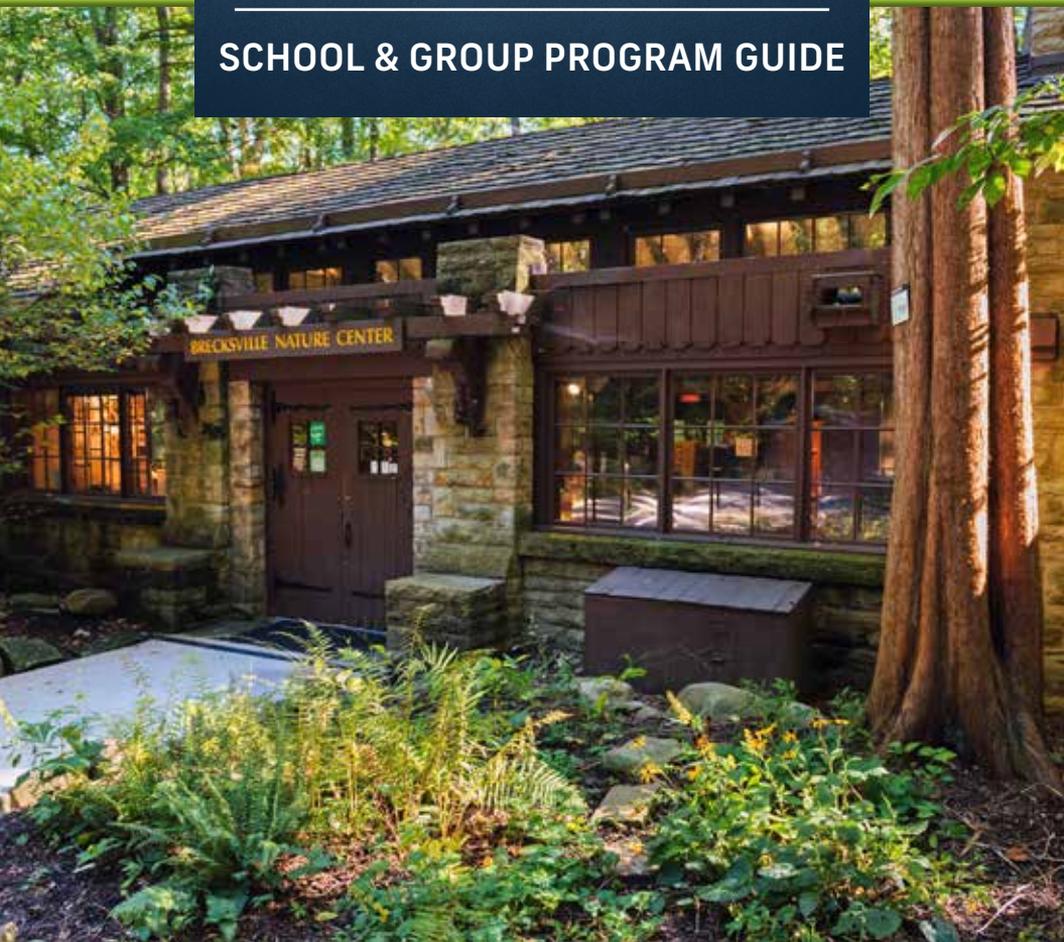




BRECKSVILLE NATURE CENTER

SCHOOL & GROUP PROGRAM GUIDE



9000 Chippewa Creek Dr. | Brecksville, OH 44141
(440) 526-1012 | clevelandmetroparks.com/bnc

Cleveland Metroparks offers a wide variety of programs that align with Ohio's Learning Standards and are taught by our trained professional educators.

SCHEDULING A PROGRAM

Reservations are required for all school and group programs and must be made at least two weeks in advance (3 months is preferred). **Programs are free of charge for schools and groups within Cuyahoga County and Hinckley Township**, unless otherwise noted.

To schedule a program:

Call 440-526-1012, email brecksvillenc@clevelandmetroparks.com with the following information or fill out a program request at clevelandmetroparks.com/RequestaProgram

1. Program choice(s)
2. Preferred and alternate dates and times and location
3. School/group name, address, phone number, email and contact person
4. Grade/age level and number of people in your group (10-student minimum)
5. Any special needs of the group

Programs offered at Brecksville Nature Center, Brecksville, Mill Stream Run and Hinckley reservations:

- Most programs take place outdoors or have an outdoor component. Please dress for the weather and wear closed-toe shoes. Programs take place rain or shine.
- Program length varies by content and age.
- Call if you are unable to keep your appointment or group size changes.

Programs offered at your school or location:

- If your group is unable to visit one of our locations, we can visit your location for free within the park district (Cuyahoga County and Hinckley Township). There is a charge for programs outside the park district.
- Programs at your location must have a minimum of 20 people.

Custom Programs

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

Transportation Vouchers

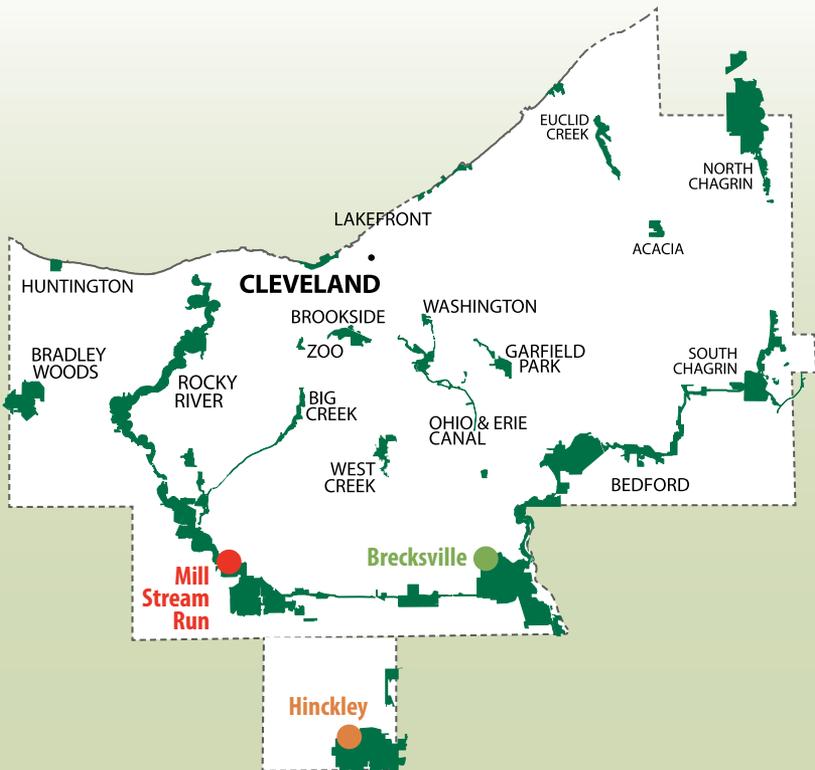
Schools in Cuyahoga County and Hinckley Township may apply for full or partial reimbursement from the Field Trip Transportation Fund to support the cost of travel to one of our locations for a program. Please inquire about the process and how to apply.

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 provided. Please make a request at the time of registration but no later than 72 business hours prior to the program. Contact us at 440-526-1012.

Program locations labeled by color throughout this guide.

- BNC** | Brecksville Nature Center
- HiR** | Hinckley Reservation
- MSRR** | Mill Stream Run Reservation
- OR** | Outreach (at your school or location)



PRE-KINDERGARTEN

Chickadee Trail

BNC

Experience life as a chickadee. Discover the basic needs of these birds and how they survive. The trail will guide us on an interactive investigation through the chickadee's habitat.

Soaring, Storing & Snoring

BNC

Each animal has its own unique way to prepare for winter. We will follow a map and discover what a few animals do to help prepare for the hardships of winter. Will they soar off to warmer weather, store food nearby or sleep the day away?

The Mitten

BNC OR

Jan Brett's *The Mitten* is read in many classrooms each winter. Enhance this experience for your students as a naturalist not only reads the story but allows them to act it out as they each seek shelter, pretending to be one of the animals in the story. Students will have the opportunity to learn a little more about those animals that are found in Ohio.

A "Sense"-ational Hike

BNC HiR MSRR

Students will explore nature using their senses. They will listen for birds and other wildlife, smell a variety of plants (maybe even an animal), see the world around them and touch a few things along the way.



KINDERGARTEN

Busy Beavers

BNC HiR OR

Beavers are professionals at changing the environment to meet their needs. Students will see many special adaptations of these magnificent mammals firsthand. Teacher participation is required.

NOTE: This program can be done at Hinckley Reservation where students can hike to a nearby beaver dam.

Form Fits Function

BNC OR

Living things are made of parts which allow them to function and survive. Students will compare a variety of bird beaks and discover how they help birds eat specific foods.

Get the Dirt on Worms

BNC OR

Students will conduct experiments to determine what conditions are favorable to red worms and learn how they can turn “garbage” into soil.



Ohio Animals

BNC HiR MSRR OR

Animals all have unique features that help them survive in a specific environment. Students will compare the teeth of meat and plant eaters, hold the feet of various birds and discover the many adaptations that aid animals in meeting their basic needs.

Soaring, Storing & Snoring

BNC

Each animal has its own unique way to prepare for winter. We will follow a map and discover what a few animals do to help prepare for the hardships of winter. Will they soar off to warmer weather, store food nearby or sleep the day away?

The Mitten

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Jan Brett's *The Mitten* is read in many classrooms each winter. Enhance this experience for your students as a naturalist not only reads the story to them but allows them to act it out as they each seek shelter, pretending to be one of the animals in the story. Your students will have the opportunity to learn a little more about those animals that are found in Ohio.

1st GRADE

Basic Needs

BNC OR

All living animals share the same basic needs. We will reinforce these needs as we discover and discuss animals found in a variety of habitats, including; wetlands, fields and forests.

Form Fits Function

BNC OR

We are surrounded by birds year-round. Discover how birds use their beaks to reach and capture specific food items. Several beak designs will be explored.

Homes & Habitats

BNC HiR MSRR

Explore a forest, creek, and prairie or field to discover how and why plants and animals live in certain habitats.

Winter Survival

BNC OR

Winter is a season of rain, snow, sleet and ice. Discover the adaptations that enable Ohio plants and animals to survive these harsh conditions.



Busy Beavers

BNC HiR OR

Beavers are professionals at changing the environment to meet their needs. Students will see many special adaptations of these magnificent mammals firsthand. Teacher participation is required.

NOTE: This program can be done at Hinckley Reservation where students can hike to a nearby beaver dam.



Ecosystem Ecology

BNC HiR MSRR

There are several fascinating, beautiful and diverse ecosystems within Cleveland Metroparks. Take an in-depth look at a forest, creek, prairie or field or visit all three. Explore the diversity of organisms, habitats and food webs in these ecosystems.

Get the Dirt on Worms

BNC OR

Students will conduct experiments to determine what conditions are favorable to red worms and learn how they can turn "garbage" into soil.

Homes & Habitats

BNC HiR MSRR

Explore a forest, creek, and prairie or field to discover how and why plants and animals live in certain habitats.

Water & Weather Matters

BNC OR

Causing changes to the states of water will help students understand the water cycle and the need to conserve this vital resource. Seasonal weather patterns will also be discussed.

Willie of the Willows

BNC OR

This wetland-wise character teaches the value of wetlands and the importance they hold to the ecological balance of the earth. Willie's favorite saying is: "Sit quietly, look quietly, and listen quietly." This program is full of similes, metaphors and illustrations that help each student understand basic ecological concepts. The role of certain plants and organisms in a wetland will be discussed.

3rd GRADE

Digger Gallagher the Canaler

BNC OR

This living history presentation brings to life the Canal Era through song, story and audience involvement. Digger actively teaches listeners about the need of the Ohio & Erie Canal, digging the ditch, to working on the canal boat. Digger will artfully take you on a journey into Ohio's past.

Form Fits Function

BNC OR

Living things have characteristics which allow them to function and survive in a particular habitat. This interactive program allows students to test a variety of beak types and food items, analyzing which beaks will be successful.

Intro to Life Cycles

BNC HiR MSRR OR

Some plants and animals have life cycles that are specialized for survival in a specific habitat. This program will introduce the life cycle of several different plants and animals.

Plant Life Cycles

BNC OR

Enhance your life cycle unit with a hands-on exploration of the reproductive parts of a flower. Each student will have the opportunity to dissect their own flower after we review the basic anatomy of a plant and tree.



Rocks Rule!

BNC HiR OR

Students will explore rock samples; identifying the properties and types of rocks. They will conclude with a hands-on investigation of soil. (Students doing this program at Hinckley Reservation will hike through Whipp's Ledges instead of investigating soil.)

Singing Ohio History

BNC OR

Through the timeless tradition of folk music, history comes alive with traditional and original songs that capture the essence of the past. Students will learn different eras of Ohio and our nation's past from early pioneer life, canal, railroad, Great Lakes shipping, Underground Railroad and regional natural resources that brought immigrants to Ohio.

Spring Amphibians

BNC OR

Students will discover the life cycles of several Ohio amphibians and learn why vernal pool habitat is critical to the reproduction and survival of frogs and salamanders. Program only available February through May.

4th GRADE

Digger Gallagher the Canaler

BNC OR

This living history presentation brings to life the Canal Era through song, story and audience involvement. Digger actively teaches listeners about the need of the Ohio & Erie Canal, digging the ditch, to working on the canal boat. Digger will artfully take you on a journey into Ohio's past.

Serge the Voyageur

BNC OR

Join Serge in reliving the days of the early Great Lakes Fur Trade Era. You will learn French Canadian voyageur songs, mammals of the fur trade and hear wilderness stories revealing the daily life of these paddle men. This is a cultural and natural history lesson combined in one.

Shaping the Earth

HiR

Explore the pendant of the Emerald Necklace during your field trip to Hinckley Reservation. We will hike through Whipp's Ledges and find ourselves surrounded by massive rock formations. Students will see the effects of weathering on the face of these giants and will find an actual plant fossil.

Steely Stan the Iron Man

BNC OR

Making steel requires natural resources from across our state and the nation. Steely Stan explains the process of making steel and shares the journey the raw ingredients of iron ore, coal and limestone take to make steel. Steely Stan will sing and involve the audience in explaining this amazing industry.

Ecosystem Ecology

BNC HiR MSRR

There are several fascinating, beautiful and diverse ecosystems within Cleveland Metroparks. Take an in-depth look at a forest, creek, prairie or field or visit a few. Explore the diversity of organisms, habitats and food webs.



The Quarry Man

BNC OR

Back in the mid to late 1800s sandstone quarries were plentiful throughout northeast Ohio and provided many jobs for immigrants. "The Quarry Man" tells the story of the daily grind the "Men of Grit" had to endure and the impact they made not only in Ohio, but throughout the world. This program is filled with geology, local history and educational fun.

Weathering & Erosion

BNC OR

Through classroom experimentation, students will identify if changes have been caused by erosion or weathering.

5th & 6th GRADES

Ecosystem Ecology

BNC HiR MSRR

There are several fascinating, beautiful and diverse ecosystems within Cleveland Metroparks. Take an in-depth look at a forest, creek, prairie or field and visit a few. Explore the diversity of organisms, habitats and food webs.

Intro to Ecosystems

BNC OR

Relationships of organisms in an ecosystem are complex. Students will define and identify ecosystems and learn about the food web and transfer of energy in this interactive program.



Professor Horatio Habitat

BNC OR

This wacky professor shares the importance of maintaining healthy wildlife habitats. The four ingredients that ensure a stable habitat, food chains, Ohio threatened and endangered species, and successful wildlife management practices are included in this timely lesson.

Rocks Rule!

BNC OR

Geology tells the story of Ohio. Explore the properties of minerals and learn about the rock cycle.

Serge the Voyageur

BNC OR

Join Serge in reliving the days of the early Great Lakes Fur Trade Era. You will learn French Canadian voyageur songs, mammals of the fur trade, and hear wilderness stories revealing the daily life of these paddle men. This is a cultural and natural history lesson combined in one.

7th & 8th GRADES

Ecosystem Ecology

BNC HiR MSRR

Take an in-depth look at a forest, creek, prairie or field or visit a few. Learn about photosynthesis and the flow of energy in these ecosystems.

Shaping the Earth

HiR

Explore the pendant of Cleveland Metroparks during your field trip to Hinckley Reservation. We will hike through Whipp's Ledges and find ourselves surrounded by massive rock formations. Students will see the effects of weathering on the face of these giants and will find an actual plant fossil.

HIGH SCHOOL

Ecosystem Ecology

BNC HiR MSRR

Take an in-depth look at a forest, creek, prairie or field or visit a few. Learn about photosynthesis and the flow of energy in these ecosystems.

Shaping the Earth

HiR

Explore the pendant of Cleveland Metroparks during your field trip to Hinckley Reservation. We will hike through Whipp's Ledges and find ourselves surrounded by massive rock formations. Students will see the effects of weathering on the face of these giants and will find an actual plant fossil.

ADULT/COMMUNITY GROUP PROGRAMS

Spring Wildflowers

BNC HiR MSRR

Identify spring wildflowers while hiking through the woodlands of Cleveland Metroparks. We will discuss plant structure and how this relates to food production, growth and reproduction. Program only available April and May.

Autumn Leaves

BNC HiR MSRR

Identify and classify 12 common trees using a simple leaf guide. Explore photosynthesis and its importance in energy flow through the forest ecosystem. Program only available October and November.





Scan the QR code to visit Brecksville Nature Center page
or go to clevelandmetroparks.com/bnc

