



# CANALWAY CENTER

SCHOOL & GROUP PROGRAM GUIDE



4524 E. 49th St. | Cuyahoga Heights, OH 44125  
(216) 206-1000 | [clevelandmetroparks.com/cwc](http://clevelandmetroparks.com/cwc)

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

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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.

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### To schedule a program:

Call 216-206-1000, email [canalway@clevelandmetroparks.com](mailto:canalway@clevelandmetroparks.com) with the following information or fill out a program request at [clevelandmetroparks.com/RequestaProgram](http://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 are offered at CanalWay Center, Ohio & Erie Canal, Beford, Garfield Park, Lakefront and Washington 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 by 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 216-206-1000.

Program locations labeled by color throughout this guide.

- CWC** | CanalWay Center & Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation
- BeR** | Bedford Reservation
- GPR** | Garfield Park Reservation
- LR** | Lakefront Reservation
- WR** | Washington Reservation
- OR** | Outreach (at your school or location)
- V** | Virtual



## PRE-KINDERGARTEN

### Exploring Nature with Senses

CWC BeR GPR LR WR OR

We see with our eyes, we smell with our noses, we listen with our ears, we taste with our tongue, and we touch with our skin. In this program, we will experience the natural world with our senses and learn how animals use their senses to navigate the world.

### Ohio Wildlife

CWC BeR LR OR

Native wildlife adapts their needs to survive in nature. Choose to follow either mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds, plants or insects to see what it takes for them to live in Ohio. Students will compare and contrast their own personal human needs with animal needs.

### Seasonal Exploration

CWC BeR GPR LR OR

Changes in the seasons are inevitable in Ohio. Children will discover the wonder of these seasonal characteristics, changes, cycles and how they affect the natural world.

## KINDERGARTEN

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## Living vs. Nonliving

CWC OR

All living things have traits and behaviors that ensure they can survive in their environment. We will look at the age-old question of “what does it mean to be alive” by looking at native living-things and discussing what they need from their habitat to help them stay alive.

## Mapping it Out

CWC LR OR

In this Social Studies program, we will learn how people depend on each other for food, water, and shelter and how we change the land to move goods and people. Students will determine the most suitable means of transportation of goods and will create a map route.

# 1st GRADE

## Exploring Nature with Senses

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## Habitat Exploration

CWC BeR GPR LR OR

Habitats are places where organisms make their home and meet all their needs for survival. Exploring one or more local habitats, such as wetlands, forests, fields and other waterways, allows us to dive into the characteristics that define that habitat and learn more about the organisms that call it “home sweet home”.

## Families Now and Long Ago

CWC OR

In this Social Studies program, children will compare and contrast how children and families lived during the Ohio Canal era versus how families and children live in America today.

## 2nd GRADE

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### Seasonal Exploration

CWC BeR GPR LR OR

Changes in the seasons are inevitable in Ohio. Children will fall into the wonder of these seasonal characteristics, changes, cycles and how they affect the natural world. This springboard for discovery includes an outside adventure, so please dress for the weather!

### Living vs. Nonliving

CWC OR

All living things have traits and behaviors that ensure they can survive in their environment. We will look at the age-old question of “what does it mean to be alive” by looking at native living-things and discussing what they need from their habitat to help them stay alive.

### Habitat Exploration: Beavers

CWC BeR GPR LR OR

Habitats are places where organisms make their home and meet all their needs for survival. In this program, we will explore the habitat beavers call home to learn how they change the landscape by building dams and lodges.

### Earth Science Cycles: Water

CWC BeR LR

Where water is stored and how it moves around Earth describes the natural cycle of water. Dive deep into the water cycle as we learn about evaporation, condensation and precipitation in relationship to our atmosphere at places where water flows. Program location choices include Lake Erie at the Lakefront, the Cuyahoga River and Ohio & Erie Canal or the creeks and waterfalls of Bedford.

### Job Then and Now

CWC OR

This Social Studies program focuses on how people worked together in different roles and used the technology of the day to help create and use the Ohio & Erie Canal.



## 3rd GRADE

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### Seasonal Exploration

CWC BeR GPR LR OR

Changes in the seasons are inevitable in Ohio. Children will discover the wonder of these seasonal characteristics, changes, cycles and how they affect the natural world.

### Living vs. Nonliving

CWC OR

All living things have traits and behaviors that ensure they can survive in their environment while non-living resources have unique properties. We will look at the age-old question of “what does it mean to be alive” by comparing living and nonliving things in nature.

### Habitat Exploration

CWC BeR GPR LR OR

Habitats are places where organisms make their home and meet all their needs for survival. Exploring one or more local habitats, such as wetlands, forests, fields and other waterways, allows us to dive into the characteristics that define that habitat and learn more about the organisms that call it “home sweet home”.

### Earth Science Cycles: Life

CWC BeR GPR LR OR

All living things require energy to grow and develop. Whether they start as a seed, an egg or are born alive they all experience developmental stages in life. This program will introduce the life cycles of different animals and plants and their adaptation for survival.

### How “Cleveland” Grew Up

CWC OR

In this Social Studies program, we will learn about how the Ohio & Erie Canal helped the community of “Cleaveland” grow from a small village to a city.

## 4th GRADE

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### Ohio Wildlife

CWC BeR LR OR

Native wildlife adapts their needs to survive in nature. Choose to follow either mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds, plants or insects in this program. Students will discuss how local wildlife are adapting to a changing Ohio environment.

### Habitat Exploration

CWC BeR GPR LR OR

Changes in an organism’s habitat can help or hinder its survival. Exploring one or more local habitats, such as wetlands, forests, fields and other waterways, allows us to dive into the characteristics that define that habitat, what may be helpful or harmful for an organism and how humans play a role in these changes.

## Earth Science Cycles: Resources

CWC LR OR

The Earth is in constant motion and in this program, we will examine the water and rock cycles. We can also discover how changes in these Earth resources affect the animals and plants that live here in northeast Ohio.

## Ohio & Erie Canal: "The Big Ditch"

CWC OR

This Social Studies program focuses on how the Ohio & Erie Canal brought economic and population growth throughout the state of Ohio. We will learn about the political and physical process to build "The Big Ditch".

### 5th GRADE

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#### Habitat Exploration

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#### Earth Science Cycles: Energy

CWC BeR GPR LR OR

The Earth's motion creates cycles that affect the living things on this planet. We will explore how living things acquire and use energy through photosynthesis and food chains while surviving the cycles of the Earth.

#### Early Inhabitants of Northeast Ohio

CWC OR

In this Social Studies program, we will investigate the early inhabitants of northeast Ohio and will use primary sources and maps to help us understand what we know and do not know about those that were here in this pre-contact era.

### 6th GRADE

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#### Habitat Exploration

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#### Earth Science Cycles: Rocks

BeR OR

Rocks are formed by various changes through melting, cooling, eroding, compacting, and deforming. This program will "rock" students' curiosity by investigating this cycle and the three types of rocks formed by physical changes that are part of this process.

## 7th & 8th GRADES

### Habitat Exploration

CWC BeR GPR LR OR

Habitats are places where organisms make their home and meet all their needs for survival. Exploring one or more local habitats, such as wetlands, forests, fields and other waterways, allows us to dive into the characteristics that define that habitat and learn more about the organisms that call it “home sweet home”.

### Earth Science Cycles: Population

CWC BeR GPR LR OR

Count on this program to examine the energy flow between organisms within an ecosystem. We will discuss food webs and growth and survival of Ohio plant and animal populations depending on a variety of biotic and abiotic factors.

## HIGH SCHOOL

### Flat Bridges

CWC LR OR V

A pictorial and historical presentation on the types of bridges you'll see 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.

### Burning River: A Tale of Neglect, Abuse, Reclamation and Revitalization

CWC LR OR V

The 1969 Cuyahoga River fire was a major catalyst for the Clean Water Act and the creation of the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Look back at the history of our “crooked river.” A tale of neglect and abuse, but also, a tale of reclamation and revival.

### The Canal that Grew Cleveland

CWC LR OR V

“Cleaveland” was little more than a sleepy village on Lake Erie until chosen as the northern terminus of the Ohio & Erie Canal. This program covers the canal's planning, development, use and the economic boom that drew hundreds of entrepreneurs westward.



## ADULT/COMMUNITY GROUP PROGRAMS

These are primarily indoor presentations, however outdoor history hikes are available by request and encouraged. These programs can be adapted for school groups.

### **The Canal that Grew Cleveland**

**CWC LR OR V**

"Cleaveland" was little more than a sleepy village on Lake Erie until chosen as the northern terminus of the Ohio & Erie Canal. This program covers the canal's planning, development, use and the economic boom that drew hundreds of entrepreneurs westward.

### **The Trails That Connect Us**

**CWC LR OR V**

The northern section of the 110-mile Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail is the spine of a network of trails integral to re-connecting Cleveland neighborhoods. This program discusses the planning and problems that perplexed the planners as they completed the area's defining recreation trail. Also includes a look at the Red Line Greenway, Cleveland Foundation Centennial Lake Link Trail and more.

### **Exploring the Flats: Up and Down a Crooked River**

**CWC LR OR V**

From the first log cabins to the vibrant venues of today, the Cleveland Flats have a long and varied history. This program gives an overview of the places and people that built, worked and played along the mouth of the Cuyahoga River.

### **Flats Bridges**

**CWC LR OR V**

A pictorial and historical presentation on the types of bridges you'll see 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.

### **Burning River: A Tale of Neglect, Abuse, Reclamation and Revitalization**

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The 1969 Cuyahoga River fire was a major catalyst for the Clean Water Act and the creation of the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Look back at the history of our "crooked river." A tale of neglect and abuse, but also, a tale of reclamation and revival.

### **A Shot of Whiskey Island**

**CWC LR OR V**

Whiskey Island is really a peninsula that's roughly one-half landfill. Maps and pictures will be used to explain how a river moves naturally and how we alter it to suit our needs. This program also covers the history and lore of the awesome industrial activities you can still see on your way to Wendy Park.

## **Irishtown Bend**

**CWC LR OR V**

A hillside along the Cuyahoga River provided community for Irish immigrants in the 1800s. Clevelanders literally and figuratively looked down upon Irishtown Bend, and erroneously disparaged it as a shantytown. We'll consider area conditions and sentiment of the day. We'll also cover the current challenges of much-needed infrastructure repair, as well as a glimpse at the area's planned recreational wonders and greenspaces.



## **Cleveland Metroparks History: The Early Years**

**CWC OR V**

Learn how our beloved Emerald Necklace evolved from an idea to a reality. Follow the history of the park as it blossomed in the 1920s, survived the Great Depression and World War II, and met the challenges of the 1950s.

## **Cleveland Metroparks History: The Legacy Continues**

**CWC OR V**

The history continues as the park system grew and changed from the turbulent 1960s through the challenges of the 21st century.

## **Practical Dreamer: William Stinchcomb and the Creation of Cleveland Metroparks**

**CWC OR V**

From his early years growing up on Cleveland's near west side to his leadership in creating and developing the young park system into one of the nation's best, William Stinchcomb was truly a "practical dreamer." Learn about this man to whom we owe our beloved "Emerald Necklace."



Scan the QR code to log onto CanalWay website  
or go to [clevelandmetroparks.com/cwc](https://clevelandmetroparks.com/cwc)



**Cleveland  
Metroparks®**