



# Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

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## **NATURE INSPIRES HOLIDAY FUN AT LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER** *GREEN GIFTS, WILD TURKEYS, SPICY PLANTS, ANIMAL TREATS & THE "BIG WOODS"*

Bay Village, Ohio --- Holiday programs inspired by nature will fill the months of November and December at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center in Bay Village. On Saturday, November 15, families of all ages can explore how to "Make It a Green Holiday" during a two-hour workshop that starts at Noon. Program participants will explore "Green" gift ideas, eco-friendly wrapping and decorating options and will make some recycled gifts to take home, using their own empty 2-liter bottles and old CDs. The program is \$5 per family and requires pre-registration.

Just in time for Thanksgiving, the popular Weekend Explorers program (for children ages 1 – 5 *with* an accompanying adult) delves into the world of wild turkeys. The one-hour, Let's Talk Turkey program on Saturday, November 22 at 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. , includes a turkey craft, story and a visit to the Center's resident gobblers. (Careful, your kids might wind up asking for tofu at your holiday table!) On December 6, the Weekend Explorers explore the world of seasonal herbs and spices. All Weekend Explorers programs require advance registration and cost \$15 per child with a \$5 discount for Center members.

Later in December, author Laura Ingalls' holiday traditions from the "Big Woods" books come to life at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center's own cozy log cabin. Kids in two age categories can sign up for "Big Woods" style fun including a special log cabin craft and a woodland animal encounter, along with hot cocoa and cookies. You'll need to pre-register for this program and space is limited. For children ages 4 - 6, there are two date options, either December 8 or 9 at 10 a.m., with an after-school program for Grades 1 - 3 on December 9 from 4 - 5 p.m.

On December 16, Lake Erie Nature & Science Center brings another classic holiday story to life. The heartwarming wildlife tale of *The Night Tree* inspires this program, for families with children ages 3 and up and includes hands-on appearances by some of the wild animals featured in the story. Families will prepare delicious treats for the wildlife to eat and enjoy their own afternoon snack of holiday cookies and warm beverages. The 3 – 4:30 p.m. program costs \$10 per child and requires advance registration.

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Lake Erie Nature & Science Center provides wildlife exhibits and rehabilitation, planetarium and nature education programs to more than 140,000 visitors every year. The non-profit Center relies on donations to maintain free admission, rehab services and its full slate of exceptional educational programming.

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**Event Listings:**

**Make it a Green Holiday!**

**For families of all ages**

**Saturday, November 15**

**Noon - 2 p.m.**

**Fee: \$5/family**

Get some great ideas on how to “Go Green” for the holidays in this family workshop! Be inspired by “green” gift ideas and eco-friendly wrapping and decorating options. Make a few of your very own recycled gifts to take home. **\*\*Participants bring their own empty 2 liter bottle, as well as 2 CDs they can easily part with.\*\***

**Weekend Explorers - Let’s Talk Turkey**

**For children ages 1 - 5 with an adult**

**Saturday, November 22**

**10 - 11 a.m. OR 1 – 2 p.m.**

**Fee: \$15/child; members \$10/child**

It wouldn’t be Thanksgiving without turkeys, but how much do you really know about these elusive birds? What is their habitat? What do they eat? Can they fly? Learn the answers, visit our resident gobblers and make a turkey craft. We’ll also discuss all the things we’re thankful for in nature! Pre-registration required.

**‘Tis the Season for Seasoning**

**For children ages 1 - 5 with an adult**

**Saturday, December 6**

**10 - 11 a.m.**

**Fee: \$15/child; members \$10/child**

Spice up your holiday with this “flavorful” class! Explore the world of dried herbs and spices. We’ve been adding them to our food for years, but are we the only ones who know about these plants? Find out what animals may be using seasonings and why. Take home some mulling spices of your own. Pre- registration required.

**“Big Woods” Holiday Happenings**

**For ages 4 - 6**

**Monday, December 8 OR Tuesday, December 9**

**10 - 11 a.m.**

**OR**

**For Grades 1 - 3**

**Tuesday, December 9**

**4 - 5 p.m.**

**Fee: \$15/child; member \$10/child**

Enjoy holiday pioneer fun in our cozy log cabin as we travel back in time with the Ingalls family to their log cabin in the “Big Woods.” Hear tales of their special holiday together as you stay warm with hot cocoa and cookies. Meet a woodland animal that shared the woods with the Ingalls and create a special log cabin craft to take home. Celebrate a log cabin holiday!

**The Night Tree**

**For ages 3 and up with an adult**

**Tuesday, December 16**

**3 - 4:30 p.m.**

**Fee: \$10/child**

You won’t want to miss *The Night Tree*, the heartwarming story of one family’s tradition of sharing the true spirit of the holidays with nature. Hear the telling of *The Night Tree* in the Schuele Planetarium and have a close encounter with some of the animals featured in the story! Prepare yummy treats for the wildlife to eat and enjoy your own afternoon snack of holiday cookies and warm beverages.

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