

Habitats

Grade 2

Teacher's Guide



Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

Description

This inquiry-based field trip examines how plants, animals and nonliving things interact within a habitat. Students explore “investigation stations” and head out on a guided hike in the Huntington Reservation.

Length: 90 minutes. **Adult chaperones recommended:** 5

Content Standards

Subject	Gr	Standard	Objective/"I can" Statements
Life Science	2	Living things cause changes on Earth.	I can observe and explain ways that living and non-living things interact in a habitat.
Geography	2	Human activities alter the environment both positively and negatively.	I can identify ways that humans impact the environment.

Pre-Trip Activities

Teachers read: *In the Woods: Who's Been Here?* By Lindsay Barrett George.

Vocabulary

abiotic	living
biotic	native species
competition	non-living
habitat	non-native
species	interact
invasive species	scat

Additional Books

- Animal Behavior by Joseph Midtun. World Book, 2014.
- Crinkleroot's Guide to Knowing Animal Habitats by Jim Arnosky. Simon and Schuster Books, 1997.
- On Meadowview Street by Henry Cole. Greenwillow Books, 2007.
- Nature's Patchwork Quilt: Understanding Habitats by Marv

Post-Trip Activities at School

- In small collaborative groups, have students come up with their own examples of how humans impact their environment in positive ways.

Extension Activities

- Design, build and maintain a worm-composting bin. Journal changes in the system and make connections about what is happening in the bin to what is happening in nature.
- Design and maintain an ant farm. Journal changes in the system and make connections on what is happening in the ant farm to what is happening in nature.
- Observe a plot of land that has been abandoned and make predictions about how the appearance of that property will change if there is no human intervention. If possible, document the changes throughout the year.
- Read a story about environmental change caused by living things and discuss.