



HABITATS

Grades 2-5 | 90 Minutes

Program Overview

Description

This hands-on field trip examines how plants, animals and nonliving things interact within a habitat. Students explore investigation stations with animal ambassadors of the Center and embark on a guided hike in Huntington Reservation.

Not recommended for December through February. Please dress for the weather.

Adult chaperones recommended: 5

Content Standards

Subject	Gr	Ohio Department of Education Standards
Life Science	2	Living things cause changes on Earth.
Geography	2	Human activities alter the environment both positively and negatively.
Earth Science	3	Earth's nonliving resources have specific properties. Earth's resources can be used for energy. Some of Earth's resources are limited.
Earth Science	4	The surface of Earth changes due to erosion and deposition.
Life Science	4	Changes in an organism's environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.
Life Science	5	Organisms perform a variety of roles in an ecosystem. All of the processes that take place within organisms require energy.

Earth Science	5	Most of the cycles and patterns of motion between the Earth and Sun are predictable.
Climate Literacy Principles		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sun is the primary source of energy for Earth's climate system. 3. Life on Earth depends on, is shaped by, and affects climate.

Vocabulary

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

Books we recommend

- Animal Behavior by Joseph Midtun. World Book, 2014.
- On Meadowview Street by Henry Cole. Greenwillow Books, 2007.
- Nature's Patchwork Quilt: Understanding Habitats by Mary
- In the Woods: Who's Been Here? by Lindsay Barrett George

Post-Trip Activities

- Write a "For Sale" ad for a habitat of your choice. It should talk about the features of the habitat and what animals might want to live there
- Compare pond water with tap water, using microscopes or magnifying glasses
- Research and build an enclosed terrarium and observe how it changes over time
- Learn about other types of habitats that exist in Ohio, and the plants and animals that make up those habitats

Other Resources

Information on trees as habitats, Ohio and U. S. habitats:

<https://www.plt.org/stem-strategies/trees-as-habitats/>

<https://www.exploringnature.org/db/view/Ohio-Habitats-Mammals-Birds-Amphibians-Reptiles>

<https://a-z-animals.com/animals/location/north-america/united-states/ohio/>