



School Field Trip and Outreach Programs



Our two most popular programs for primary and secondary schools:

AQUATIC FOOD CHAIN

Students create a living food chain with the animals and plants collected using a seine net pulled through the shallows.



WETLANDS METAPHORS

Not long ago marshes were thought to be muddy, smelly, wastelands in much need of development to make the, more productive. Now we know the marshes serve many functions, for wildlife and humans. Participants will discover how wetlands work as they are given objects which are metaphors for each of the major functions.

FIELD TRIP PREP

Get ready for your field trip program

We know that the lessons we want students to learn sometimes get lost in the excitement of going some place new and doing something different. This school-based program was designed to get students thinking about the concepts they will encounter during their field trip, showing them what it will be like out in the field, and how they should prepare for their experience. Each Prep program is designed around the specific field trip program goals and concepts your students will be learning.

HORSESHOE CRAB LAB

Through interactive discussion students learn about the amazing life history of the horseshoe crab and its ecological connection to other wildlife in the Delaware Bay. Live horseshoe crabs are featured in our marine science lab.



ANIMALS WITH SHELLS

Live animals and artifacts are used in this interactive discussion as students learn how animals grow with – or without – their shells.

BUILD A DUNE

On the beach students create a dune with a model shore town and learn the results of natural phenomena and human impact of a dynamic area.

SALT MARSH ECOLOGY

With nets, buckets, and boots students explore the salt marsh as they learn about its plant zonation, its organisms, and its many roles as a coastal ecosystem.



MARINE MAMMAL EXPLORATION

Students learn how to help a stranded marine mammal while participating in a mock whale stranding and make scrimshaw out of 'whale teeth' like the old whalers of the 19th century.

Seasonal Migration programs (Spring & Fall)

THE EVENTFUL JOURNEY OF BIRDS

Just as when we travel while on a vacation, a bird may encounter a variety of situations along its migration route. Some will hold the bird up, some will help it along, and other perils may keep the bird from completing its journey altogether. Students become migratory birds as they travel a giant game board and learn about great journeys that can span continents. This program has the option of a guided tour at a bird sanctuary where students will search for migratory birds.

BUILD A BIRD/BAT/SHOREBIRD/RAPTOR

Bird biology and ecology is the center of this interactive student led discussion as one of their classmates slowly transforms into a bird.

A MONARCH'S EVENTFUL JOURNEY AND TAGGING DEMO

This popular fall program focuses on the phenomenon that has fascinated millions. Through this game, participants learn just what they will face along their 2000 mile journey to Mexico. How do we know they go to Mexico? You'll find out when we tag a live Monarch for the Monarch Monitoring Project.

THE CRABS, THE BIRDS, AND THE BAY

Learn about the incredible relationship between horseshoe crabs and shorebirds making cross hemispheric journeys across the planet. Students learn to link the local importance of the Delaware Bay to globe-spanning migratory shorebird species. Students will engage first hand and witness horseshoe crab spawning and the shorebirds that feed on their eggs.

BE A GOOD EGG NESTING SHOREBIRDS PROGRAM

This unique program highlights the conservation of imperiled shorebirds that nest on New Jersey beaches. Students are introduced to beach nesting birds of New Jersey and asked to complete an art project that will raise awareness to the plight of beach nesters that will be displayed on protected beaches. Classes will take a field trip with a naturalist to a nesting beach to see their signs and look for beach nesters and the young of imperiled species like Piping Plovers, Black Skimmers, and American Oystercatchers. The goal of the program is to have school children raise awareness about the importance of nesting beaches and have kids directly participate in the conservation of these endangered animals.



The goal of NJ Audubon's educational programs is to help children understand their relationship to the natural world. Our naturalists steer and focus the activities, tailoring them to meet each group's needs and abilities, to encourage individual and small group discovery. Our hands-on, interdisciplinary activities supplement traditional classes by meeting the NJ Core Curriculum content Standards using inquiry-based learning methods and promoting exploration of our native habitats. Programs are approximately 45 minutes – 1 hour in length, except where noted.

FIELD TRIP FEES:

\$150.00 per one hour program for groups up to 25 students, added mileage of \$30.00 for going to off-site field locations

OUTREACH PROGRAMS TO YOUR SCHOOL:

**\$200.00 for the first program
\$100 for each repeat of the program on the same day**

For more information on these programs or to customize an unforgettable educational experience contact:

**Program Coordinator Brendan Schaffer at 609-400-3858 or
Brendan.schaffer@njudubon.org**