

Hands-on Naturalist Programs with Live Animals and Guided Walks

All programs include a Naturalist talk, a guided hike, hands on-activities, and access to our Nature Center, a Natural History Museum of southern Alabama ecosystems. Programs can be modified to meet specific curriculum or teacher needs. *Program length: 1.5 – 2 hours*

Program <i>Suggested Grade Level</i>	Program Description <i>Contact the Nature Center for detailed descriptions</i>
<u>Wonder Walk</u> <i>PreK, 1st, 2nd</i>	Allows young students to use their senses to investigate the natural world.
<u>What Animals Leave Behind</u> <i>PreK, 1st, 2nd</i>	Nature walk for our beginning naturalists as they identify who was on the trail before them.
<u>Beach Creature Feature</u> <i>K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd</i>	Beach walk with a scavenger hunt, shell / bird identification and beach / dune ecosystems.
<u>Hop, Jump, Swim, Croak!</u> <i>1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th</i>	Learn about the importance of frogs and toads, by exploring their life cycles, habitats, and diversity.
<u>Scutes, Scales & Tails</u> <i>1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th</i>	Meet reptiles native to southern Alabama and learn their unique adaptations to survive in diverse habitats.
<u>What's Bugging You?</u> <i>2nd, 3rd, 4th</i>	Learn new and exciting facts about some of the creepy crawlies that live in Gulf State Park. Includes field collecting of insects.
<u>Make a Splash!</u> <i>3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th</i>	Students will learn about shoreline / wetlands ecology by seine netting and hiking through several biomes. Students will get wet.
<u>Radical Raptors</u> <i>3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th</i> <i>Middle School, High School</i>	Meet our hawks and owls to learn how their unique adaptations make them amazing birds of prey. Includes owl pellet dissection.
<u>Discovery Nature Hike</u> <i>3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th</i> <i>Middle School</i> <i>High School</i>	Students will take a guided hike along trails and identify adaptations that help species survive. Students will also understand natural and human impacts on the environment.
<u>Sea Turtle Survival</u> <i>3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th</i> <i>Middle School, High School</i>	Join us on the beach to learn which sea turtles call the Gulf of Mexico home, their life cycle, and how volunteers protect these gentle giants. Students will get sandy.
<u>Footprints Through Time</u> <i>4th, 5th, 6th</i> <i>Middle School, High School</i>	Beach walk with emphasis on beach / dune ecosystems, shell / bird identification, and the local Native American / early settlers.
<u>What's In My Lake?</u> <i>Middle School</i> <i>High School</i>	Advanced investigation of shoreline / wetland ecosystems through biological sampling of aquatic organisms using a seine net. Students will get wet.
<u>Exploring Professional Pathways</u> <i>High School</i>	Students will gain the opportunity to interact with professionals from conservation / public lands career fields and learn about careers in environmental stewardship.

To schedule a Field Trip or for further information, please contact Hannah Russell, Head Naturalist at:
Hannah.Russell@DCNR.Alabama.gov

