

## 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>
<b>Wonder Walk</b> <i>PreK, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup></i>	Allows young students to use their senses to investigate the natural world.
<b>What Animals Leave Behind</b> <i>PreK, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup></i>	Nature walk for our beginning naturalists as they identify who was on the trail before them.
<b>Beach Creature Feature</b> <i>K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup></i>	Beach walk with a scavenger hunt, shell / bird identification and beach / dune ecosystems.
<b>Hop, Jump, Swim, Croak!</b> <i>1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup></i>	Learn about the importance of frogs and toads, by exploring their life cycles, habitats, and diversity.
<b>Scutes, Scales &amp; Tails</b> <i>1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup></i>	Meet reptiles native to southern Alabama and learn their unique adaptations to survive in diverse habitats.
<b>What's Bugging You?</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup></i>	Learn new and exciting facts about some of the creepy crawlies that live in Gulf State Park. Includes field collecting of insects.
<b>Make a Splash!</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup></i>	Students will learn about shoreline / wetlands ecology by seine netting and hiking through several biomes. <b>Students will get wet.</b>
<b>Radical Raptors</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup></i> <i>Middle School</i> <i>High School</i>	Meet our hawks and owls to learn how their unique adaptations make them amazing birds of prey. Includes owl pellet dissection.
<b>Discovery Nature Hike</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup></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.
<b>Sea Turtle Survival</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup></i> <i>Middle School</i> <i>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. <b>Students will get sandy.</b>
<b>Footprints Through Time</b> <i>4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup></i> <i>Middle School</i> <i>High School</i>	Beach walk with emphasis on beach / dune ecosystems, shell / bird identification, and the local Native American / early settlers.
<b>What's In My Lake?</b> <i>Middle School</i> <i>High School</i>	Advanced investigation of shoreline / wetland ecosystems through biological sampling of aquatic organisms using a seine net. <b>Students will get wet.</b>

