



Fernbrook Farms Environmental Education Center
2023 Spring Lower Level Homeschool Semester
Ages 6-11 years old (child must be 6 by the first class)



2-Hour Class Options: Tuesdays 9:30am-11:30am, Tuesdays 1:00pm-3:00pm,
Thursdays 9:30am-11:30am or Thursdays 1:00pm-3:00pm

Enrichment Class Options: Wednesdays or Fridays 9:00am-3:30pm

Team Building Challenges

March 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

As the classes traverse the farm, fields, and forest they will participate in different team building challenges that will promote positive communication skills, challenge critical thinking and problem-solving abilities, and most importantly build on individual and group strengths and weaknesses. By the end of the class the students will have a greater rapport with one another creating a positive learning environment for the rest of the semester.

Spring in the Forest

April 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th

Spring is a great time to observe and learn about the natural world. In this lesson, we will discover the transformations that take place in the plants and animals that live in Fernbrook's forests. By the end of the class, students will have a greater understanding of plant growth and the ability to identify some of the spring ephemerals.

All About Bats

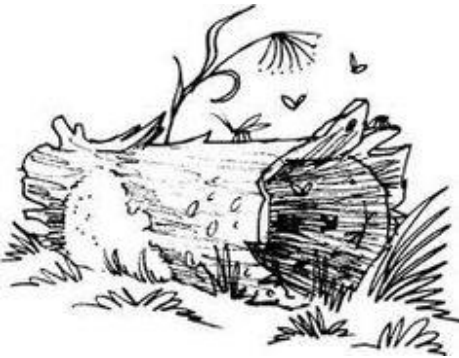
April 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th

Bats are an incredible species. They are often a misunderstood part of our world. Bats are commonly feared, but after this lesson the students will be more enlightened about bats and the unique and indispensable role they play in our ecosystems.

Spring Baby Bonanza

April 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st

As spring awakens everything in nature, we'll start to see more and more babies popping up throughout the farm. Many babies are born in the spring in the wild and on our own farm. During this class we will learn about the different babies born at Fernbrook! From wild baby birds to tadpoles to chicks on our farm!



Fallen Log Investigation

April 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th

It's amazing how many things live in and on decomposing logs. During this class the students will identify the organisms by investigating fallen logs in the forest. Students will gain an understanding of how decomposition takes place and gain an appreciation for microhabitats and niche communities.

Aquatic Plants

May 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th

Students will head to the pond, creek, and marsh to observe, collect, and identify the variety of aquatic plants that flourish at Fernbrook. The classes will examine the structure of these magnificent plants and learn about how important they are to our ecosystem!

Hydrology & Watersheds

May 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Students will learn about stream flow and how streams change over time. Groups will learn to assess the health of a stream through visual observations of the banks and through the macroinvertebrates that are found and collected. Different age groups will conduct a variety of stream flow experiments determining the flow rate at different sections of our creek!

All About Meadow Insects

May 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th

There are more species of insects living in our world than all other animals combined! This class will focus on identifying and learning about the specific characteristics of insects in the meadow at Fernbrook. Students will understand how important insects are to the world and why some are beneficial, and some are detrimental to humans and our needs.



****Class topics are subject to change depending on weather and environmental factors which may affect the effectiveness of the class topic. ****