



2015 - 2016 Group Program Guide





Scheduling a Program

When you schedule, please have the following information handy:

- Date you are interested in, along with a few alternate dates.
- Time and alternate.
- Location of the program - we are happy to recommend.
- Program topic - choices listed under group headings.
- Estimated number of participants and their ages.
- Contact name and information.
- See back page of this guide for program fee structure.



Group Size

- The Zion Nature Center can handle a maximum of 30 participants. Smaller group sizes allow for more hands-on experiences.
- Programs are one hour in length (except birthday parties). We can try to accommodate your schedule if you prefer shorter or longer program times.
- Parents and adults should set a good example during the program (pay attention, no talking on cell phones, etc.) and are prepared to dress for the weather and hike on trails if outdoor experiences are included in the program.



Weather and Cancellation Policy

Please notify us as soon as possible if you need to cancel your program or need to reschedule. We generally only cancel programs if weather is dangerous: thunder and lightening, tornado watches and warnings, extremely high winds, icy or dangerous driving conditions. We strongly encourage groups to make sure they are dressed for the weather.



Zion Nature Center

Our Mission:

The Zion Nature Center encourages Zionsville and Central Indiana families to take an active role in their native environment through educational and inquiry-based programs and activities.

The Zion Nature Center is OPEN to the public:

Saturdays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sundays 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Select weekday hours during the summer months.

The Zion Nature Center is located on the grounds of Eagle Elementary in Zionsville and adjacent to the Zion Nature Preserve. Exhibits within the Nature Center focus on local Indiana habitats, native species, and Citizen Science programs.

Zion Nature Center
690 Beech Street
Zionsville, IN 46077
317-873-8950

www.zionsville-in.gov/zionnaturecenter
naturecenter@zionsville-in.gov

Senior Programs

Bring Nature and the beauty of Zionsville Parks to your residents with one of our adult programs.

Presentations celebrate the local habitats and native species of Zionsville Parks and Central Indiana with pictures, stories and information. Some programs include artifacts and live animals.

Program topics:

- Spring Wildflowers
- Seasonal Walk Through Starkey Park
- Indiana's Reptiles and Amphibians
- Indiana Mammals
- Around the Wetland
- Backyard Birds

Things to consider for your program:

- Programs use a laptop and projector. Access to an electrical outlet, screen or white wall and tabletop are required.
- Programs are one hour in length, but can be customized to fit your time frame.
- Looking for something other than what is offered in our program guide, contact us to discuss options.





School/Homeschool Programs

We offer a variety of programs that align with current Indiana Science Standards from Preschool - 6th grade. All Zion Nature Center programs follow Developmentally Appropriate Practices (DAP). Our programming utilizes methods of inquiry and hands-on activities.

Things to consider for your program:

- During the school year there is no parking at the Zion Nature Center within school operating hours. However, there is on street parking available.
- We can schedule programs at the Zion Nature Center, at one of our other Zionsville Parks or, if transportation is an issue, at your Zionsville facility.
- Programs are designed for 25 - 30 participants.
- Programs are one hour in length, but can be customized to fit your time frame.
- Looking for something other than what is offered in our program guide, contact us to discuss options.

Preschool - Kindergarten

Using Our Senses

Explore the marvels of nature through our senses. This program is designed to expand and encourage a child's sense of wonder with hands-on activities.

Seasonal Discoveries

Each season brings new discoveries to explore. Children will learn how seasonal changes affect all living things. We will discover what makes each season in Indiana special.

Form Fits Function

Children will learn that animals look different because they are uniquely adapted to live in their environment. We will look at different animals to discover how their special adaptations help them survive.

Homes and Habitats

Students will understand that all living things have basic needs, including food, water, space and shelter. We will explore several habitats.

1st - 3rd Grade

Homes and Habitats

Students will understand that all living things have basic needs, including food, water, space and shelter. We will explore several habitats.

Form Fits Function

Children will learn that animals and plants look different because they are uniquely adapted to live in their environment. We will look at different plants and animals to discover how their special adaptations help them survive.

Lifecycles

Enhance understanding that all living things grow and change. We will explore plants and animals at different stages of their lives.

4th - 6th Grade

Animal Adaptations

Animals look different because they are uniquely adapted to live in their environment. We will explore different physical and behavioral adaptations of our native animals and discuss how those adaptations help them to survive.

Ecosystem Ecology

Organisms within an ecosystem are interdependent and their interactions are essential to community success. Children will learn how organisms are connected by exploring food chains, food webs, and cycling of resources.

Predator or Prey

There are many predator and prey relationships right in our own backyards. This interactive program will explore these relationships.



Programs For Any Age

Indiana Mammals

Through pelts, mounts, tracks and/or scat, learn about the diversity of mammals in Central Indiana now and in the past. Older students will examine environmental issues such as animal overpopulation, extinction, and habitat destruction.

Indiana's Reptiles and Amphibians

Explore the characteristics and adaptations that make these cold-blooded animals so unique. Examine similarities and differences between amphibians and reptiles and the threats to their survival. Live animals are part of this program.

Creature Features

Are you studying the mysteries of mammals? Do you want your group to know more about the power of pollinators? Do you want to shed some light on the subject of birds? We can introduce you to the amazing adaptations and characteristics of a group of animals or provide an entire program on one animal.

Green Living

Look to nature to learn lessons on how to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Through our own personal choices, we can become better stewards of our environment. Even small steps make a difference.





Birthday Parties

Have your child's next birthday party at Zion Nature Center! You supply the food, we'll supply the FUN!

Your party includes:

- Choice of a 30 minute themed nature program:
 - * Reptiles
 - * Frogs and Salamanders
 - * Birds
- Two hour use of our program room.
- That includes:
 - * Set up and cleanup time
 - * Nature program
 - * Birthday party, you supply the food, decorations, and utensils.

Guests:

- Up to 20 child guests.
- The maximum room capacity is 30 including adults and children.

Available Times and Dates:

Saturdays	10am - 12 pm & 2pm - 4pm
Sundays	1 pm - 3 pm

Fee: \$125

*Payment is required to reserve your date.
When you make your reservation, we will ask you to please select a program theme.*

Scout Programs

Join a Naturalist for a nature hike or complete your requirements for a nature related badge with Zion Nature Center.

Individual den or troop programs are available on weekends, some school breaks and weekday afternoons.

Cub Scouts:

- Tiger Scouts - Let's Go Outdoors, Learn About Animals, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle
- Wolves - Birds, Your Living World
- Bears - Sharing Your World with Wildlife
- Webelos - Naturalist, Forester, Leave no Trace

Boy Scouts: We can help you earn your merit badge in - Bird Study, Nature, Geology, Mammal Study, Plant Study, Environmental Science, Reptiles and Amphibians, Insect Study, Soil and Water and Forestry.

Girl Scouts: We can tailor a program to fit the needs of your Daisy, Brownie or Junior troop as they complete their Journeys.



2015 Group Program Fees

School/Homeschool Program

- Zionsville Community Schools \$2/student, \$50 minimum
- Zionsville Area Private School \$3/student, \$50 minimum
- Out of Area School \$4/student, \$50 minimum
- Zionsville Area Homeschool Group \$3/student, \$50 minimum
- Out of Area Homeschool Group \$4/student, \$50 minimum

Zionsville Community School Afterschool Club Program

- \$50/program

Zionsville Area School Outreach Program

- \$50/first program, \$40/additional program in same visit

Zionsville Area Senior and Adult Outreach Programs

- \$50/program

Scout Programs

- Zionsville Area Scout Group \$3/child, \$50 minimum
- Out of Area Scout Group \$4/child, \$50 minimum

Birthday Party

- \$125
- Includes 2 hour rental and nature themed program.
- Payment is required to reserve your date.

*Program fees are subject to change.
Please contact the Zion Nature Center for further information.*



Additional Information

- Outreach involves traveling to a location not in Zionsville Parks but within Zionsville municipal limits. Generally, no outreach is available outside of Zionsville municipal limits.
- There are no costs for teachers and adult chaperones.
- Occasionally, we will recommend other Zionsville Park locations for your program. These parks may offer nature opportunities not available at the Zion Nature Center location.
- Under certain circumstances Zionsville Park Board may choose to modify or waive a program fee.



ZIONSVILLE

PARKS & RECREATION
ZION NATURE CENTER

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