



# School Field Trip and Outreach Programs 2016



*Early Fall (September-mid October) is one of the best times to be out on the harbor while the water is the warmest of the year! Marsh plants are at their peak flowering period and wetlands fauna is at its peak diversity. Spring brings new life and opportunities to learn. Come join us for unique and fascinating ecological explorations.*

## **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 what 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 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## **THE CRABS, THE BIRDS, AND THE BAY (\*Spring only)**

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 (\*Spring only)**

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.



## **Afterschool Programs**

**The Nature Center offers afterschool programs to fit into your regular afterschool programming or accompany afterschool science or eco-clubs! Weekly or bi-weekly semester long curriculums are available. Call for details.**

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:**

**\$125.00 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  
\$100.00 for each repeat of the program on the same day**

**\*See our flyer for special Fall migration programs in collaboration with Cape May Bird Observatory and the Monarch Monitoring Project**

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

**Program Coordinator Sam Wilson at 609-898-8848 or  
Sam.wilson@njudubon.org**

