



Recommended 1st Grade Programs

Blue Jay's education staff loves working with 1st graders! Our one-hour programs are free and available for groups of 10-25 students plus chaperones. While our group programs are free, please be mindful that we are reserving this spot especially for your group—any cancellations must take place in writing at least 30 days in advance of your program date. **Programs go on rain or shine**—we have great indoor resources and activities to use when needed.

Call (919) 870-4330 or email bluejaypoint@wakegov.com to make a reservation.

- **Habitat Hike** Learn about interrelationships between plants and animals as we search for the components of habitat in this hike-based program. Students with mobility challenges can be accommodated with advance notice. **Essential Standards** 1.L.1.1, 1.L.1.2 **Note to Group Leader:** This one hour staff-led program is greatly complemented by using one or more of the following **Discovery Boxes** (under your direction) immediately before or after the program. Call to reserve these boxes for your group's use.

EARTH BUDDIES

Length: 30—60 minutes **Source:** Parts adapted from *Naturescope*
Area: Anywhere
Summary: Encourage the development of an environmental ethic with these 3 separate, short activities. These activities focus on things that are good or harmful for the Earth; creative thinking about reusing an everyday object; and comparing the environmentally “green” components of bagged lunches rather than the nutritional component.

WEB IT!

Length: 30 minutes **Source:** OBIS
Area: Outdoors - spider habitat (a fabulous Fall activity)
Summary: With the aid of spray misters, investigate the adaptations and behavior of spiders.

SOCK IT TO ME

Length: 30 – 45 minutes **Source:** Kelley Stanton
Area: Anywhere
Summary: Participants test their sense of touch by reaching into a “mystery sock” and trying to guess what it contains. Students can also work on their descriptive language skills by describing what their mystery object feels like to find their match among fellow participants. *Allergy Note: This activity includes whole and “chewed” tree nuts (pecans acorns and black walnuts).*

- **Pond Study** Learn about aquatic insects and other animals, how to identify them, and how they make their living in a watery world (the focus of this program is on habitat components) (1 chaperone for every 5 students needed) **Essential Standards** 1.L.1.1, 1.L.1.2, 1.L.1.3, 1.L.2.1, 1.L.2.1, 1.G.2.1 **Note to Group Leader:** This one hour staff-led program is greatly complemented by using one or more of the following **Discovery Boxes** (under your direction) immediately before or after the program. Call to reserve these boxes for your group's use.

WOODLAND BINGO

Length: 30 minutes – 1 hour **Source:** D’Nise Hefner
Area: Anywhere—especially the 1/2 mile Azalea Loop Trail
Summary: Practice your observation skills looking for items in nature on this focused nature hike/scavenger hunt, then play bingo again a sit-down game with clues relating the ecological significance of each item.

CAMO-CREEPERS

Length: 30 minutes **Source:** Project WILD
Area: Outdoors – meadow, wooded trail, parking lot margins
Summary: Experience the thrill of the hunt learning about predator and prey camouflage while searching for pipe cleaner “walking stick insects.”

AM I A BIRD?

Length: 15 – 30 minutes

Source: Leigh Scott-Prater

Area: Anywhere

Summary: Develop language skills and encourage interaction between students, all while increasing awareness of the wild animals that might be living in our backyards.

● **Bird Buddies** Learn what “makes a bird a bird” and then get outside as we watch for and listen to the birds. Explore bird behaviors and habitat needs as we move through a variety of habitats. **Essential Standards** 1.L.1.1, 1.L.1.2, 1.L.1.3, 1.L.2.2, 1.G.2.1 **Note to Group Leader:** This one hour staff-led program is greatly complemented by using one or more of the following **Discovery Boxes** (under your direction) immediately before or after the program. Call to reserve these boxes for your group’s use.

MEET A MATE

Length: 30 minutes

Source: *Naturescope*

Area: Anywhere

Summary: Students test the accuracy of their sense of hearing and compare themselves with animals that communicate largely by sound rather than sight. Find a mate who sounds like you!

WOODLAND BINGO

Length: 30 minutes – 1 hour

Source: D’Nise Hefner

Area: Anywhere—especially the 1/2 mile Azalea Loop Trail

Summary: Practice your observation skills looking for items in nature on this focused nature hike/scavenger hunt, then play bingo again a sit-down game with clues relating the ecological significance of each item.

EYE SPY

Length: 30 minutes

Source: Kat Bukowy

Area: Blue Jay Center for Environmental Education (Mon-Sat 8a.m.-5p.m.)

Summary: Students will increase their skills of observation in this visual indoor scavenger hunt.

Tips for planning a field trip to Blue Jay Point County Park

- Call early to schedule your programs and have several dates in mind—Spring fills quickly and Fall is awesome!
- Jr. Discovery Boxes are available at **no charge** for your group to use in the park as an additional activity during your visit. You must reserve these in advance by calling (919) 870-4330.
- Be sure to allow enough time to travel to Blue Jay and **visit the restrooms** if needed before your program is scheduled to begin.
- **Field trips go on rain or shine**, as we have great indoor resources. Have children dress appropriately for their Blue Jay experience, including closed toe shoes and weather appropriate outerwear. Each program contains indoor and outdoor activities, which will be done weather permitting. We will substitute additional, suitable indoor activities (and Jr. Discovery Boxes) when needed.
- If your schedule permits, you may enjoy snack/lunch in the picnic area and time on the playground after your staff-led program. While there are no picnic shelters or indoor eating space at Blue Jay, the Education Center has a very large covered porch that can be used for snack/lunch in case of inclement weather.

Blue Jay Point County Park
3200 Pleasant Union Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27614
www.wakegov.com/parks/bluejay
(919) 870-4330