



FREE and FUN Curriculum-Based Programs



These opportunities for Kindergarten through 5th grades challenge students with hands-on learning experiences that are correlated with Tennessee elementary curriculum standards. Each program enhances classroom learning by using Great Smoky Mountains National Park's cultural and/or natural resources as teaching tools. Students have the opportunity to make real-world connections with science and history, while having fun at the same time!

Program Description

Tennessee State Standards

Kindergarten

Explore with Your Senses! Classroom

Students will use their senses to learn about this special protected national park. Students will learn about the history and wildlife of Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Locations: 1/4 mile from Sugarlands Visitor Center and Cades Cove near the campground

Embedded Inquiry
Inqs 1, 2, 3, 4
Embedded Technology and Engineering
GLE 0007.T/E/1

Interdependence GLE 0007.2.1
GLE 0007.2.2
The Earth 0007.7.1
0007.7.2
Matter 0007.9.1
0007.9.2

First Grade

Wild Habitats Classroom

Students will examine the characteristics of animal groups and identify their interdependence. A short nature walk allows students to investigate the habitats where plants and animals live.

Locations: Sugarlands Visitor Center and Cades Cove near the campground

Cells GLE 0107.1.1
Interdependence GLE 0107.2.1
Flow of Matter and Energy
GLE 0107.3.1
Biodiversity and Change
GLE 0107.5.1

Second Grade

History and Culture

Students will use a cross cut saw to recreate the experience of building a log home, learn how the forest was a supermarket/drugstore and visit some structures that were part of the 1800s mountain community. Program includes a ranger-led walk where students look for clues of how humans used the environment.

Locations: Porters Flat (near Big Greenbrier), Metcalf Bottoms and Elijah Oliver Homesite in Cades Cove

Culture Learning
Expectations: 1.01, 1.02
Economics Learning
Expectations 2.01
Geography Learning
Expectations 3.02
History Learning
Expectations 5.01, 5.02



(Turn over for more!)

Program Description

Tennessee State Standards

Third Grade

Habitat Diversity Classroom

Students will discover how specific animals compete and survive in a forest or stream habitat. Students will learn how complex a food chain can be in relation to surrounding environmental factors.

Locations: Metcalf Bottoms Picnic Area and Cosby Picnic Area

Embedded Inquiry
GLE 0307.Inqs 1,2,4,5, 6

Embedded Technology and Engineering
GLE 0307.T/E.1, 2, 3, 4

Interdependence
GLE 0307.2.1, 2

Flow of Matter and Energy
GLE 0307.3.1

Biodiversity and Change
GLE 0307.5.1, 2

Fourth Grade

Resource Managers and Science

Students investigate the role that National Park rangers play in managing natural resources. The process, methods and scientific methods are demonstrated in the field biology including herpetology and ichthyology.

Locations: Chimneys Picnic Area, Cosby Picnic area and Cades Cove

Embedded Inquiry
GLE 0407.Inqs. 1,2,3,4,5,6

Embedded Technology and Engineering
GLE 0407.T/E.1, 2,3,4

Interdependence
GLE 0407.2.1

Heredity GLE 0407.4.1,
GLE 0407.4.2

Fourth Grade

Mountain Farm Museum

Students study rural life in the 1800's by working in a blacksmith shop, learning about mountain traditions and studying artifacts. Through this exposure, students learn about the challenges and rewards of preserving and protecting our heritage and public spaces.

Location: Cades Cove

Culture
4.1.01,1.04

Economics
4.2.01,2.03,2.04

Geography
4.3.04

History
4.5.12

Fifth Grade

Interdependence

Students will be introduced to the interdependence between the climate and the biodiversity of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Program will include various ways to discover how life cycles work together to make a sustainable ecosystem.

Locations: Sugarlands Visitor Center, Look Rock and Clingmans Dome

Embedded Inquiry
GLE 0507.Inqs. 1,3,4,5,6

Embedded Technology and Engineering
GLE 0507.T/E.1,2,3,4

Flow of Matter and Energy
GLE 0507.3.1

Interdependence
GLE 0507.2.1, 2,3

Fifth Grade

Soil and Terrestrial Invertebrate Monitoring

Students inventory the macroinvertebrates of the deciduous forest using scientific methods. In small teams, the class will analyze soil properties and recognize the interdependence of abiotic and biotic factors.

Location: Twin Creek Science and Education Center (near Gatlinburg)

Embedded Inquiry
GLE 0507 Inq.1,2,3,4,5

Embedded Technology and Engineering
GLE 0507.T/E.1,2,3,4

Interdependence
GLE 0507.2.1

Biodiversity and Change
GLE 0507.5.1



*All Programs Are Free
Bus Assistance Money is Available*

*For additional information or to sign your class up, call Park Rangers today!
865-436-1258*

(Note: Some programs are more suitable for large groups than others - call to discuss)