

# Preschool/Headstart Nature Explosion

SIOUX COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

PRAIRIE WOODS NATURE CENTER

## What students should

### bring:

Tennis shoes or hiking boots

Water bottle for drinking water  
(optional)

Weather-appropriate clothing

## What teachers should

### bring:

First aid kit, Kleenex, hand  
sanitizer

One or more adult for every 5-6  
children

Sunscreen/bug spray (optional)

Contact for scheduling:  
Assistant Director/  
Environmental Education  
Coordinator  
Sunday Ford

Field trip leaders  
Sunday Ford  
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## Field Trip Overview

Nature Explosion Field Trips are designed to highlight many topics. Includes nature hike and learning stations that cover a broad range of topics.

## Suggested Field Trip Itinerary Half Day

**9:30am** Arrive at Prairie Woods Nature Center, welcome from Naturalist, tour exhibits in hiking groups  
**10:00am-11:15** Divide into groups of 6-10 for hike, with one adult assigned to each group. Hike at Oak Grove Park. Station ideas will be part of hike.  
**11:15-11:45** lunch and free time in campground

## Suggested Field Trip Itinerary Full Day

**9:30am** Arrive at Prairie Woods Nature Center, gather outdoors for hike. **OR** Use east student entrance and head to basement classroom to get organized.  
**9:30am-11:00** Divide into groups of 5-6 for hike, with one adult assigned to each group. Hike at Oak Grove Park.  
**11:00-11:45** lunch and free time in campground  
**12:00** Gather in basement classroom, divide into 20-minute stations.

Station ideas are: Nature Scavenger Hunt,  
Nature's Paint Brushes, Exhibits, Magnifying Fun

**2:00-2:30** live animals or game and clean classroom



## **Gold Standards met for Preschool/Headstart**

During the hike, we will incorporate the following Activities for a half day visit, or lead with the hike in the morning, with activities in afternoon for a full day.

### **Activity: Nature Scavenger Hunt**

The instructor will call out a color or sensory word and the students will find an item to match

**Objective 13 Classification Skills**

### **Activity: Nature's Paint Brushes**

Students will collect items from nature and use paint or water on a dry surface such as pavement to explore the pattern it produces

**Objective 7 Fine-motor strength**

**Objective 21 Explores/describes shapes**

**Objective 23 Knowledge of patterns**

**Objective 33 Visual Arts**

### **Activity: Magnifying Fun**

Students will receive a magnifying glass to find mini-critters, plants, and nature. They will be asked to identify living vs nonliving things.

**Objective 24 Inquiry skills**

**Objective 25 Living things**

**Objective 28 Use of tools and technology**

*Note: this does not include the many standards met in the professionally designed exhibits, which were designed around NGSS.*