

TK/Kindergarten: Animal Coverings and Adaptations

SIOUX COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD PRAIRIE WOODS NATURE CENTER

What students should bring:

Weather-appropriate clothing

Tennis shoes or hiking boots

Water bottle for drinking water (optional)

What teachers should bring:

First aid kit, Kleenex, hand sanitizer

Sunscreen/bug spray (optional)

One or more adult for every

5-6 children

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

Field trip leaders
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Field Trip Overview

Scales, feathers, slime, hooves, flat teeth and long tails are all things that help animals survive. We will explore animals and learn about their “adaptations.”

Suggested Field Trip Itinerary

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: Dig for worms, Silent Predator Game, Exhibits, Animal Coverings Sample Activity

12:15-12:35

12:40-1:00

1:05-1:25

1:30-1:50

2:00-2:30 live animals to highlight animal coverings



Iowa Core and NGSS met by this Field Trip

K-ESS3-1 Use a model to represent the relationship between the needs of different plants and animals and the places they live.

Activity: During our hike, we will explore the needs of animals and plants, and how they have adaptations to meet those needs in their habitats.

Activity: One of our stations is animal coverings sample activity, where students will be exposed to different animal coverings such as fur, feathers, and scales. They will need to match the animal to the habitat best suited for each covering.

Activity: Students will explore earthworms, how they move, and their need for slime in their environments.

K-LS1-1 Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive.

Activity: Students will learn that all animals need food, water, shelter and space to survive. We will note that they can meet these needs with adaptations on our hike.

Activity: During the predator/prey game, students will observe that animals use different strategies to obtain food as a predator, and to escape predators as prey.

*standard partially met

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