

TK/Kindergarten: Tracks, Scat and Signs

SIOUX COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

PRAIRIE WOODS NATURE CENTER

What students should bring:

Sack Lunch

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
sundayf@siouxcounty.org
712/551-6780
Sarah Davelaar
sarahd@siouxcounty.org
712/551-6715

Field Trip Overview

We will be on the lookout for clues left by animals right on the trails at Oak Grove. Even discover scat? You bet! Your sneaky Naturalist leader may have some samples to ensure success in your search!

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 6-10 for hike, with one adult assigned to each group. Hike at Oak Grove Park on one of the trails looking for track, scat and other animal signs.

11:00-11:45 Lunch and free time in campground.

12:00 Gather in basement classroom, divide into groups for 20-minute stations.

Station ideas are: Animal Track Simon Says, Make and Take Tracks Checklist, Track Your Friend Activity

12:15-12:35

12:40-1:00

1:05-1:25

1:30-1:50

2:00-2:30 Live animals or game and clean classroom.



Iowa Core and NGSS met by this Field Trip

K-ESS2-2 Construct an argument supported by evidence for how plants and animals (including humans) can change the environment to meet their needs.

Activity: We will be looking for animal signs such as fox burrows, birds' nests, and other ways animals change the environment to meet needs.

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

Activity: In our hike, we will investigate animal clues and inquire what needs they are trying to meet by their behaviors.

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

Activity: Students will learn that all animals need food, water, shelter and space to survive. They will investigate tracks, scats and signs to determine these things for each animal.

***K-2ETS1-2 Develop a simple sketch, drawing, or physical model to illustrate how the shape of an object helps it function as needed to solve a given problem.**

Activity: During one of the stations, kids will use shapes to represent tracks. They will place them on the ground in a trail, crisscrossing each other's tracks. Partners will then try and follow the shape trail to its end. This will help children determine that tracks can be different shapes, and this is a factor in identifying them.