



LISTENING AND LEARNING

Environmental Education is about learning skills, developing character and making friends. It teaches self-reliance, a love for nature and the outdoors and the development of attitudes and practices that build character and leadership.



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

UPDATED ON: MARCH 10, 2017

STAFF CONTACTS

ACY – Shane Vondracek, Environmental Education Director P 702.2305 E svondracek@ymcafoxcities.org

WONDERBUG DISCOVERIES (AGES 18 MONTHS-3 YEARS WITH PARENT) (ACY)

This parent-child nature discovery program is highly sensory-based involving themed storybooks, songs, hands-on time, and outdoor time with exploratory walks through the Purdy Nature Preserve. Each week will focus on a different seasonal theme or topic in nature. A portion of each class will be held outdoors, weather permitting, so dress accordingly!

SPRINGTIME CRITTERS (AGES 3-5 YEARS) (ACY)

This program will let your little one hop with the bunnies, sing with the birds, and watch amazing changes in tadpoles and insects. Each class will include story time, crafts, songs, and other hands-on activities. Please dress your child for the weather as we will be taking short outdoor hikes.

OUTRAGEOUS OUTDOORS (AGES 3-5 YEARS) (ACY)

This exciting class gives your child a chance to learn all about the beauty and wonder of the natural world through hands-on activities, games, stories and crafts related to the nature theme of the week, as well as time outdoors exploring nature. Class will end with time for lunch, so please pack a nutritional, nut free lunch for your child, and have them dressed for the weather as a portion of each class will be held outdoors, weather permitting. Children can be transferred to and from other preschool age classes within the Apple Creek YMCA.

YOUNG EXPLORERS (AGES 2-4) (ACY)

We will use our senses to discover and investigate the wonderful sounds, colors, shapes, smells and textures of the natural world. We will incorporate outdoor exploration time, storybooks, songs, games and crafts. Each week will focus on a different topic in nature. A portion of each class will be held outdoors, weather permitting, so dress accordingly!

ARCHERY 101- MAY 1- MAY 25 (AGES 8-16) (ACY)

Learn the basics of archery in this special 4-week class including the "11 steps to becoming a successful archer." Class follows National Archery in Schools Program (NASP) guidelines and is taught by a NASP Certified Instructor. All equipment is provided. Class will be held outdoors.

ADVANCED ARCHERY- MAY 1- MAY 25 (AGES 10-18) (ACY)

This advanced class builds off the lessons learned in Archery 101 and adds further opportunities to improve shooting skills. Participants must have completed Archery 101 at least once and have the instructor's permission before registering. All equipment is provided, but archers may bring their own bows. Class will be held outdoors.

Class name	YMCA	Age	Day	Start	End	Y Member	General Public
Wonderbug Discoveries	ACY	18 months - 3 years	T	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	\$28	\$46
Springtime Critters	ACY	3-5 years	M	9:15 AM	10:45 AM	\$43	\$61
Outrageous Outdoors	ACY	3-5 years	W	10:00 AM	NOON	\$53	\$71
Young Explorers	ACY	2-4 years	R	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	\$43	\$61

Spring Session: April 10-May 28, 2017

This is a working document and is subject to change.

Archery 101- May 1-May 25	ACY	8-16 years	MW	4:30 PM	5:15 PM	\$29	\$40
Advanced Archery- May 1- May 25	ACY	10-18 years	MW	5:30 PM	6:15 PM	\$29	\$40

ADULT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

(Children under 14 may attend only with an adult)

EARTH DAY – APRIL 22, 2017 (ACY)

The Apple Creek YMCA and Bruce B. Purdy Nature Preserve will be hosting events for International Migratory Bird Day on Earth Day, April 22, 2017 including live bird presentations, bird banding, and birdwatching hikes, along with educational displays and activities. Keep an eye on the Apple Creek Facebook page for more details!

SPRING BIRDS AND BLOOMS HIKE (ALL AGES) (ACY)

Join our naturalists at the Bruce B. Purdy Nature Preserve and Apple Creek YMCA for a guided hike on our ever changing trails. See and learn about our migrating birds and spring flowers while enjoying the spring landscape. Hikes begin at the Apple Creek YMCA begin with a short program in the Nature Study Classroom. Pre-registration is required.

Class name	YMCA	Age	Day	Start	End	Y Member	General Public
Spring Birds and Blooms Hike	ACY	All Ages	May 20	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	FREE	\$5

SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

The Apple Creek YMCA and Bruce B. Purdy Nature Preserve are still accepting field trip registrations for the 2016-17 school year for grades K-12. Local schools may book trips on a number of different topics including plants, animals, forestry, pond study and much more. Programs will be tailored to each school's curriculum needs and will be led by YMCA naturalists. Call 733.9622 or email the Environmental Education Director at svondracek@ymcafoxcities.org for a complete list of programming options.

LEADERS FOR GIRL, BOY AND CUB SCOUTS OR OTHER YOUTH GROUPS

Scouts of all ages may schedule time with the Naturalist to fulfill requirements for outdoor related try-its, achievements or badges they are working on. Cost for a 1-2 hour session is \$2/child. Programs can be held at your normal meeting location or at the Y.

TEAMBUILDING - APPLE CREEK YMCA (GRADES 6-8)

Attention Middle School teachers- the Apple Creek YMCA is now offering a 4 1/2 hour teambuilding program. Please call for more details or to book a date for this quickly growing program! Program can also be altered for High School, College or Corporate groups.

BECOME A PRESERVE VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are needed for many outdoor related tasks such as mowing, tree trimming, trail maintenance and more. Call 733.9622 for more details on how you can help shape the Bruce B. Purdy Nature Preserve.