K - 12 Guided Programs

Customize your visit by participating in engaging programs led by our experienced staff. Each program is designed for 15-25 students at a time and lasts 30-45 minutes. The classroom and nature center can each host one program at a time.

Programs in Park Classroom:

Herps Alive - offers a hands-on lecture comparing reptiles and amphibians through the use of live animals, bones, skins, and discussion.

Birds of a Feather - teaches about the wide variety of adaptations in birds and their use in identification. Students are then led on an outdoor bird search using binoculars.

Fossil Dig - defines fossils and their formation in the changing South Carolina landscape. Students are then able to search outside in the sand for real fossils and keep their finds.

Programs in Park Nature Center:

From Worms to Wings - examines the life cycle of a butterfly using both live and preserved specimens. The lesson continues at the giant butterfly sculpture and includes a tour of the Butterfly House.

Fish Story - uses skulls and mounts to explore the various features of fish necessary for their life under water. Students also tour our Swamparium to see live examples.

Flower Power - discusses why plants have flowers and fruit and why some are carnivorous. Students then tour the gardens in and around the Butterfly House to find examples of what they have learned.

Big Bug Hunt - allows students to examine rotting logs to discover native arthropods at work in the food chain. They may also view exotic examples such as tarantulas, giant millipedes, or hissing cockroaches.

Programs Outside or in Exhibits:

Swamp Safari - offers a safe ride through the black water as our staff paddles large flat-bottom boats among the cypress trees. Look for alligators, turtles, birds and other wildlife. (Check for availability & price)

Dip Netting - allows students to fish from the edge of the swamp with long-handled strainers for the entire program. They are able to study aquatic life close up and identify the plants, fish, and insects that they have captured.

Blow up the Swamp - begins with a short session of dip netting, then students view their catch magnified through a videoscope (in park classroom or nature center). Adaptations and life cycles are discussed.

Creature Feature - takes students on a guided tour of the Butterfly House and Swamparium. See more and have your questions answered. (Also good for groups who are on a tight schedule)