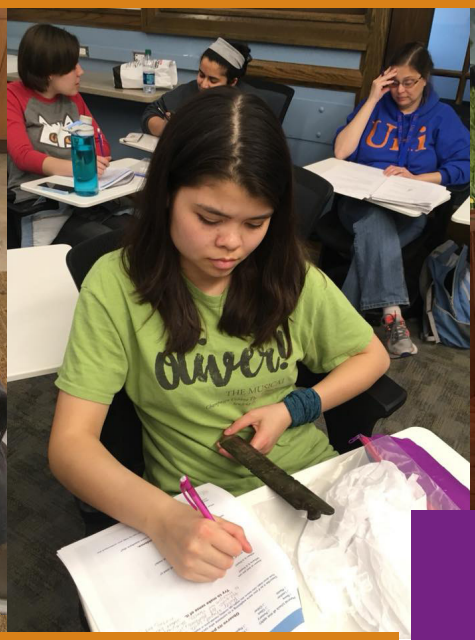
EXPANDING the CLASSROOM

FALL 2018 THROUGH SUMMER 2019

Registration for school programs begins August 20



FOREST PRESERVES
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

Programs & Information

Welcome and Education Staff 2
Registration Information..... 2-3
Cross-Curricular Programs.....4
In-Classroom Programs 4
Plant Science Programs 5
Environmental Programs..... 6-9
Historical Programs 10-12
Educator Resources.....12-15
Visit our Special Exhibits.....15
Education Facilities .....Back Cover

Registration Information

Welcome Teachers!

Next Generation Science Standards (*Illinois Standards for Science*)

CCFPD offers a variety of programming topics focused on the disciplinary core ideas and cross-cutting concepts. They are coupled with active learning experiences modeling a number of science and engineering practices. Develop, Plan, and Analyze with us! Please contact Stacey Clementz, sclementz@ccfpd.org, to discuss how to adapt our programming to fit your needs. As always, our staff is available to help you find the right fit for your classroom.

Scheduling a Program

Before contacting the CCFPD please be prepared with the following information:

- Your desired date
- Alternate date(s)
- Your school's phone number
- Your grade level
- Total number of classes
- Expected number of students
- Lead teacher's contact information: cell phone, email address
- Accommodations needed for students with special needs
- Whether or not you will want to eat lunch before or after your visit if coming out to one of the preserves
- A ratio of 1 adult to 10 students is recommended.

Please also check bus/school schedules before contacting CCFPD staff to avoid holidays and school activities.

Contact Our Educators

Environmental Programs

Stacey Clementz
sclementz@ccfpd.org
(217) 896-2455

History Programs

Katie Snyder
ksnyder@ccfpd.org
(217) 586-2612

Plant Science Programs

Katie Snyder
ksnyder@ccfpd.org
(217) 586-2612

General Information

Registration for school programs begins in August and can take place anytime during the school year if openings exist. Demand is high; please call early. In order to offer quality programs, class size is restricted to 24 students for preschool classes and 30 students for grades K-12. In most cases, more than one class can be accommodated at a time. Call or email for details.

Fee Structure

On–Site Programs	**Fee per student**
Champaign County Schools	
Pre-K	$1.00
K-12	$1.50

*A $20 minimum fee per preschool programs will be charged for field trips.

*A $25 minimum fee per K-12 programs will be charged for field trips.

Out-of-County School	
Pre-K	$1.50
K-12	$2.00

In-Class Program	**Fee per program**	**Fee per add'l student**
Champaign County Schools		
Pre-K	$20	$1.00
K-12	$25	$1.50
Out-of-County School		
Pre-K	$25	$1.50
K-12	$30	$1.50

*Trips are for 20 Pre-K students and 25 K-12 students. Additional charges apply for over those numbers.

Teachers and chaperones are free.

Funding for Field Trips

The Museum and Education Department considers requests for assistance with field trip funding. For more information contact Katie Snyder at (217) 586-2612 or email ksnyder@ccfpd.org.
There are also several local and state organizations that provide grant funding for our environmental programs. Please contact Stacey Clementz at (217) 896-2455 or email sclementz@ccfpd.org for information about these opportunities.

Additional Information

Museum of the Grand Prairie Gift Shop

Gift shop proceeds help fund education programs and projects. Please consider including time to shop in your schedule. We stock a number of educational and program-related items beginning at $.10. We are required to charge Illinois sales tax. Groups of 10 student shoppers must be accompanied by at least one adult. Please let us know when you make your program reservation if you would like to visit the gift shop. Please email Katie Snyder at ksnyder@ccfpd.org for more information.

Visit Our Websites

www.ccfpd.org
www.museumofthegrandprairie.org
www.homerlakecenter.org

Find us on social media!

Champaign County Forest Preserve
Museum of the Grand Prairie
Homer Lake Interpretive Center

@ChampCoForest
@MusGrandPrairie

@ChampaignForests
@Museumofthegrandprairie

CROSS CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Full–Day Field Trips

For a well-rounded education experience, schedule two programs for your class in one day. For example, in the morning, one class could attend a historical program while the other attends a plant science program. Or, you can schedule a historical program and visit the one-room schoolhouse on the same day. Up to two classrooms (60 students) can be accommodated. Both classes eat lunch, and then switch programs in the afternoon.

Participants must bring their own sack lunches. Fees are $3 per student in-county ($4 per student out-of-county) (minimum $40 fee). Time slots are limited; please call early.

Prairie Adventures

Prairie Adventures integrates science and social studies, providing an interdisciplinary learning experience for students grades 3-6. This program explores the interdependency of Illinois prairie animals, plants, and people in the past and present.

Prairie Adventures is offered September through October at the Museum of the Grand Prairie, Mabery Gelvin Botanical Garden and Buffalo Trace Prairie in Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve in Mahomet.

Programs begin at 9:30 a.m., break for lunch, and end at 1:00 p.m. Up to three classes can be accommodated. Fees for the program are $3 per student for Champaign County schools, and $4 per student for out-of-county schools. There is a $40 minimum charge for Prairie Adventures. Teachers and chaperones are free.

Registration begins August 20, call early for reservations - this program fills up fast. To register, please contact Katie Snyder at (217) 586-2612 or ksnyder@ccfpd.org.

In–Classroom Programs

If your class cannot come to us for a field trip, consider an in-class program. Our educators can tailor a visit to meet your classroom needs. Presentation length varies from 30 minutes to one hour per classroom. Call to discuss any idea you have for your class. This experience could be scheduled for one class or multiple classes.

PLANT SCIENCE PROGRAMS at the Mabery Gelvin Botanical Garden

Preschool

Garden Friends

From seeds to weeds to centipedes, the garden is home to all. Explore the world of gardens and the life within through stories, planting, and hands-on activities.

Year-Round

Program Length: 1 hour

IELDS 12.A.ECa; 12.A.ECb 12.B.ECa; 12.B.ECb

Elementary School

Seed Safari

Students will explore plant life cycles and plant diversity, as well as experience the Botanical Garden through games, drama, hands-on activities, and, if possible, an outdoor seed hunt.

Year-Round

Grades K-2

Program Length: 1.5 hours

Common Core: SL1&3

Soil Science

Students will learn about the importance of decomposers, such as bacteria, fungi, and worms. Soil types will be investigated, and then students will plant seeds in gardening soil to take home and grow.

Year-Round

Grades 1-5

Program Length: 1 hour

Common Core: SL1&3

Botany Basics

Explore the world of botany. Learn why plants are important and study their diverse structures and adaptations. Students will participate in learning activities followed by a planting activity.

Year-Round

Grades 3-5

Program Length: 1.5 hours

Common Core: SL1&3

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS at the preserves

Preschool

Trees and Me
From birds to squirrels to people - we all need trees! Children will explore these green creatures through creative movement, stories, and a hike.
May-November
Program Length: 1 hour
IELDS: 11.A.ECa, 11.A.ECc, 11.A.ECd, 11.A.ECf, 12.A.ECa, 12.A.ECb, 12.B.ECa, 12.B.ECb, 25.A.ECa

Beautiful Birds
Students become birds through costumes and flying games. We will make nests, lay eggs, and even peck at worms!
Year-Round
Program Length: 1 hour
IELDS: 11.A.ECa, 12.A.ECa, 12.A.ECb, 12.B.ECa, 12.B.ECb, 25.A.ECa

Buggy Basics
Youngsters love to learn what makes bugs special by wearing bee costumes and doing the waggle dance. Enjoy a hike for insects and end the program with a buggy story.
April-November
Program Length: 1 hour
IELDS: 11.A.ECa, 11.A.ECc, 11.A.ECf, 12.A.ECa, 12.B.ECa, 12.B.ECb, 13.B.ECa, 25.A.ECa

Frog Follies
Explore the frog and toad life cycle. Have a hoppin' good time while singing in a frog chorus and turning a person into a frog.
Mid-April to Mid-October
Program Length: 1 hour
IELDS: 11.A.ECa, 12.A.ECa, 12.A.ECb, 12.B.ECa, 12.B.ECb

Wild About Mammals
What creatures live in your backyard and are warm-blooded and furry? Mammals! Explore the world of mammals through a hike and hands-on activities.
Year-Round
Program Length: 1 hour
IELDS: 11.A.ECa, 12.A.ECa, 12.B.ECa, 12.B.ECb

Reptile Romp
Curious about these cold-blooded friends? Preschoolers will meet our reptiles and participate in hands-on activities.
April-October
Program Length: 1 hour
IELDS: 11.A.ECa, 12.A.ECa, 12.A.ECb, 12.B.ECa, 12.B.ECb

Elementary and Middle School

Branching Out With Trees
Students will broaden their knowledge about trees as they hike and learn to identify trees through distinguishing characteristics such as bark and leaf shape.
May-November
Grades K-8
Program Length: 1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1&3

Prairie Patterns
Students will explore the plants, animals, and history of the Illinois prairie as we hike through the forest preserve. Watch as we turn a student into a prairie animal!
June-November
Grades K-8
Program Length: 1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1&3

Aquatic Ecologist
Students will discuss how watersheds are related to water quality. Then they will test water quality using simple kits and compare results with the aquatic organisms they collect.
Pre-trip review of vocabulary is essential for this program.
Mid-April to Mid-October
Grades 3-8
Program Length: 1.5 hours
Common Core: RI1, SL1&3

Hatchet
This program is designed to complement *Hatchet*, a story of a young boy's adventure in the wilderness by Gary Paulsen. Students will interpret the book through hands-on activities, including basic survival skills. Program is available only at Homer Lake Forest Preserve.
Year-Round
Grades 4-6
Program Length: 2 hours
Common Core: RI1, RL1&3, SL1&3

Sights and Sounds of Nature
Students will hike and explore the wonders of our natural world. Students will be engaged in a variety of hands-on discovery activities using their senses.
Year-Round
Grades K-8
Program Length: 1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1&3

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS at the preserves

Elementary and Middle School

Remarkable Reptiles
Learn about the anatomy and adaptations of these ancient creatures. Students get an opportunity to meet our resident reptiles.
April-October
Grades K-8
Program Length: 1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1&3

Frog Follies
Investigate the amazing frogs and toads that call central Illinois home. Explore the world of amphibians through hands-on activities and a hike.
Mid-April to Mid-October
Grades K-4
Program Length: 1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1&3

Birds of a Feather
Students will learn basic bird identification and explore their amazing adaptations. Then we'll go on a hike to find birds living in the preserves.
Year-Round
Grades K-8
Program Length: 1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1&3

Illinois Mammals
What makes an animal a mammal? We will learn the answer through hands on activities and a hike to search for clues left behind by area mammals.
Year-Round
Grades K-8
Program Length: 1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1&3

Into Insects
Students will have the opportunity to go searching for these six-legged creatures. Discover what makes an insect unique and where these creatures are hiding.
April-November
Grades K-5
Program Length: 1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1&3

The Nature of Winter
Take a break from being indoors and gain a new appreciation for this surprisingly active time of year. Students will explore physical and behavioral adaptations that allow local flora and fauna to survive winter, and then hike to observe these firsthand.
December - March
Grades K-5
Program Length: 1-1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1&3

Middle School and High School

Illinois Ecosystems

Students will explore three ecosystems of Illinois: forest, prairie, and wetland. Together we will learn some of the natural history of these ecosystems, how humans have impacted them, and what plant and animal species are thriving in these special habitats today.

Year-Round
Grades 6-12
Program Length: 1.5-2 hours
Common Core: SL1, SL3

Tree ID

In this program, students will learn how to identify trees by their features. Together we will discover how to use a dichotomous key and take a hike to identify some of Illinois' most common tree species.

April-October
Grades 6-12
Program Length: 2 hours
Common Core: SL1, SL3

Mammal Morphology

We will explore the body structures of Illinois mammals, the relationship between the form and function, and how adaptations aid survival through the use of skulls, pelts, and bones.

Year-Round
Grades 6-12
Program Length: 1-1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1, SL3

HISTORICAL PROGRAMS at the Museum of the Grand Prairie

Preschool

Museum Discovery
Preschool children will learn about early pioneer life through age-appropriate activities, hands-on interactions with artifacts, and a walk through the museum.
Program Length: 1 hour
IELDS 14.A.ECa; 14.A.ECb; 16.A.ECa; 16.A.ECb

Elementary and Middle School

Visit Champaign County's Lincoln (and Escape the Room)
Before Lincoln became president, he was a simple country lawyer riding the Eighth Judicial Circuit through Champaign and several other Illinois counties. Using escape room techniques, students will learn about the life and times of Lincoln the lawyer.
Grades 5-12
Program Length: 1 - 1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4

Life on the Grand Prairie
Through discussion, exhibits, period toys, and other activities, we will explore life in Central Illinois during the 1800s. Specific subject matter and activities are flexible to meet teacher needs and will be determined when you register.
Grades K-5
Program Length: 1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4

First Illinoisans
Native Americans lived in central Illinois for thousands of years before the Euro-Americans arrived. What was life like for the first Illinoisans? How have things changed? Using authentic materials like bone needles and arrowhead drills we will use hands-on activities to teach students about the life ways of native peoples.
Grades 3-5
Program Length: 1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4

Immigration in Champaign County
East Central Illinois was built by immigrants. In this field trip, we examine the six cultural groups that came to East Central Illinois in the past through activities such as "packing a suitcase", examining artifacts, and exploring the Botanical Garden for plants newcomers would have utilized. This trip is offered September to October and April to May.
Grades 3-8
Program Length: 1.5 hours
Common Core: SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4

School House, School Days

Were all teachers once mean and strict? Were all children polite? Find out in our old-time schoolhouse! Spend a morning or afternoon traveling back in history with one of our schoolmarms or masters. This program is available in September to October and April to May. This program pairs well with our "Life on the Grand Prairie", "Immigration in Champaign County in the Mid-19th Century" and "The Civil War through Illinois Eyes".

Grades 2-8

Program Length: 1.5 hours

Common Core: SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4

Wagons Ho/Western Expansion

Pack a wagon, write with a quill and examine artifacts from the people who traveled the trail and Native Americans who lived on the Oregon Trail. Wherever you are in your Westward Expansion Unit, this field trip will provide your students with a new perspective.

Grades 3-8

Program Length: 1.5 hours

Common Core: SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4

The Civil War through Illinois Eyes

Although no major Civil War battles were found in Illinois, the war had a huge impact on our region. Learn about the effect war had on people living in Illinois and how their lives changed forever. Students will also learn what it was like to be a soldier preparing for battle, including how to march and drum like a real soldier!

Grades 3-8

Program Length: 1.5 hours

Common Core: SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4

Holidays Past

How did Germany influence Christmas in America? Has Santa Claus always looked the same? What do you know about Hannukah? Dabble in the history of the holidays and make an historic holiday decoration to take home.

Grades K-8

Program Length: 1.5 hours

Common Core: SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4

Civil Rights in Champaign County and Beyond

In this field trip we'll analyze artifacts from the Civil War in our Goose Pond church exhibit—the only abolitionist church in Champaign County. We'll also examine local and national civil rights themes as expressed in works of art. Finally, we will learn about the history of the Douglass Center's Drum and Bugle Corps and we will even try our hand at bucket drumming!

Grades 5-8

Program Length: 1.5 hours

Common Core: SL 1, 2, 3, 4

Artifact Discovery

Primary sources are not just documents! Students learn to analyze the who, what, where, and why of historical artifacts by handling objects from the education collection of the Museum of the Grand Prairie. Artifacts can be chosen to suit the period you are studying from the Revolutionary War to the 1950s. This program is available as a classroom visit

Grades 3-8

Program Length 1.5 hours

Common Core: SL 1, 2, 3, 4

HISTORICAL PROGRAMS

at the Museum of the Grand Prairie

Elementary and Middle School

Women's Rights from Suffrage to Today

Students will explore the Women's Movement in Champaign County and throughout the United States from the fight for suffrage to the present day. Students will explore physical artifacts, music and visual arts that tell the story of the movement.

Grades 5-8

Program Length: 1.5 hours

Common Core: SL 1, 2, 3, 4

Writing Historic Tales

Students will examine historical artifacts in order to generate story starters that they can take back to the classroom. They will compose a poem based on their favorite artifact. This field trip can be tailored to a specific time period you are studying, or it can span the wide range of times of artifacts available in our extensive education collection. This program is also available as a classroom visit.

For an additional fee of $2-$4, a local author will team with our educators to present your students with some of the secrets of writing historical fiction.

Grades 3-8

Program Length: 1.5 hours

Common Core: SL1, SL2, SL3, SL4, SL6; and W1, W2, W3, W6, W7, W8

Educator Resources

When you use a traveling kit from the Museum and Education Department you are adding a new dimension to your students learning. Our kits contain hands-on interactive learning experiences meant to supplement your curriculum. If you do not see a kit that fits your specific needs we can work together to create your own customized kit. When you check out our kits we ask for a refundable $50 check or a credit card number (unless otherwise specified) to be held until you return the kit. All Historical Resource Kits may also be brought into the classroom for a presentation by one of our educators. Scout troop, 4-H, Sunday School, even PTA meetings can benefit from a visit from our educators with one of these kits!

EDUCATOR RESOURCES

Environmental Resources

For more information on environmental resources or to reserve them, contact Stacey Clementz at (217) 896-2455 or email sclementz@ccfpd.org.

Aquatic Invasive Species Loan Box

The Champaign County Forest Preserve District, with assistance from the Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, developed this loan box to assist educators in making a classroom study on aquatic invasives more hands-on and interactive. The box contains aquatic invasive specimens, activities, and information on Illinois invasive species. *This loan box requires a refundable deposit.*

Bird Adaptation Loan Box

Enhance your lessons on bird adaptations by exploring the types of beaks, eggs, and feet that help birds survive! This kit includes replicas of bird skulls, eggs, and tracks, as well as hands-on activities, and is appropriate for grades K-12. Refundable deposit required. Loan kit provided by the Champaign County Audubon Society (www.champaigncountyaudubon.org).

IDNR Field Trip Pack

The Field Trip Pack includes many items to assist your children/students as they explore nature. Hands-on equipment includes field guides, dip nets, compasses, trowels, and a whole lot more which will encourage self-initiated learning. Suggested grades: preK-3. *This loan box requires a refundable deposit.*

Insect Backpacks

Do you want to look for insects but don't know how or don't have the tools? Well, come out to a forest preserve and borrow an insect backpack! Each backpack contains a how-to guide, insect nets, bug boxes, insect guides, and much more. They are available at the Homer Lake Interpretive Center, Museum of the Grand Prairie, and our Headquarters office in Lake of the Woods. *These packs require a refundable deposit.*

Pocket Camcorders

Pocket camcorders are available for loan at the Homer Lake Forest Preserve. Take pictures and video of your field trip experience to bring back to the classroom. Borrowing the camcorders is free; a valid credit card or personal check is required.

Water Quality Loan Box

This kit is available to teachers and groups interested in learning about water quality in lakes and streams. Each kit contains equipment to test and measure the temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, and nitrogen of the water. Also included are pond-dipping nets to investigate the macro-invertebrates of the water, and a binder with indoor and outdoor activities. This loan box is appropriate for 3rd grade to adults. *There is a $10 fee, and a refundable deposit is required.*

IDNR Reptiles and Amphibians Field Pack

Amphibians and reptiles are fascinating creatures! The Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Division of Education has developed an educational tool to help you learn about and observe these animals in their natural environment. Binoculars, magnifying glasses, field guides, observation equipment, a headlamp, frog call recordings, and many other hands-on items are included in the pack. *This loan box requires a refundable deposit.*

GPS Units

GPS devices are available for loan at the Homer Lake Forest Preserve. Search for geocaches; track the distance, speed and route of your hike; or learn about unique locations at Homer Lake. Borrowing a GPS unit is free; a valid credit card or personal check is required.

EDUCATOR RESOURCES

Historical Resources

For more information on historical resources or to reserve them, contact Katie Snyder at ksnyder@ccfpd.org or (217)586-2612.

Traveling Discovery Kits

These kits contain hands-on historically accurate replicas and education collection artifacts along with supplementary literature, books, lesson plans, and suggestions for teachers. All kits are free with a refundable deposit of $50.

The 1950s Kit

Specially developed for middle and high school use, this kit about life in Champaign County in the 1950s is packaged in an authentic Civil Defense barrel! It contains men's and women's clothing from the era: fedoras, gloves, even nylons. Also included are a high school yearbook, popular magazines and books, and DVD/CDs with clips of popular music and early television shows. Lesson plans were developed through the American History Teacher's Collaborative.

Civil War: Gone for a Soldier Kit

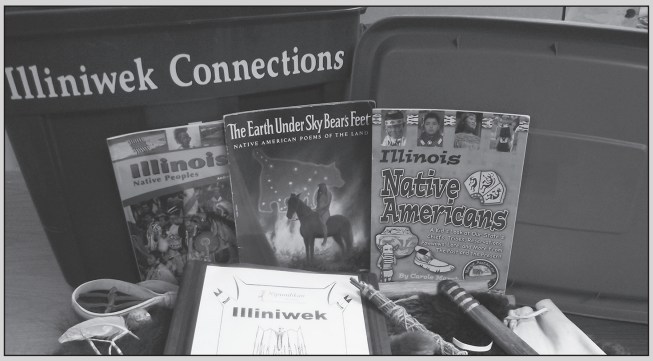
In this kit you will find local and national primary source documents from the Civil War. We have included books and lessons that will round out your unit. Artifacts include the everyday provisions for a soldier: replica money, clothing, a soldier's knapsack, dinnerware and more will bring history to life for your students!

History from the Heart Kit

This outreach kit is based on the publication of the Illinois Quilt Research Project, History from the Heart: Quilt Paths Across Illinois. It includes a copy of the book, study questions, suggested activities, quilt blocks, and story books.

The Illinois Country Kit

Let students explore the Illinois Country fur trade. This kit includes literature about the interactions between the French and Native Americans in the 18th century, along with actual furs, reproductions of trade goods, and suggested activities.



Illinois Native American Discovery Kit

Touch a brain-tanned hide and a bison bone; learn what wampum is and more! This kit focuses on the history and culture of Native Americans who once lived throughout Central Illinois. Information on the Kaskaskia, Peoria, Cahokia, Mascouten, and other members of the Illinois Confederation from 1650 to 1800 is included, along with complete lesson plans, maps, a variety of hands-on materials. This kit was created by Dan Hechenberger of the educational nonprofit group Nipundikan. Funding for this kit was provided by the Ida Haack Trust Fund established by Otto Haack.

Life on the Grand Prairie Kit

Looking for a fun way to integrate reading, science, the arts and social studies? In this kit you will find several prairie picture books, animal skins, wool carding tools, costumes, and toys! You will also receive links to web quests about the prairie, interactive prairie games and links to websites for further research. Check this loan kit out and watch your prairie project soar!

Civil Rights Kit

Do your students know about Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks? Are you looking for a fun and educational way to take their Civil Rights knowledge to the next level? In this loan kit you will find picture books, and posters, as well as local and national photos and primary source documents. The kit includes ideas of how to put together an Expo about Civil Rights based on the books included—perfect for Black History Month, NAAPID day or anytime throughout your school year!

IDNR People and Animals From Illinois' Past Kit

The museum is proud to host an Illinois Department of Natural Resources traveling trunk! Prehistoric mammals, extirpated mammals and Native Americans and their relationship with nature are all topics you can teach about by using the items in this resource trunk. Targeted Grades: PreK - 6. Contents include: mammoth and mastodon tooth replicas; species replicas; Native American games; activities; mammoth hair; posters; replica pottery; a video; reference books; and natural items used by Native Americans.

Women's Rights Loan Kit

Looking for new ways to explore Women's History or expand your Civil Rights unit to include Women's Rights? In this loan kit you will find artifacts, books, primary source documents, photographs and newspaper articles to help to explore the Women's Rights Movement from the Suffragettes in the early 20th century to today.

Museum Library

The museum has a library with many local history resources. Titles can be searched at www.librarything.com. Many volumes can be borrowed for a short period of time. Please call for the login and password to this great history resource.

VISIT OUR SPECIAL EXHIBITS!

1968 A Time for Every Purpose

Museum of the Grand Prairie

This year, we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of our museum, with a special exhibit that commemorates the year of our founding, 1968! In this special exhibit field trip, your students will explore the ways in which Science and Technology, Civil Rights, The Vietnam War, and Pop Culture shaped our world on both a local and national level.

August-December
Grades 5-12
Program Length: 1.5 hours

Vanishing Acts: Trees Under Threat

Mabery Gelvin Botanical Garden

Learn about how our planet's most valuable resources are disappearing before our eyes. Students will learn about different tree species around the world and how we are connected to trees in our everyday lives.

Sept-Early November
Grades 4-8
Program Length: 1.5 hours

From Rail to Trail

Homer Lake Interpretive Center

The new Kickapoo Rail Trail has a fascinating history of uses, from the transport of goods along the CSX Railroad, to public transport along a parallel electric train line called the Interurban, to the current multi-use trail. Include a visit to this exhibit in your field trips to Homer Lake!

Aug-December
Grades 4-12

Education Facilities

THE MUSEUM OF THE GRAND PRAIRIE

at the Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve in Mahomet offers dynamic exhibits rich in local cultural and natural history and a change to visit our 1896 one-room schoolhouse.

THE MABERY GELVIN BOTANICAL GARDEN

is adjacent to the Museum of the Grand Prairie and offers the perfect site for plant science programs.

THE HOMER LAKE INTERPRETIVE CENTER

at Homer Lake Forest Preserve in Homer features live animals, a wildlife-viewing area and interactive exhibits. A visit to the center can be scheduled along with your program.

Lake of the Woods Forest Preserve

is 10 miles west of Champaign-Urbana on I-74 at Mahomet, may be reached by exit #172 or #174. Busses must use exit #172 to reach the Museum of the Grand Prairie and the Botanical Garden.

Homer Lake Forest Preserve

is 15 miles southeast of Champaign-Urbana near Homer. From I-74, take the Ogden exit, go south on Route 49 about two miles and follow the signs.

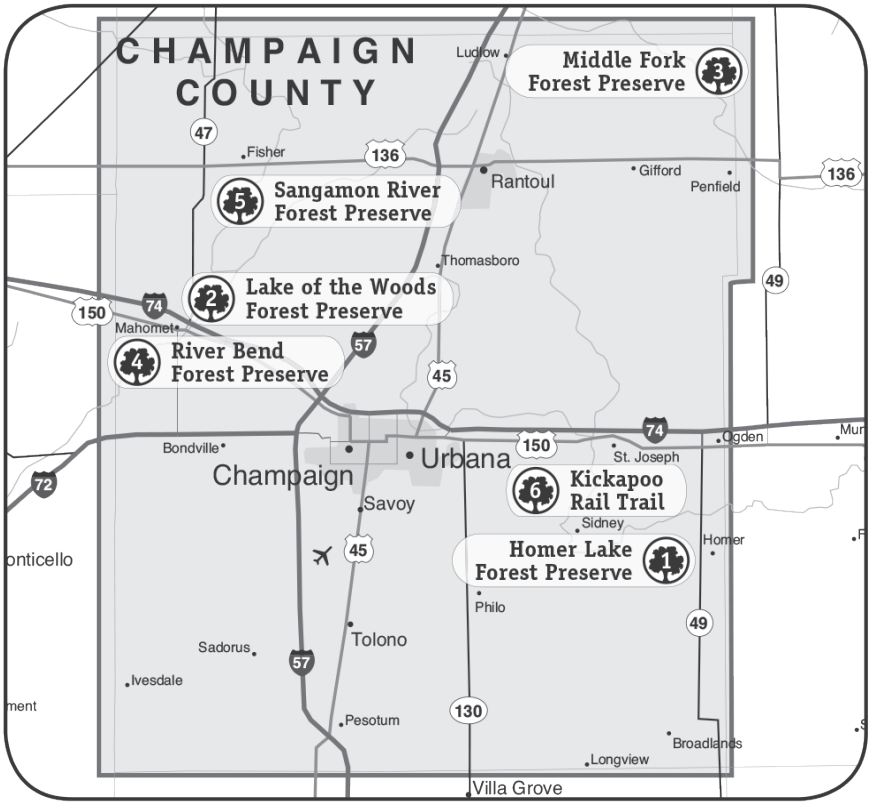
Middle Fork River Forest Preserve

is located on County Road 2700 E, about five miles noth of Penfield and U.S. Route 136 in northeast Champaign County.

To see all six of our preserves visit www.ccfpd.org

FOREST PRESERVES
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY
FOREST PRESERVES
P.O. BOX 1040
MAHOMET, IL 61853

WWW.CCFPD.ORG

Champaign County Forest Preserves