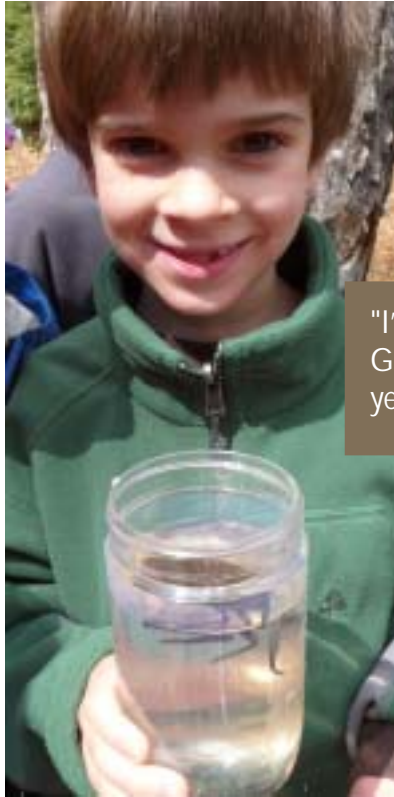


School Programs

2009-2010



Nestled in the foothills of the Green Mountains, the 255-acre Green Mountain Audubon Center has been connecting people of all ages with Vermont's natural world for over 40 years. With a diversity of upland forest types, a working sugarbush, a swamp, ponds, a brook, and the Huntington River, the Green Mountain Audubon Center offers an exciting array of outdoor learning opportunities for your students.

"I've been bringing my classes to the Green Mountain Audubon Center for 22 years. The programs are always great!"



Visit our website for more information on our programs

- Essential questions and understandings
- Connections to Vermont Grade Expectations
- Related resources
- Scholarship information

vt.audubon.org/schoolPrograms.html

K-2 Seasonal Inquiry Programs

2 hours

What do beavers do in the fall to get ready for winter? What signs of Vermont animals can we see in the winter? What is happening at the pond in the spring? Get your students outdoors exploring, observing, and asking questions about the changing seasons. Our open-ended and flexible approach to these programs allow us all to practice thinking like scientists by focusing on what is around us and connecting our observations to the themes of each season. Don't miss the fun; join us for one season, or all three!

Program	Months Offered	Themes	VT GEs
Autumn Inquiry	September and October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plants and animals preparing for winter • Seed dispersal • Leaf color change 	S1-2, S30, S31, S38
Winter Inquiry	January and February (Tuesdays and Thursdays only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant and animal adaptations for surviving winter • Wildlife Tracking 	S1-2, S30, S34, S35
Spring Inquiry	May and June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant and animal reproduction and life cycles 	S1-2, S30, S31, S38



K-4 Grade

2 or 4 hours

30 student maximum



All About Birds

May and June

Outreach Option Available

Birds of Vermont Museum Combination Available

Spring at the Green Mountain Audubon Center is the perfect time to learn about birds as thousands of neo-tropical migrants return to our region to mate, nest, and raise their young. Adaptations, migration, life cycles, and bird identification are all topics we will explore through games, activities, and observe wild birds in the many different habitats at the Audubon Center. Everyone will also learn how to use age-appropriate field guides and binoculars. VT GEs: S1-2, S30, S31, S38

Ask about combining this program with a visit to the neighboring Birds of Vermont Museum for \$8.50/student.

The Secret Lives of Trees

September, October, and June

Outreach Option Available

Who in the forest starts life as small as an ant, grows taller than a building, provides homes and food for wildlife, and gives us everything from sweet syrup to wood for our houses? Trees, that's who! Students will head into the forest to learn about tree life cycles from seed to snag, how trees grow, and how to identify our most common species. Come away with a great appreciation for these special organisms and our relationship to them. VT GEs: S1, S30, S31, S38, S49

Wetland Explorations

September, October, May, and June

Get your mud boots on because we are likely to get our feet wet during this adventure! Your students are sure to enjoy dipping for aquatic organisms at the Audubon Center's peeper pond, looking for wetland wildlife with binoculars at the beaver pond, and feeling soggy soil in the hemlock swamp. We'll compare what makes each of these wetlands unique while pondering the concepts of food webs, life cycles, and the interdependence between animals and their environments.

VT GEs: S1, S30, S31, S35, S36

Maple Sugaring - All Ages!

2 hours

March - Early April

Get your taste buds ready for Vermont's sweetest season! Students will tap a tree, gather sap, visit our sugarhouse, and join in a maple syrup taste test. They will also witness early Native American boiling techniques. Leave with an increased awareness of the importance of maple sugaring in Vermont's history, identity and economy.

VT GEs: S1-4, S12, S14, S49, H&SS8, H&SS12



Insect Investigations

September and June

Outreach Option Available

With over 60,000 different species of insects in North America, we are sure to get an up close look at a diversity of these incredible organisms during your visit to the Audubon Center. We'll learn about insect adaptations, metamorphosis, classification, and habitats as we catch and observe insects in three different habitats: field, pond, and forest. Your students will also gain an appreciation of the important roles insects play in our own lives through processes such as pollination.

VT GEs: S1-2, S30, S31, S38



4 hours
30 student maximum

5-8 Grade

Orienteering

September and October

Autumn is a beautiful time to learn to navigate your way through the forest. Orienteering reinforces students' math, problem solving, and teamwork skills. We will start indoors with a lesson on map reading and compass skills. After a break for lunch, your students will have a chance to put their new skills to the test as small groups navigate their way through the Audubon Center's orienteering course. **VT GEs:** H&SS11, S26, M13

Our Northern Forests

September and October

Outreach Option Available

Forests cover more than 75% of Vermont's landscape and are central to our identity, economy, and ecology. On this trip, your students will trek into the Audubon Center's forests to explore the diversity of ecological relationships in forests, practice their identification and classification skills, learn about tree structures and their functions, and take a close look at the underground world of forest soils. Leave with an appreciation of the many services that forests provide for wildlife and other living organisms – like us!

VT GEs: S1-4, S7, S34, S35, S26, S37, S38, S49

Wildlife Tracking

January and February

(Tuesdays and Thursdays only)

Outreach Option Available

Inspire your students to get outside this winter and discover the beauty and challenges of Vermont's winter world for active wildlife species. Your students will explore animal adaptations to surviving winter and how to identify and interpret common animal tracks and signs through an indoor lesson. Then we will practice our skills on an outdoor trek while following the tracks wherever they lead us to unravel the mysterious stories of life in the winter woods. **VT GEs:** S1-2, S30, S34, S35

Forests are for the Birds

May and June

Vermont's forests are home to thousands of breeding bird species who migrate home to our region each spring to mate, nest, and raise their families. Your students will gain an appreciation of the interdependence between birds and our forests as we use binoculars for a good look at our feathered friends. We'll practice our identification skills, explore where birds are nesting in the forest, and find out what is on the bird menu for the spring and summer.

VT GEs: S1-2, S30, S31, S34, S35, S36, S38

Pond and River

May and June

Your students are sure to get their feet wet when they visit the Huntington River and the Audubon Center's beaver ponds to explore the differences and similarities between these two aquatic environments. Using dip and kick nets to catch organisms, we will compare the differences between plants and animals adapted for standing versus moving water. We will also learn how to use the macroinvertebrates we catch as indicators of water quality.

VT GEs: S1-4, S30, S31, S34, S38, S49



Cancelation Policy

If a cancelation is made at least 3 weeks before the scheduled program, no cancelation fees will be charged. If a cancellation is made less than 3 weeks in advance, a \$60 fee will be charged. There is no fee if a program is cancelled due to inclement weather.



School Programs 2009-2010

Program Location	Grade Level	Programs	Seasons offered (see descriptions for specific months)	Length	Cost	Teachers and classroom assistants attend free of charge. We recommend a donation of \$4/additional chaperone.
Green Mountain Audubon Center	K-2	Seasonal Inquiry Programs	Fall, Winter, Spring	2 hours	\$6/student*	Teachers and classroom assistants attend free of charge. We recommend a donation of \$4/additional chaperone.
	K-4	<i>Wetland Explorations</i>	Fall and Spring	2 or 4 hours	2-hour program \$6/student*	
		<i>Insect Investigations</i>				
		<i>The Secret Lives of Trees</i>	Spring	4-hour program \$8/student**		
	All	<i>Maple Sugaring</i>	March - early April	2 hours	\$6/student*	
	5th-8th	<i>Orienteering</i>	Fall	4 hours	\$8/student**	4-hour programs include a 30 minute lunch break.
		<i>Our Northern Forests</i>	Winter			
		<i>Wildlife Tracking</i>	Spring			
		<i>Forests are for the Birds</i>				
	Outreach Option at Your School	K-4	<i>Insect Investigations</i>	Fall and Spring	1.5 or 2 hours	\$100/hour/classroom + roundtrip mileage (\$150 minimum)
<i>The Secret Lives of Trees</i>						
<i>All About Birds</i>			Spring			
5th-8th		<i>Our Northern Forests</i>	Fall			
		<i>Wildlife Tracking</i>	Winter			

* \$60 minimum fee for groups with fewer than 10 students

** \$120 minimum fee for groups with fewer than 15 students

Inquire about scholarships

Register Now!
(802) 434-3068



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The mission of Audubon Vermont is to protect birds, other wildlife and their habitats by creating a culture of conservation in collaboration with Audubon chapters, through education, science and public policy.

Published by the Vermont State Office of The National Audubon Society.

vt.audubon.org/schoolPrograms.html