

Preschool Peep 2011-2012



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Hartley Nature Center....

A First Peep at Nature

Greetings preschool teachers and childcare providers! A new school year has begun, which means another opportunity to invite you and your preschool-aged children on a field trip to Hartley Nature Center. This Peep newsletter is made just for you, to highlight the variety of classes we offer specifically for early childhood groups. If you see something that interests you, great! If not, we're always glad to customize a class based on the unique needs of your group.

Scampering with squirrels, hooting with owls, stomping in puddles, and stopping to smell the flowers.. our trained educators take advantage of a preschooler's natural sense of wonder to provide opportunities to see, hear, smell, touch, and play in the great outdoors. Classes are 1 to 1½ hours long, beginning in our preschool room to introduce the topic before heading outside for activities, games, and a walk through the park. Planning to bring your lunch or snack? Classrooms are available inside, and picnic tables outside.

Interested in Hartley presenting a program at your site? Call for more info. HNC will not cancel your booking due to weather. In the case of especially inclement weather, theme-related indoor activities will be implemented. HNC reserves the right to charge a cancellation fee and/or reschedule a cancelled trip.

When calling 724-6735, please have ready:

School or care provider name

Age & number of students

Number of chaperones

(site staff are free; 1 free parent chaperone per 10 students)

First & Second Choice for Dates

Desired Time

Location: HNC or your site

Contact Name, Address, Phone, Email

Any special needs we should be aware of?

Will you bring your lunch or snack to the center?

Scholarships Available!

Hartley can pay for your transportation!

Open to **all groups** (within our 30 mile primary service area) that utilize yellow bus, vans or other commercial transportation, these funds are limited; first come, first served. Please inquire when making reservations as to availability of funds. After making a reservation, you will be asked to contact the busing company for an estimation of transportation costs. Transportation scholarships can be combined with program scholarships.

Program Scholarships to cover a portion of the program fees are also available. Please call for details.



Additional HNC

Programs for Preschoolers

Nature Nook: weekly program on Mondays and Tuesdays at 10-11:30, open to public just for preschoolers ages 2-5 and an accompanying adult.

Saturday Sprites: monthly Saturday program for preschoolers and an adult. A great time to enjoy the outdoors with other families and learn some ideas of how to share nature with your child.

Wee Wanderers: 3-day summer camps for preschoolers and an adult with fun weekly themes like Camping, Bugs, Flowers, Nature Art, and Water.

Please call 724-6735 for more information on these programs.



Early Childhood Class Offerings

Animal Detective brings students into the woods to explore footprints, holes, fur and more as they discover signs of animal life.



Eager Beavers teaches students what makes a beaver so unique. A hike into the park will bring us in sight of a beaver lodge and allow us to act like a beaver.

Bird Buddies teaches students to watch birds using real binoculars. Bird behaviors are taught by observation and “becoming a bird” using props, songs and games.



A Bug’s Life puts sweep nets, probes and magnifying glasses in the hands of jr. bug scientists as we turn over logs and sweep the skies in search of insects and more.

Getting Squirrelly uses one of our most interesting and common critters to learn about what animals need to stay alive. Students look for “lunch spots,” nests and our resident squirrels.



Pollination Station teaches students about how plants grow while inspecting flowers, parachuting pollen, or even planting seeds.

Ponds, Puddles & Polliwogs brings kids to the pond’s edge with rubber boots, nets and buckets. Catch baby dragonflies, frogs and other watery critters.



Snow Wonderful explores the winter wonderland! A walk through the snow allows kids to examine snowflakes, discover animals tracks, and stay warm with age appropriate activities.

Trees are Terrific puts students in the woods where we’ll examine parts of trees, act like a tree, play like squirrels, and toss and sort leaves.

Wonderful Water teaches children how amazing and precious water is to all living things. Together we’ll make a cloud, rainbows and a musical instrument all from water!



Whoop are Owls? will give students a chance to see an owl mount up close, feel their feathers, and hoot out to our special and mysterious owl friends in the forest.

2011-2012 Rates

Type of Fee	Length	Cost	Discounts Available
Early Childhood Program	1 to 1 1/2 hour	\$40 minimum charge (up to 10 students) \$4/student for group larger than 10 students	Bus Scholarship (for transportation) School Scholarship (for program)
Snowshoe Rental for ages 2 and up		\$1.50/student (in addition to program)	
Travel Fees		\$.30/mile/educator	
Mileage Fee		\$.55/mile	(mileage fee changes with federal rate)



The 2011-12 Preschool teacher newsletter is enclosed