

1ST GRADE PROGRAM LIST

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

2026-2027

JASPER COUNTY CONSERVATION

1st Grade Programs 2026-2027

Welcome Educators!

We are thrilled to offer a variety of engaging and informative environmental education programs designed to empower teachers and inspire students. Our programs are hands-on, curriculum-aligned, and adaptable to various age groups and learning environments.

Explore the options below and discover how we can help bring the wonders of the natural world into your classroom and beyond!

1st Grade Fall Field Trip

Join us at Mariposa Park for a field trip centered on animal adaptations and exploring our local wildlife. The experience consists of observation hikes, camouflage games, learning what special adaptations animals use to survive, and exploring the Nature Playscape Trail. We've been offering these as half day field trips, either in the morning, 9:00-11:30am, or afternoon, 12:00-2:30pm. Sack lunches can be eaten at the park after or before the activities begin.

***1-LS1-1, 1-LS1-2, 1-LS3-1**



Big Brown Bat



Students will explore the intriguing lives of both local and exotic bats through several hands on activities. We will look through the bat lunch box to see what different bats eat, discuss their use of echolocation, and look at local bat specimens.

**1-LS3-1, 1-LS1-2*

Rockin' Reptiles vs Awesome Amphibians

The naturalist will discuss reptile and amphibian characteristics using pictures, models and live examples (if available) of common reptiles and amphibians found in Iowa for the students to observe. Typically we bring a live toad and a fox snake (named Cupcake) to school with us!

**1-LS3-1, 1-LS1-2*



Astronomy Adventures



Students will be introduced to how the earth and moon move in relation to our sun, how the moon changes each month, which planets are in our solar system, and some common constellations. Students will learn how a sky map is used and what exciting things are currently happening in the universe!

**1-ESS1-1, 1-ESS1-2*

Penguins

January is a great month for a program on penguins! Storybooks, puppets, life-size poster of the Emperor penguin, life-size egg, and other visual aids will help students learn more about these fascinating animals and the places they live. We will compare students' heights with the height of the emperor penguin and their hands and feet with the size of the emperor's egg and chick. One student will help demonstrate to the class how difficult it is to be an emperor penguin dad!

**1-LS3-1, 1-LS1-2*



Everybody Needs a Home



Students compare their basic needs (food, water, shelter and space) and generalize that wildlife and other animals have similar basic needs. Similarities and differences between animal homes and our neighborhoods will be explored. We will also brainstorm how pollution and disturbance can alter habitats and what we can do to help.

***1-LS1-2, 1-LS3-1**

Iowa Mammals

Students will see and touch furs from common mammals and will learn about where they live, what they eat, and how they move. They will be able to feel the difference in the type of fur/hair and see how the animals use camouflage. A mammal charade game will be played if time allows.

***1-LS3-1, 1-LS1-1**



[Contact Us](#)

Ready to book a program or have questions?

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Next Steps

1. **Explore our offerings:** Review the program descriptions to find the best fit for your students. Please limit your selection to a total of 5 programs during the school year, including field trips.
2. **Contact us:** Reach out via email at the beginning of the school year to guarantee a time.
3. **Book your program:** We'll work with you to schedule your chosen environmental education experience. Plan for 30-40 minutes per program.
4. **Prepare for an amazing learning adventure!** Please plan to sit with your class and enjoy the presentation along with your students!