

Making the Grade: School Program Menu for Physical Education 2025-2026



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The following is a list of outdoor recreational programs offered in Jasper County. You can pick and choose from this list, depending on the season, to create a full-day field trip if desired. This is not a complete list, and for other options or questions about a program, please contact the naturalists. We work with teachers to fit our programming with their curriculum!

- All programs are free and materials will be provided unless otherwise noted.
- Please call or email at least 2 weeks in advance to guarantee your desired day and time.
- Plan for 40-50 minutes per program.
- Have your students come up with a list of questions for the naturalists before the scheduled program time.

Archery 101

Students will practice their skills using recurve bows, compound bows, or both. We can set this up inside the gym with a net. Equipment will be provided.



Orienteering 101

Students will learn to find their way using a compass. Equipment and instruction will be provided--a longer course is set up at Jacob Krumm Nature Preserve for a field trip.



Fishing

You bring the worms and we'll bring the poles. Students will learn basic fishing techniques and how to identify some common fish in Iowa's ponds and streams. We have 20 fishing poles available for schools to use.

GPS 101

Students will learn the basics of using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit. Students will then practice their skills in a scavenger hunt. Equipment and instruction will be provided.

Canoeing and Kayaking 101

Students learn the basics of canoeing and kayaking on the lake at Jacob Krumm Nature Preserve. Basic safety rules will be reviewed and expected to be followed at all times. Students are required to have a parent/guardian sign a waiver and must wear a life jacket provided by the conservation department.



Hammocking

Hang out with us! We have 25 hammocks that can be used for a school program or as a field day station at a park. Students can read, journal, draw, bird watch or just relax in a stress-free environment.



Cross-Country Skiing

Skiing is one of the best ways to exercise almost every muscle in your body! The naturalists will provide the equipment and basic instruction. Skiing can be done at a local park or even the school yard.



Ice Fishing

Don't let the cold keep your students cooped up indoors! Try ice fishing for part of a day, or as part of a winter field trip! The naturalists will provide poles and go over the basic equipment needed for this sport and students can try their luck on a local pond. Please contact us for information about ice safety and conditions.

Survival Skills

Learn basic survival skills and other things to make you more comfortable in the outdoors from how to identify poisonous plants to how to dress for the outdoors. Students will learn what one item is the most important in a survival situation.



Snowshoeing

Another great program if there is snow on the ground! A little history and instruction on snowshoes will be given by the naturalist and students can practice walking around the school yard. This would also be fun as part of a winter field trip to a park and combined with tracking wildlife and other winter activities.