



Nature's Classroom Institute

Overnight Adventures and
Environmental Education Field Trips

Wisconsin



Nature's Classroom Institute is the "Nation's Premier Environmental Education Program". We offer a fully customized, highly engaging 3 or 5 day experience that has direct positive impacts on classroom community and academic performance. Our multi-disciplined, degreed educators integrate lessons with the curriculum of visiting schools in order to reinforce what is being taught in the classroom. With hundreds of classes and activities to choose from, we create unique and individualized experiences for each and every student and teacher.



Programming & Student Benefits

IT'S MORE THAN JUST SCIENCE

Educators at Nature's Classroom Institute incorporate the whole environment; teaching through the elements of the world around us, so that students can experience and truly understand not just science but all subjects, including mathematics, social studies, history, and language arts.

STUDENT'S CHOICE

We involve students in the learning process and allow them to choose which classes they take. By encouraging students to follow their interests we instill confidence, motivate them to seek out knowledge, and empower them to develop new areas of interest

LEARNING THROUGH EXPERIENCE

Every moment is a learning moment at Nature's Classroom Institute. We motivate students in ways they don't even realize they are learning. Instead of looking out the window at nature ~we teach there!

CABINS & MEALS

The students enjoy a sleeping in cabin style accommodation. Perfect for socializing and building community. Our wonderful, filling and varied meals are served Family Style to inspire conversation and choice.

A tried and true environmental education residential program with over 25 years of experience and place where students begin to value their education. We broaden their perspectives to see that learning is not just textbooks and desks, but where they obtain the necessary skills for exciting opportunities.

- An improved self-concept.
- A motivation to learn.
- An understanding of what education can offer.
- An ability to work with others for the positive benefit of all community members.
- Awareness of the environment and their role within it.
- An enhancement of life skills to help them succeed, grow, and become the next generation's leaders.



A typical day at Nature's Classroom Institute is... not so typical. We take ordinary moments and transform them into highly engaging, highly educational, highly reflective experiences. We build a framework that leads to specific goals and objectives and then, guiding along the way, allow each student the freedom to choose their own path, based upon their natural motivations, curiosities, and learning styles. Every day is unique and individual to each student and their perspective.

A Day at Nature's Classroom Institute

7:45am Waitrons

Students take turns with dining room leadership, table setup, food serving, and room control.

8:00am Breakfast

Students choose their food and portion sizes. Waste is measured and composted after each meal.

9:00am Transition

9:30am Field Group

Working as a team, enjoying the environment, this is student led learning and exploration.

11:30am Transition

11:45am Waitrons

12:00pm Lunch

Meal times provide an opportunity to build community, with family style dining.

1:00pm Transition

1:30pm Classes

Chosen by the student, their class becomes relevant meaningful and interesting.

3:00pm Transition

Transitions are for students to get ready for what's next, while the staff do the same.

3:30pm Large Group

Students come together to learn as a group in one of hundreds of activities.

5:00pm Break

6:00pm Dinner

Dinner provides time for reflection and positive sharing, along with dining room entertainment.

7:00pm Transition

7:30pm Night Curriculum

Night time activities could include Night Hikes, Astronomy, Large Group Activities and more.

After programming the NCI Staff tell a story and hand out a night time snack. Winding down after a long day is crucial for a peaceful and restful experience in the cabins.

Our Curriculum Concepts

Teachers can discover new ways to reach their students and elevate their social relationships. NCI enhances the classroom community, enthusiasm, and excitement for learning new and exciting things. Our veteran staff present and customize curriculum for each school giving you a tailor made trip. Thanks to pre-program guidance and planning, students enjoy a unique educational experience that fits their needs and can be designed around the lead teachers chosen learning concepts. Students gain new independence and confidence to help them succeed, grow and become leaders. NCI can also offer limited funding options and guidance to help make sure the program is accessible to the whole classroom.



Alternative Energy



Anatomy & Dissections



Archeology & Paleontology



Art, Music & Acting



Astronomy



Botanical Studies



Business & Economics



Character Education



Cultural Studies



Chemistry & Experiments



Conservation & Stewardship



Engineering & Physics



Environmental Studies



Genetics & Health



Geology & Earth Sciences



History of America & the World



Law & Government



Mapping and Orienteering



Mathematics



Survival Skills



Team & Community Building



Zoology

All of our programs are tailor made for each visiting school. During the planning process you will be asked what you would like to accomplish while at NCI, building a schedule based on the above concepts.

Glacial Plains Site

NCI Hartland

NCI Hartland is just two hours from downtown Chicago, and 30 minutes from Milwaukee. Our Hartland site sits on the shores of Lake Keeses with ample woodlands, wetlands and open fields to explore. The property is approximately 300 acres of wonderful woods, prairies and meadows with an abundance of wildlife. With 900 feet of boardwalks and lookout towers.



✓ Separate Chaperone Sleeping

✓ Large Lake with Great Access

✓ Multiple Ecosystems in One

✓ Plenty of Cabin Space

✓ Quality Food and Dining Room

✓ Acres of Trails to Explore

✓ Specific Winter Curriculum

✓ Incredible Flora and Fauna



NCI Hartland has clean, modern, comfortable cabins that sleep up to 24 students in each. All cabins have ensuite facilities, have AC and heating and high quality mattresses.



Pricing & Registration

Prepare For Your Trip

NCI offers each school a detailed presentation to make the preparation process for visiting teachers simple and organized. The presentation will explain our program in full, what to expect on a day-to-day basis, the role of a visiting teacher, our registration process and answer any questions the school may have.

NCI is happy to arrange a separate presentation for parents and guardians displaying an overview of our program, this gives an understanding of what their child will be experiencing during their trip.

Student Online Registration

Detailed instructions are provided to parents and guardians to easily and efficiently register their participating child on our safe and secure online portal. The portal is where Nature's Classroom Institute staff are alerted of any medication requirements, dietary restrictions and potential allergies. Teachers can login to ensure their students are registered and access their students medical and dietary requirements.

Availability and Booking

Availability is managed on a first come first served basis. Please check with Carrie, on current available dates.

NCI is glad to liaise with each individual school to ensure all booking needs are met. This could include a modification in departure or arrival time or accommodation for special needs. Each school and its students are unique and your trip will reflect that. Once your school finalizes a suitable, available date, an agreement confirming all program logistics will be sent from our Executive Director, Geoffrey Bishop

NCI HARTLAND

3 Day Trip
\$320

5 Day Trip
\$410

Each chaperone is \$150 per trip for every 10 students.
A 20% deposit is required 3 months before arrival.

Ask about our "Off Peak" availability, for certain dates throughout the year we discount our prices.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR BOOKING AND AVAILABILITY

Email - carrie@discovernci.org / Phone - 262 363 2815

All of Our Sites

