



SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS

Field Trip Topic	Description	Science Standards Met	Parks Offered	Months Offered
Environmental Education Topics				
Animal Adaptations	Explore the world of Minnesota's animals and the adaptations that help them survive in the wild. Students will observe and compare how different animals interact with their varied environments.	Kindergarten – 0.1.1.2.1; 0.4.1.1.1; 0.4.1.1.20.4.2.1.1 1st grade – 1.1.1.1.1; 1.1.1.1.2; 1.1.3.1.1; 1.4.1.1.1; 1.4.2.1.1; 1.4.2.1.2; 1.4.3.1.1 3rd grade – 3.1.1.1.1; 3.4.1.1.1; 3.4.1.1.2; 3.4.3.2.2 Can also be a pre-K exploration class	Lake Byllesby Regional Park Lebanon Hills Regional Park Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Spring Lake Park Reserve Thompson County Park Whitetail Woods Regional Park	All Year
Connections in Nature	Life cycles and food chains come to life in this field trip. Students will explore the park as they learn about the roles native animals play to keep our ecosystems healthy.	Kindergarten – 0.4.2.1.1 1st grade – 1.4.1.1.1; 1.4.2.1.1; 1.4.2.1.2; 1.4.3.1.1 2nd grade – 2.1.1.2.1 7th grade – 7.4.2.1.3; 7.4.2.2.1; 7.4.2.2.2; 7.4.2.2.3 Can also be a pre-K exploration class	Lake Byllesby Regional Park Lebanon Hills Regional Park Spring Lake Park Reserve Thompson County Park Whitetail Woods Regional Park	All Year
Earth Explorers	Discover how landscapes change slowly over time and learn about the processes that shaped Minnesota's landscape, including its 10,000 lakes.	4th grade – 4.3.2.3.1 5th grade – 5.1.3.4.2; 5.3.1.2.1; 5.3.1.2.2 8th grade – 8.3.1.2.1; 8.3.1.2.2	Lake Byllesby Regional Park Lebanon Hills Regional Park Spring Lake Park Reserve Whitetail Woods Regional Park	All Year
Exploring Ecosystems	Minnesota has four different biomes. Explore what makes each biome unique and conduct a field study of the habitat, plants and animals of the biomes found in Dakota County.	Kindergarten – 0.4.1.1.1; 0.4.1.1.2; 0.4.1.1.3; 0.4.2.1.1 1st grade – 1.1.1.1.1; 1.1.3.1.1; 1.4.1.1.1; 1.4.2.1.2 2nd grade - 2.1.1.2.1; 2.4.1.1.1; 2.4.2.1.1; 2.4.3.1.1 3rd grade – 3.4.1.1.2; 3.4.3.2.2 5th grade – 5.1.3.4.2; 5.4.1.1.1; 5.4.2.1.1; 5.4.2.1.2; 5.4.4.1.1 Can also be a pre-K exploration class	Lebanon Hills Regional Park Spring Lake Park Reserve Whitetail Woods Regional Park	All Year
Fur, Feathers, Fins or Scales?	What makes a bird a bird or a fish a fish? Learn the characteristics of the different classes of animals who call Dakota County Parks home. Students will conduct a field survey to find out where and how they live.	Kindergarten – 0.4.1.1.1; 0.4.1.1.2 1st grade – 1.1.1.1.1; 1.1.3.1.1; 1.4.1.1.1; 1.4.2.1.1; 1.4.2.1.2; 1.4.3.1.1; 1.4.3.1.2 3rd grade – 3.1.1.1.1; 3.4.1.1.1; 3.4.1.1.2 Can also be a pre-K exploration class	Lake Byllesby Regional Park Lebanon Hills Regional Park Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Spring Lake Park Reserve Thompson County Park Whitetail Woods Regional Park	All Year
Geology	Can you tell a piece of talc from taconite? Learn about the geologic history of Minnesota's rocks and minerals and spend time exploring the geology of Dakota County.	1st grade – 1.3.1.3.1; 1.3.1.3.3 4th grade – 4.3.1.3.1; 4.3.1.3.2 5th grade – 5.3.4.1.1; 5.3.4.1.2 8th grade – 8.3.1.1.1; 8.3.1.1.3; 8.3.1.2.1; 8.3.1.2.2; 8.3.1.3.2;	Lebanon Hills Regional Park Spring Lake Park Reserve Whitetail Woods Regional Park	May-October
Insect Investigations	Explore the life cycles of insects and investigate and classify the insects found in the prairie and woods of	Kindergarten - 0.1.1.2.1;0.4.1.1.1;0.4.1.1.2; 1st grade – 1.1.1.1.1;1.1.1.1.2; 1.1.3.1.1;1.4.1.1.1; 1.4.2.1.1; 1.4.2.1.2; 1.4.3.1.1; 1.4.3.1.2	Lake Byllesby Regional Park Lebanon Hills Regional Park Spring Lake Park Reserve	May-October

	Dakota County Parks.	2 nd grade – 2.1.1.2.1 3 rd grade – 3.1.1.1.13.1.1.2.3;3.4.1.1.2 Can also be a pre-K exploration class	Thompson County Park Whitetail Woods Regional Park	
Lake Study 101	Explore the lakeshore by collecting and identifying aquatic critters with dip nets. Students will learn about the importance of aquatic ecosystems, how they can be used as indicators of lake health, and how to identify aquatic organisms.	1 st grade – 1.1.1.1.1; 1.1.1.1.2; 1.4.1.1.1; 1.4.2.1.2; 1.4.3.1.1; 1.4.3.1.2 3 rd grade – 3.1.1.1.1; 3.1.1.2.3; 3.1.3.4.1; 3.4.1.1.1; 3.4.1.1.2; 5 th grade – 5.1.1.1.1; 5.1.1.2.1; 5.1.3.4.1; 5.1.3.4.2; 5.4.1.1.1; 5.4.2.1.1; 5.4.2.1.2; 5.4.4.1.1 6 th grade – 6.1.3.1.1 7 th grade – 7.1.3.4.1; 7.4.4.1.2 8 th grade – 8.3.4.1.2 Can also be a pre-K exploration class	Lebanon Hills Regional Park Thompson County Park	May-October
Lake Study 102	Explore the physical and chemical traits of the lakes in Dakota County Parks. Hands on experiments and activities will explain the science behind pH and other nutrients found in local waterways, and what they can indicate about our water quality.	4 th grade – 4.1.2.1.1; 4.3.2.3.1; 4.3.4.1.1 5 th grade – 5.1.1.2.1; 5.1.3.4.15.1.3.4.2; 5.4.2.1.1; 5.4.2.1.2; 5.4.4.1.1	Lebanon Hills Regional Park Thompson County Park	All Year
Prairie Prowl	Learn about what makes the prairie ecosystem unique and what it provides as we survey the flora and fauna of Dakota County Parks' prairies.	Kindergarten - 0.1.1.2.1; 0.4.1.1.1; 0.4.1.1.2; 0.4.2.1.1 1 st grade – 1.1.1.1.1; 1.1.1.1.2; 1.1.3.1.1; 1.4.1.1.1; 1.4.2.1.1; 1.4.2.1.21.4.3.1.1; 1.4.3.1.2 2 nd grade - 2.1.1.2.1; 2.4.1.1.1; 2.4.2.1.1; 2.4.3.1.1 3 rd grade – 3.1.1.1.1; 3.4.1.1.1; 3.4.1.1.2; 3.4.3.2.2 5 th grade – 5.1.1.1.1; 5.1.1.1.4; 5.1.1.2.1; 5.1.3.4.1; 5.1.3.4.2; 5.3.1.2.1; 5.4.1.1.1; 5.4.2.1.1; 5.4.2.1.2; 5.4.4.1.1 Can also be a pre-K exploration class	Lebanon Hills Regional Park Spring Lake Park Reserve Whitetail Woods Regional Park	May-October
Soil Science	Get the dirt on dirt! Learn about the processes that help create soil. Explore the microscopic world of living soil and the microorganisms needed for healthy soil.	Kindergarten – 0.4.1.1.1 1 st grade – 1.3.1.3.2 5 th grade – 5.3.1.2.1 Can also be a pre-K exploration class	Lebanon Hills Regional Park Spring Lake Park Reserve	April-October
Trees, Trees, Trees	Compare the similarities and differences of the trees and leaves as we explore Dakota County Parks. Learn how trees (and other plants) grow from seeds, and what they require to survive.	Kindergarten – 0.1.1.2.1; 0.4.1.1.1; 0.4.1.1.2; 0.4.2.1.1 1 st grade – 1.1.1.1.1; 1.1.1.1.2; 1.1.3.1.1 2 nd grade – 2.1.1.2.1; 2.4.1.1.1; 2.4.2.1.1; 2.4.3.1.1 3 rd grade – 3.1.1.1.1; 3.1.1.2.3; 3.1.3.2.1; 3.4.1.1.1; 3.4.1.1.2 5 th grade – 5.4.1.1.1 Can also be a pre-K exploration class	Lake Byllesby Regional Park Lebanon Hills Regional Park Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Spring Lake Park Reserve Thompson County Park Whitetail Woods Regional Park	May-October
Weather Watchers	We experience weather every day. Students will learn the history of weather forecasting and then take measurements of today's weather to make a forecast for tomorrow.	Kindergarten – 0.1.1.2.1; 0.3.2.2.1; 0.3.2.2.2 2 nd grade - 2.1.1.2.1; 2.3.2.2.1 3 rd grade – 3.1.1.2.1; 3.1.1.2.2; 3.1.3.2.1; 3.1.3.4.1 5 th grade – 5.1.1.2.1; 5.1.1.2.2; 5.1.3.4.1 8 th grade – 8.1.3.4.1; 8.1.3.4.2; 8.3.2.2.2; 8.3.2.2.3	Lake Byllesby Regional Park Lebanon Hills Regional Park Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Spring Lake Park Reserve Thompson County Park Whitetail Woods Regional Park	All Year

Recreation Education Topics				
Archery	Draw, take aim and release! Learn the basics of archery and work on your skills and technique during this introductory class.	5th grade – 5.2.2.1.2; 5.2.2.1.3 6th grade – 6.2.2.1.1; 6.2.2.2.1; 6.2.2.2.2; 6.2.2.2.3; 6.2.3.2.1 Group size limited to 30 or less Grades 4 and up	Spring Lake Park Reserve	April-October
Canoeing	Experience the quiet glide of your paddle through the water. Learn the basics of canoeing and get on the water to practice your new skills with fun games and activities.	5th grade – 5.2.2.1.2; 5.2.2.1.3 6th grade – 6.2.2.1.1; 6.2.2.2.1; 6.2.2.2.2; 6.2.2.2.3 Group size limited to 30 or less Grades 5 and up	Lebanon Hills Regional Park	May-October
Cross Country Skiing	Learn about the history of cross country skiing, equipment and technique, and then get on the trails to practice your newly learned skiing skills.	2nd grade – 2.1.2.2.2; 2.2.1.1.1; 2.2.2.1.2; 2.2.2.2.1 5th grade – 5.2.2.1.2; 5.2.2.1.3 6th grade – 6.2.2.1.1; 6.2.2.2.1; 6.2.2.2.2; 6.2.2.2.3; 6.2.3.2.1 Group size limited to 30 or less Grades 2 and up	Lebanon Hills Regional Park	December-March; conditions permitting
Geocaching	Learn the basics of GPS navigation; head out into the park to find up to five unique spots. Once at your spot, record your observations of weather, plants and animals and other seasonal happenings for the park's phenology log.	2nd grade – 2.1.1.2.1; 2.3.2.2.1 3rd grade – 3.1.1.2.3; 3.1.3.2.1; 3.1.3.2.2; 3.1.3.4.1; 3.3.3.1.1 5th grade – 5.1.1.1.1; 5.1.1.1.2; 5.1.1.2.2; 5.1.3.2.1; 5.1.3.4.1 7th grade – 7.1.3.4.1; 7.1.3.4.2 Group size limited to 30 or less Grades 2 and up	Lake Byllesby Regional Park Lebanon Hills Regional Park Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Spring Lake Park Reserve Thompson County Park Whitetail Woods Regional Park	All Year
Snowshoeing	Compare traditional to modern snowshoeing technology by exploring the different materials and designs of snowshoes. Then hit the trail to see if they really do keep you up above the snow!	2nd grade – 2.1.2.2.1; 2.1.2.2.2; 2.1.2.2.3 6th grade – 6.1.2.1.2; 6.1.2.1.3; Group size limited to 40 or less Grades 2 and up	Lake Byllesby Regional Park Lebanon Hills Regional Park Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Spring Lake Park Reserve Thompson County Park Whitetail Woods Regional Park	December-March; conditions permitting