



# LISTENING AND LEARNING

Environmental Education is about learning skills, developing character and making friends. It teaches self-reliance, a love for nature and the outdoors and the development of attitudes and practices that build character and leadership.



## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

UPDATED ON: MARCH 18, 2019

### STAFF CONTACTS

ACY – Shane Vondracek, Environmental Education Director P 733.9622 E [svondracek@ymcafoxcities.org](mailto:svondracek@ymcafoxcities.org)

### WONDERBUG DISCOVERIES (AGES 18 MONTHS-3 YEARS WITH PARENT) (ACY)

This parent-child nature discovery program is highly sensory-based involving themed storybooks, songs, hands-on time, and outdoor activities combined with exploratory walks through the Purdy Nature Preserve. Each week will focus on a different seasonal theme or topic in nature. A portion of each class will be held outdoors, weather permitting, so dress accordingly!

### YOUNG EXPLORERS (AGES 2-4 YEARS) (ACY)

Use your senses to discover and investigate the wonderful sounds, colors, shapes, smells and textures of the natural world. Outdoor exploration time will be supplemented by stories, songs, games and crafts, with each week focused on a different topic in nature. Much of each class will be held outdoors, weather permitting, so dress accordingly!

### SPRINGTIME CRITTERS (AGES 3-5 YEARS) (ACY)

This program will let your little one hop with the bunnies, sing with the birds, and watch amazing changes in tadpoles and insects. Each class will include story time, crafts, songs, and other hands-on activities. Please dress your child for the weather as we will be taking short hikes along with other outdoors games and activities.

### OUTRAGEOUS OUTDOORS (AGES 3-5 YEARS) (ACY)

This exciting class gives your child a chance to learn all about the beauty and wonder of the natural world through hands-on activities, games, stories and crafts related to the nature theme of the week, as well as time outdoors exploring nature. Class will end with time for lunch, so please pack a nutritional, nut free lunch for your child, and have them dressed for the weather as a portion of each class will be held outdoors, weather permitting. Children can be transferred to and from other preschool age classes within the Apple Creek YMCA.

### ARCHERY 101- APR 29- MAY 22 (AGES 8-16) (ACY)

Learn the basics of archery in this special 4-week class including the "11 steps to becoming a successful archer." Class follows National Archery in Schools Program (NASP) guidelines. All equipment is provided. Class will be held outdoors.

### ADVANCED ARCHERY- APR 29- MAY 22 (AGES 10-16) (ACY)

This advanced class builds off the lessons learned in Archery 101 and adds further opportunities to improve shooting skills. Participants must have completed Archery 101 at least once and have the instructor's permission before registering. All equipment is provided, but archers may bring their own bows. Class will be held outdoors.

Class name	YMCA	Age	Day	Start	End	Y Member	General Public
Wonderbug Discoveries	ACY	18 months - 3 years	T	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	\$29	\$50
Young Explorers	ACY	2-4 years	R	12:30 PM	2:00 PM	\$44	\$65
Springtime Critters	ACY	3-5 years	M	9:30 AM	11:00 AM	\$44	\$65
Outrageous Outdoors	ACY	3-5 years	W	10:00 AM	NOON	\$54	\$75

Spring Session: April 15-June 2, 2019 (Monday classes prorated for Memorial Day)

This is a working document and is subject to change.

Archery 101	ACY	8-16 years	MW	4:30 PM	5:15 PM	\$30	\$44
Advanced Archery	ACY	10-16 years	MW	4:30 PM	5:15 PM	\$30	\$44

## **ADULT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS**

**(Children under 14 may attend only with an adult)**

### **SPRING BIRDS AND BLOOMS HIKE (ALL AGES) (ACY)**

Join our naturalists at the Bruce B. Purdy Nature Preserve and Apple Creek YMCA for a guided hike on our ever changing trails. See and learn about our migrating birds and spring flowers while enjoying the spring landscape. Hikes begin at the Apple Creek YMCA begin with a short program in the Nature Study Classroom. Pre-registration is required, please sign up all members of the family who will be attending.

<b>Class name</b>	<b>YMCA</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Y Member</b>	<b>General Public</b>
Spring Birds and Blooms Hike	ACY	All Ages	May 18	8:00 AM	10:00 AM	FREE	\$5/family

### **SCHOOL PROGRAMMING**

The Apple Creek YMCA and Bruce B. Purdy Nature Preserve are still accepting field trip registrations for the 2019-20 school year for grades K-12. Teachers may book trips on a number of different topics including plants, animals, forestry, pond study and much more. Programs will be tailored to each school's curriculum needs and will be led by trained YMCA naturalists. Call 733.9622 or email the Environmental Education Director at [svondracek@ymcafoxcities.org](mailto:svondracek@ymcafoxcities.org) for a complete list of programming options.

### **LEADERS FOR GIRL, BOY AND CUB SCOUTS OR OTHER YOUTH GROUPS**

Leaders for all ages of girl and boy youth groups may schedule time with the Naturalist to fulfill requirements for outdoor related try-its, achievements or badges they are working on. Cost for a 1-2 hour session is \$3/child with a minimum of 10 youth attending. Programs can be held at your normal meeting location or at the Apple Creek YMCA.

### **BECOME A PRESERVE VOLUNTEER**

Volunteers are needed for many outdoor related tasks such as mowing, tree trimming, trail maintenance and more. If you already enjoy spending time on the preserve, please consider helping us keep it beautiful and well maintained for all of our visitors. Call 733.9622 for more details on preserve related volunteer opportunities.