State Standards

Second Grade

Physical Science
• 1.1 Matter exists as different substances that have observable different properties.

Life Science
• 2.1 Plants depend on water and light to grow and on animals for pollination or to move their seeds around.

• 2.2 A range of different organisms lives in different places.

Earth and Space Science
• 3.1 Some events on Earth occur quickly; others can occur very slowly.

• 3.2 Wind and water can change the shape of the land.

Fourth Grade

Earth and Space Science
• 3.1 Earth has changed over time

• 3.2 Four major earth systems interact.

• 3.4 Energy and fuels that humans use are derived from natural sources and their use affects the environment in multiple ways.

4 Station Field Trip

• Devil’s Backbone Open Space
• Time: 2-3 hours
• Distance: < 1 mile
• Second and Fourth Grade

Students will learn about:

• Local geological topography.
  Processes involved in changes in the Earth’s surface over time.

• The 3 rock types and how they are formed and changed.

• How plants, animals, and humans can change the physical characteristics of their environment.

• How humans can be stewards of the land and make decisions that impact the Earth.

Larimer County Natural Resources
1800 S, County Road 31
Loveland, CO 80537
(970) 619-4570
larimer.gov/naturalresources
What’s That Habitat?
Habitats provide the components living organisms need to survive.

4 Station Field Trip
- Devil’s Backbone Open Space and River Bluffs Open Space
- Time: 2-3 hours
- Distance: < 1 mile
- Kindergarten, First Grade, and Second Grade

Students will learn about:
- The factors that make up a habitat.
- How plants and animals rely on habitats.
- What plants need to grow and preproduce.
- How habitats can change over time.
- How their actions can affect the environment.
- Leave No Trace principles.

State Standards
Kindergarten
Physical Science
- 1.2. Sunlight affects the Earth’s surface.

Life Science
- 2.1. To live and grow, animals obtain food they need from plants or other animals, and plants need water and light.

Earth and Space
- 3.2. Plants and animals meet their needs in their habitats and impact one another; people can prepare for severe weather.

First Grade
Life Science
- 2.1. All organisms have external parts that they use to perform daily functions.

Second Grade
Life Science
- 2.1. Plants depend on water and light to grow and on animals for pollination or to move their seeds around.
- 2.2. A range of different organisms lives in different places.
Fire, Flood, and Drought, Oh My!
Learn how climate, weather, and people influence natural disasters.

4 Station Field Trip
- Devil’s Backbone Open Space and River Bluffs Open Space
- Time: 2-3 hours
- Distance: < 1 mile
- Third Grade

Students will learn about:
- How natural disasters affect people and ecosystems.
- How natural disasters happen.
- How people can work to reduce the impact of natural disasters by taking care of our ecosystems.
- How people can be stewards of the land and make decisions that impact the Earth.
- Why healthy natural ecosystems are valuable in reducing the impact of natural disasters on people.

State Standards
Third Grade
- Life Science
  - 2.3. Different organisms vary in how they look and function because they have different inherited information; the environment also affects the traits that an organism develops.
- Earth and Space
  - 3.1. Climate describes patterns of typical weather conditions over different scales and variations; historical weather patterns can be analyzed.
  - 3.2. A variety of weather hazards result from natural process; humans cannot eliminate weather-related hazards but can reduce their impacts.

larimer.gov/naturalresources
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Observing Nature’s Wonders
Observation deepens the connection to nature and place.

Guided Hike

- Horsetooth Mountain Open Space, Devil’s Backbone Open Space, other open spaces upon request
- Time: 3-4 hours
- Distance: 3+ miles
- Any grade

Students will learn about:

- The plants and wildlife of Larimer County.
- Leave No Trace principles and how people can be good stewards of our natural resources.
- How humans have used these lands in the past and present.
- The impacts of wildfire.
- Observation skills through a color scavenger hunt, silent hike, or micro hike.
- Life zones, habitats, and connections within an ecosystem.

State Standards*

- Earth and Space Science
- Life Science
- Movement Competence and Understanding
- Physical and Personal Wellness

* If you have interest in covering a specific topic or standard, let us know. Our Naturalists lead programs on geology, wildlife, plants, local history and more! Write a suggestion in your request form, and we’ll do our best to accommodate it.