

Bushy Hill Nature Center Presents:
The Young Naturalist Program for Home Schooled Children and
Their Families
2005-2006

Hello All,

This year marks the 15th year of home school programs at Bushy Hill. As always our goal is to help kids and adults develop a strong sense of place, an intimate connection with nature and a reverence for all life. We believe that as people grow in their understanding of the natural world, they in turn grow in their understanding of others, and ultimately, of themselves.

Like last year we offer 12 Friday morning classes which will run from 9:30 to 11:30, as well as giving the option to sign up for an additional seven meetings. This would allow for a more focused learning and a greater development of community. We look forward to seeing all of you in October.

All good things,

Erik Becker, Kelly "Noodle" Way, Neill Bovaird

2005-2006 Schedule

All classes are on Fridays and begin and end at the Gym field promptly at 9:30 and 11:30. Families are welcome to bring picnic lunches for after the program.

October 7- Introductions and team building exercises

Students will lay a foundation based on the importance of communication and teamwork, which will be built upon throughout the year.

November 4- Wild Food Gathering, Preparation and Uses

Students will learn how to identify plants and how to use them for food, tools, fire, and dyes.

November 25- Primitive studies/ Native Story Telling

Older students will participate in ancient tool making demonstration and bone tool manufacture.

Younger students will learn story telling while creating a dream catcher.

December 16- Primitive Studies / Primitive Fire

Older students will work on primitive fire making skills and continue bone tool manufacture.

Younger students will participate in a 2-station Tee-Pee and Wigwam tour.

January 6- Winter Tree ID / Winter Fire Making

Students will learn leafless tree identification and will build a safe fire in the woods.

January 27- Animal forms and Tracking

Students will learn five families of animals and their common movement patterns.

February 17- Maple Syrup Program

Older students will learn primitive to modern tapping techniques and manufacture a primitive tap.

Younger students will visit our working sugarhouse as well as learn sap-gathering techniques.

March 3- Bird Language and ID

Students will learn 10 local birds by sight and sound and explore their habitats for sign.

March 24- Primitive shelter and geodome construction

Students will learn how to build a survival shelter as well as a geodome.

April 7- Orienteering/ Lost Proofing

Students will learn aidless navigation and map and compass skills.

April 28- Wetland study

Students will explore and learn about Bushy Hill's diverse wetland habitats and critters.

May 12- At Hammonasset Park. Meet at Meig's Point lot in park, off I-95 exit 62

A Bushy Hill Homeschool tradition not to be missed, we'll see you there.

The cost of these 12 programs will be \$140. Each additional child will be only \$80. Adults and children under five are free.

The seven extra sessions will be spent developing a more in depth connection with nature through **sit spot routines, story telling, spelunking, journaling and studying plants, trees, and animals.**

The dates for the seven extra sessions will be: Nov. 11, Dec. 9, Jan. 20, Feb. 10, March 17, April 21, May 5. The cost of these seven programs is \$80. (*Due to program costs at least 6 participants are necessary for the extra sessions to run.*)

Registration for Young Naturalists

Name _____

Address _____

Age and D.O.B. _____

Home Phone _____

Parent Name(s) _____

Work Phone _____

Please return this portion with
check or money order to:

Bushy Hill Nature Center
P.O. Box 577
Ivoryton, CT 06442

