

Program dates

To Enrich Lives
by Inspiring Passion for Nature
Through experience, education, and stewardship

ParentsGuide to Programs and Activities

Hands-On Nature

Sept. 1	5-7 pm	Open Discovery
Sept. 5	10 am-Noon	Color & Light
Sept. 8	5-7 pm	Open Discovery
Sept. 18	1-3 pm	Color & Light
Sept. 24	10 am-Noon & 2-4 pm	Fort Building
Oct. 16	1-3 pm	Nature Creatures
Oct. 29	10 am-Noon & 2-4 pm	Nature Creatures
Nov. 20	1-3 pm	Open Discovery
Nov. 26	10 am-Noon & 2-4 pm	Nature Collage

Fire and Food

Sept. 10	11 am-1 pm
Oct. 8	11 am-1 pm
Nov. 12	11 am-1 pm

Ice Cream Social

Sept. 11	1-3 pm
Oct. 2	1-3 pm

Cocoa Social

Nov. 6	1-3 pm
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GrownUps in Nature

Sept. 17	10-11 am	Mirrors
Sept. 21	10-11 am	Magnifying Glasses
Oct. 4	10-11 am	Mirrors
Oct. 6	10-11 am	Mirrors
Oct. 11	10-11 am	Color Wheels
Oct. 13	10-11 am	Color Wheels
Oct. 15	10-11 am	Color Wheels
Oct. 18	10-11 am	String
Oct. 20	10-11 am	String
Oct. 25	10-11 am	Bug Boxes
Oct. 27	10-11 am	Bug Boxes
Nov. 1	10-11 am	Scavenger Hunts/I Spy
Nov. 3	10-11 am	Scavenger Hunts/I Spy
Nov. 8	10-11 am	Magnifying Glasses
Nov. 10	10-11 am	Magnifying Glasses
Nov. 19	10-11 am	String

*Check inside for more program details!



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NATURE | marge & charles schott
PLAYSCAPE™
CINCINNATI NATURE CENTER

Open seven days a week from dawn until dusk

Welcome



Welcome to Cincinnati Nature Center's Nature PlayScape! Unlike the rest of the property, there are very few rules here. Children are welcome to explore off-path, wade in the stream, dig, build and wander. We want you and your children to feel comfortable here.

Feel free to bring items from home that could help your child play and explore:

- Magnifying glass
- Bug box
- Color wheel (make your own or use paint samples)
- Nature journal
- Writing utensil
- Camera
- Trowel and bucket
- Sled (winter)

And don't forget extra clothes/shoes.

You can picnic on the grass or relax on the benches while your children play. We ask only that you remain in the Nature PlayScape and remember that you are responsible for your children at all times.

Join us for some special programs in the Nature PlayScape. No registration is required and all programs are free for members and free with daily admission to the property for nonmembers.

Programs

Outdoor Socials:

Join us in the Nature PlayScape on the first Sunday of every month for an ice cream or cocoa social. Enjoy a treat and meet other families as you explore the Nature PlayScape.

Fire and Food:

The second Saturday from Sept-Nov join us to cook lunch over an open fire. Participants must bring their own food, utensils and beverages. We provide the fire!

Grownups in Nature:

Adults, join a play facilitator for a one-hour hands-on session on how to enhance your child's experience in the Nature PlayScape. You will see the world through a child's eyes as you explore nature using a variety of equipment and techniques. Play is essential for healthy child development - learn how to encourage various kinds of play during these sessions.

Hands-on Nature:

Hands-on Nature days are those when a play facilitator is available to inspire and interact with children in the Nature PlayScape. When the theme is "Open Discovery," play facilitators will provide a variety of tools and toys for children to borrow. When the theme is "Fort Building," play facilitators will assist children in using materials on site to create forts. When the theme is "Color and Light," play facilitators will provide prisms, mirrors and color wheels for children to enjoy.

Fall fun

There are many activities that you can do in the PlayScape. Below are some of our favorites:

- Find five things that you would only see in the Fall
- Find objects that begin with A, then B, then C and see if you can make it all the way through the alphabet
- Find seeds/berries
- Look for different colors. Can you find something yellow? Red?
- Look for birds perched on the cabin
- Look for fall fungi in the mulch (remember do not eat)
- Look for egg masses left from spiders/praying mantises
- How many different kinds of fallen leaves can you find? Can you tear them into shapes to make a picture?

Resources:

- Leslie, Clare Walker. The Nature Connection: An Outdoor Workbook for kids, families and classrooms
- Ward, Jennifer. I Love Dirt
- Ward, Jennifer. Let's Go Outside
- Young, Jon. Coyotes Guide to Connecting with Nature

*All books can be purchased in the Nature Shop

