



Our tailor made field trip programs are full of activities, when building your schedule with the Education Director you will be asked for “Concepts” you would like the students to focus on. At Nature’s Classroom Institute nature is a foundation for our program however the subjects we offer range across a full spectrum. History to Math, Art to Science.

Most of our activities sit without these categories.

Field Group:

Field group, sometimes called “expedition”, is normally a morning activity, giving the students an opportunity to explore and lead. The NCI educator with the group will allow the students to go where they want to go and explore where they want to explore. Games may be added to this activity but student lead exploration is very important to NCI. The group may study plant life, hang out in the creek, look for edible plants.

Classes:

Classes are small group activities that usually last 90 minutes. Students will get to select which class they would like to take from those on offer. The visiting teacher will have already selected concepts that will form the focal point of each class. Every class is lead by an NCI Environmental Educator and will focus on a specific topic, for example it could be River Monsters, a water quality class in the creek, or Animal Olympics, an animal adaptation class, a dissection or an Art class.

Large Group Activities:

Occasionally students may take part in an activity that involves the whole group. This could be Team Building for example, or focus on a topic that the visiting school wants all students to study.

Simulations:

Frequently the highlight of a students time at NCI, simulations are a unique way of learning. The students take on a role, it could be a role in our ecosystems, in history or even a role in today’s world. The NCI Educators also take on a role within the simulation and it plays out based on the choices and actions of each student. For example they could be playing the role of a wolf in a wolf pack, competing with other wolf packs for food and trying to avoid human hunters. Or they may be an immigrant from Eastern Europe being processed at Ellis Island in the early 1900s. NCI has hundreds of simulations, once the students have done one, they’ll want to do them all.

Night Time Activities:

Programing at NCI doesn’t stop after dinner, the final part of the day is usually the best. Night hikes, astronomy or night time simulations round off a wonderful day of adventure and learning.

