



## EARLY CHILDHOOD

# PROGRAM GUIDE

Like the plants we sow, giving children the strongest start possible is necessary for nurturing development across all areas. We encourage little learners to engage their senses through the natural world, while ensuring that all of their adventures are safe, close to home and age appropriate. Our early childhood programming connects with their natural curiosity about nature and allows their excitement for learning to blossom and thrive!

### Standards-based Learning

All of our program offerings address Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood and Keystone STARS performance standards.

PRICING STARTS AT **\$11** PER STUDENT.

### Wild About Watersheds: Field Studies

These inquiry-based experiences offer meaningful, authentic, place-based learning. Themed hikes and education animals are easily tailored to meet your curriculum needs.

#### PRE-K

##### Fall Wonders

Students participate in hands-on investigations of leaf litter to discover the living and nonliving things that constitute the forest floor. Worms, compost and education insects extend the learning experience to include topics such as insect lifecycles, decomposition, soil food webs and plant lifecycles. Additional activity components – meadow netting, plant dissection and honeybee hive observation – can be used to complement preferred topics.

##### Winter Birders

This program is designed to engage participants with social emotional learning and STEM skills that relate to backyard birding. Activities may include mindful listening practice, habitat hike, brush pile building, bird feeder creation and songbird watching.

##### Watershed Expedition

Participants discover the properties of water through play-based experimentation and conduct a pond study. The amphibians, macroinvertebrates and turtles found in such habitats can be used to highlight seasonal change, adaptations, food webs, watershed functions and human impact.

##### Pilgrims

The ability to recognize the resources our planet provides, and understand our dependence on them, was acutely realized by pilgrim settlers. That understanding has been lost over time. So in this program, we journey back to complete the daily chores of a pilgrim child. Interactive activities, like hand-dipping candles, identifying wild edibles and medicinal plants, and grinding corn, are used to highlight our connection to nature and the many vital resources it provides.



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