

Blandford Nature Center's Nature in Action ecology series for homeschoolers & preschoolers offers children ages four to twelve the opportunity to explore science and social study concepts first hand. This year, due to popularity, additional class times have been added just for preschoolers.

Outdoor, seasonally-based sessions foster:

- Skill building
- Critical thinking
- Appreciation for the natural world
- Social relationships

Special opportunities available for students wanting a more in-depth experience:

- An accelerated-level program is offered for participants ages 10-12.
- Older students (13 & up) interested in service learning opportunities may participate in the **Volunteer Youth Group**.
- More details inside

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Nature in ACTION

Ecology Series for
Homeschoolers
& Preschoolers
2011/2012



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blandfordnaturecenter.org

To register, review the program offerings listed to the right and select one, a few or all seven! Then:

- Choose a session time (10:30am or 1pm)*
- Complete the enclosed form
- Mail with enclosed payment to:
Blandford Nature Center
1715 Hillburn Ave NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
- Or fax with credit payment to
616.735.6255
- We will send a written confirmation with class information upon payment approval

* **Classes for Homeschool families** are the **second Monday** of each month. Each session is 90 minutes long and is open to **all three age groups**:

- Acorns, ages 4 - 6,
- Sprouts, ages 7 - 9, and
- Mighty Oaks, ages 10 - 12.

Age group is determined by student age as of September 1, 2011.

- The **Morning Mighty Oaks session** is an **accelerated-level class**.
- **Students ages 13 +** can gain service learning experience by joining the Youth Volunteer Group offered during the **Afternoon session for Homeschoolers**.

* **Classes for Preschoolers only** are on the **third Monday** of each month. Sessions are 90 minutes long.

- Acorns, ages 4-6

Nature in Action Ecology Series for Homeschoolers & Preschoolers

We plan on being outside and active for all programs!

October

A Wild Harvest

Animals—including humans— need to make sure they are prepared for a long cold winter with plenty of food to eat. Learn strategies different animals have for the winter months, from gorging to storing to changing diets.

November

Take a Hike

Are you a savvy outdoor traveler? Learn trail-smart skills for enjoying the natural world and sharing it with others.

January

Wildlife Stories

Have you met the Blandford animals? The residents of the wildlife trail have special stories, some sad, some courageous, about how they came to be a part of our native wildlife education program. The art of storytelling will be a special part of today.

February

Snowology

Snow is an important part of life in Michigan—in fact, some animals depend on snow for winter survival. We will discover why and how frozen water can be so amazing!

March

In the Big Woods

We will celebrate this historically festive time in the style of our Michigan ancestors— with a "rendezvous," a time when French, Ottawa and English trappers, sugarers and traders could share their winter goods.

April

Underfoot, Underground

There is a whole world hiding under our feet, filled with predators and prey, plant life and microscopic organisms. We will get up close to discover this amazing underground world.

May

Citizen Science

Don't just learn about science—be a part of science in action. Research we do here will be shared with scientists around the country to help wildlife.

Check out our **Summer Discovery Day Camp** brochure for **more** exciting education and adventure opportunities!