OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Spreading across 98 acres, the Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus provides an ideal setting for our outdoor education programs. Student, youth (grades 6 and up), and adult groups will be able to explore our prairies, wetlands, pond, and forests in a variety of hands-on workshops.

PROGRAMS

ARCHERY
Learn the basics of archery, and practice with a recurve bow on an outdoor range. The course will include understanding safety rules, types of equipment, and proper form.

BIRDING
Identify local bird species and the reasons behind their unique characteristics. Plus, students will learn about migration through a role-playing game.

COMPASS AND ORIENTEERING
Experience math in the outdoors! Learn how to use a compass, and play several games to put your new skills to the test.

ENERGY
Every day, we consume energy in all different forms—but where does it come from? Learn about alternative energy sources and take part in several hands-on experiments.

FARMING
Learn how to grow your own food and the importance of eating sustainably, responsibly, and close to home.

FLOWERS
Don’t just learn how to identify plants in nature—understand the parts of a flower and how people and animals use them for food, medicine, and utility.

FOREST ECOLOGY
Take a hike! Discover how plants and animals thrive in the woods, the importance of soil and the forest floor, the layers that make up a forest, and more.

GPS Global Positioning Systems
Better understand a GPS unit and how to operate one. Students will use the navigation device to complete a scavenger hunt with a geocache awaiting them at the end.

PREDATOR AND PREY
Find out what it’s like to be an animal in the food chain (through a role-playing activity). Also, learn about the food chain and how to define herbivores, omnivores, and carnivores.

TREES
Trees are an essential part of our surroundings, providing us with oxygen and food. Learn more about trees and the use of the dichotomous key.

RATES

YOUTH GROUP AND STUDENT RATES
1½-hour program: $12 per person
2-hour program: $15 per person

STANDARD RATES
Adult 2-hour program: $25 per person

NONPROFIT RATES
Adult 2-hour program: $20 per person

Available for groups of 12–100+

LEARN MORE
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