



Visitor Center

Located near the confluence of the Pine and Chippewa rivers, Visitor Center features include:



Visitor Center Hours:

Mon-Sat • 8 am-5 pm

Sun & select holidays • 12-5 pm

Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve,
Christmas, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day



Trail Hours:

19 miles of trails open year-round dawn-to-dark daily!

Sign up to receive CNC's weekly enews!

www.chippewanaturecenter.org



Ecosystem Gallery with hands-on exhibits of CNC ecosystems and a live reptile and amphibian exhibit
River Overlook with spectacular views of the Pine River
Wildlife Viewing Area to observe animals through one-way glass
Nature Discovery Area with nature-themed activities, books and crafts
Bur Oak Theater with short nature and history interpretive videos
Nature Center Store offering nature-themed books, toys, gifts, eco-friendly items and more

Dear Educator,

We are looking forward to an amazing year filled with hands-on exploration and learning in the outdoors. We encourage you to look through this brochure and imagine what an hour or even a whole day of interactive, engaging learning could do to help science and social studies come to life for your students. Each of our programs is designed to support your classroom curriculum, and we're happy to adjust programs to meet your needs or the needs of your students.

There are three different types of programs we can provide for you and your students:

Field Trips – Bring your students to CNC for a half- or full-day experience. Our educators will work closely with your students to bring science and social studies topics to life. Hands-on activities will help them connect concepts learned in the classroom with real-life experiences they will remember.



CNC at Your School – CNC educators will come to your classroom to deliver an engaging program on a variety of topics. We will fit our programs into your schedule and your classroom.



Traveling Trunks –

These special trunks provide the “stuff” for great classroom learning. You may check them out for two weeks at time, giving students access to furs, skulls, invasive species games, early homestead toys or replicas of Native American tools.



Registering

*Online program requests
accepted beginning:*

Aug 1 for Fall 2017 programs

Dec 1 for Spring 2018 programs

For questions or more information, contact us at:

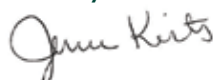
989-631-0830

Susan Kruse, Scheduler
skruse@chippewanaturecenter.org

Jenn Kirts, Director of Programs
jkirts@chippewanaturecenter.org

We look forward to helping your students experience science and social studies in a fun and dynamic way.

Sincerely,



Jenn Kirts
Director of Programs

2017 Programs by Grade Level	Page	PreK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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Field Trips

Adaptation for Adversity

Grade: 4-6

Length: 2 hours

State correlations: *Science:* 4-LS1-1; MS-LS1-4; MS-LS2-1

When: Nov-March

Max students: 60



Every animal that lives in Michigan must adapt to deal with the cold weather, limited food and frozen water of winter. Students will spend time indoors and out, discovering for themselves how the animals of Michigan cope with the conditions of winter. **If weather is very poor, adjustments will be made to limit outdoor time.*

Animal Classification

Grade: 2-4

Length: 1.5 or 2 hours

State correlations: *Science:* 3-LS3-1, 3-LS4-2

When: Sept-Oct, April-May

Max. students: 30



Students will learn basic classifying skills using the visible characteristics of vertebrate animals. Activities related to birds, mammals, fish, amphibians and reptiles will bring animal classification to life in a fun, hands-on way.

Archaeology

Grade: 4-8

Length: 2 hours

Location: Indoors

State correlations: *Social Studies:* 4-H3.0.4; 5-8-K1, P2

When: Sept-May

Max. students: 30



This class introduces students to basic archaeological concepts and excavation techniques. Students will become archaeologists by identifying potential archaeological sites, analyzing historical research, identifying potential excavation sites, excavating “artifacts” in indoor pits and sharing a report with their classmates.

Aquatic Life

Grade: 3-6

Length: 2 hours

State correlations: *Science:* 3-LS3-2, 4-LS1-1, 5-ESS3-1

When: Sept-Oct, May

Max. students: 30



This program introduces students to living and non-living components of a pond ecosystem. Students discover what makes aquatic plants and animals specially adapted for life in the water. Students will also explore the edges of a pond using dippers and nets. Microscopes and field guides help students identify the organisms they find.



These programs are also available as a CNC At Your School program.

Cluck, Oink, Moo: Farm Animals Work for You!

Grade: PreK-1

Length: 1 hr (Pre-K) or 1.5 hrs (1st grade)

Max. students: 30

State correlations:

Science: K-LS1-1, K-ESS3-1

Social Studies: K-G5.0.1; 1-G5.0.1

When: Sept-Oct



Chickens, pigs, cows and sheep are important to our daily lives. Students will learn that farm animals provide us with food, as well as non-food products such as leather and wool. Activities include milking a pretend cow, making butter, examining non-food products and visiting live farm animals.

Custom Programs

Grade: PreK-12

Length: 1-4 hours

Max students: Program dependent (typically 60)

When: Sept-May



Do you have a topic in mind and don't see it listed here? Is there a particular concept you'd like to teach or something you'd like your students to experience? Contact Jenn Kirts, Program Director at 989-631-0830 or jkirts@chippewanaturecenter.org to discuss your ideas and needs. We love to work with schools and teachers to design programs that are a perfect fit.

Ecosystem Succession

Grade: 5-8

Length: 2

State correlations: *Science:* MS-LS2-2, 4, 5

When: Sept-Oct, May

Max. students: 60



Students will experience succession first-hand as they travel through the forest, edge and field ecosystems in this hands-on program. Teams of scientists will gather data on biotic (living) and abiotic (non-living) factors as they discover the changes that happen in an ecosystem over time. Their own data, coupled with aerial photographs, will help them understand the process of succession and the relationships between the different components of the ecosystem.

Farm to Table

Grade: 2-5

When: Sept-Oct, May

Length: 2 hours

Max. students: 30

State correlations: *Science:* 4-LS1-1



We can't survive without farms! We will trace our foods back to the plants they come from. Students will learn about the variety of plant parts that we eat as well as the role of livestock in our diets. A visit to the garden, fields and livestock pens will help the concepts come to life.

Food Chains & Webs

Grade: 3-6

When: Sept-mid-Nov, mid-April-May

Length: 1.5-2 hours

Max. students: 60



Students learn about producers, consumers and decomposers as they form a sample food chain, and examine skulls of the various animals. They then experience food webs in action by exploring field and forest ecosystems.

From Forest to Mill – Lumbering in Michigan

Grade: 3-5

When: Sept-Oct; mid-April-May

Length: 2 hours

Max. students: 30

State correlations: *Social Studies:* 3-G5.01.1, 2; 3-E1.0.3, 4



In the late 1800s, pine was king in the Saginaw Valley and lumbering was big business! Discover how Michigan's vast pine forests were forever changed by the lumberman's axe and saw. In this program students assume the roles of lumbermen as they perform jobs including sawing and rafting logs, using marking hammers, and loading a logging sled. They will also see how lumbering was a cooperative process by working together to get logs to the "mill."

Homestead Holiday

Grade: K-2

When: Dec

Length: 1.5 hours

Max. students: 30

State correlations: *Social Studies:* 1-H2.0.6



Students experience some of the ways settlers prepared for the holidays in 1870. Visiting both the farmhouse and the log schoolhouse, students participate in holiday activities. They hear a story, do chores, learn about evergreens and make a sachet to take home.

Homestead Life

Grade: 1-5

When: Sept-Nov, April-May

Length: 1.5 or 2 hours

Max. students: 30

State correlations: *Social Studies:*

1-H2.0.5, 6; 1-G2.0.1; 1-G5.0.1; 1-E1.0.2; 4-H3.0.4, 8



Through explorations of the cabin, barn and other buildings, students will get to see and experience some of the things farm children in the 1870s would have experienced. Activities will help students understand how 1870s life on the farm is both similar and different from our own lives. Chores vary seasonally, but might include grinding corn, pumping water and sawing logs.

Homestead-Schoolhouse Sampler

Grade: K-5

When: Sept-Nov, April-May

Length: 1.5 or 2 hours

Max. students: 60

State correlations: *Social Studies:*

1-H2.0.5, 6; 1-G2.0.1; 1-G5.0.1; 1-E1.0.2; 4-H3.0.4, 8



At the Homestead, students will learn about life on an 1870s farm in Midland. At the Log Schoolhouse, they will learn the basics of education during that time period. Hands-on activities and explanations of what students see will help them understand the lives of 1870s farm children.

Incredible Insects!

Grade: K-3

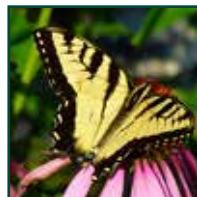
When: Sept-Oct, mid-April-May

Length: 1.5 or 2 hrs

Max. students: 60

State correlations:

Science: K-LS1-1, 2-LS2-2, 2-LS4-1, 3-LS4-2, 4-LS1-1



This program focuses on the characteristics, diversity and importance of insects. Students will learn basic characteristics and life cycles, and will try their hand at collecting insects in different ecosystems.

Log Schoolhouse

Grade: 1-5

When: Sept-mid-Nov, April-May

Length: 1.5 or 2 hours

Max. students: 30

State correlations: *Social Studies:* 1-H2.0.5, 6; 4-H3.0.4



A CNC educator will lead a day of lessons including subjects such as geography, reading and arithmetic as students might have experienced in 1870. Students will also enjoy recess with period games such as hoops, stilts and graces.

Field Trips

Maple Syrup

Grade: 2-5 (PreK-I see "Sugarbush")

When: March

Length: 1.5 hrs

Max. students: 60

State correlations: *Science:* 2-LS4-I, 3-LS1-I, 5-PS3-I, MS-LS1-6 *Social Studies:* 3-G5.0.1, 2; 4-G2.0.1, 2



Come enjoy the first crop harvested in Michigan each year – maple syrup! This program begins indoors with a brief puppet show addressing the science behind this exciting spring happening. Students then go to the woods to

identify and tap a maple tree and visit the sugarhouse to see matter change before their very eyes as the vapor rises and the syrup thickens.

Native American Uses of Natural Resources

Grade: 3-6

When: Sept-May

Length: 2 or 4 hours*

Max. students: 30

State correlations: *Social Studies:* 3-H3.0.5; 3-H3.0.6; 3-G5.0.2; 5-U1.1.3



Come learn how Michigan's Woodland Indians used local natural resources to meet their needs before the arrival of Europeans. Students will visit the wigwam, handle rock and bone tools, scrape a hide and use a bow and drill to

try to make fire. During the 4-hour program, students will also make a small piece of pottery, practice basket-making skills and learn more about the plants Native Americans used. **Please note that the 4-hour program also includes a 30-minute lunch break; total time is 4.5 hours.*

Pelt to Felt: The Great Lakes Fur Trade

Grade: 3-5

When: Sept-May

Length: 2 hours

Max. students: 30

State correlations:

Social Studies: 3-H3.0.5, 6; 3-G5.0.1, 2; 5-U1.4.1, 3



Students will experience a unique historical time of our region when beaver pelts were the currency of the Great Lakes. They will see the fur trade from the perspective of a French Voyageur, as well as a Native American.

The program culminates with a trade for goods where the students will have to weigh the costs and values of items.

Plant Classification

Grade: 3-5

When: Sept-Oct, May

Length: 1.5-2 hours

Max. students: 30

State correlations: *Science:* 1-LS1-I, 2-LS4-I, 3-LS3-I



Life on Earth depends on the amazing variety of plants that we classify into groups using their unique characteristics. This program teaches students how to classify plants, the diversity of plant species and how plants are adapted to live in their natural environments.

Plant Cycles

Grade: 2-3

When: Sept-Oct, mid-April-May

Length: 2 hours

Max. students: 60

State correlations: *Science:* 1-LS3-I, 2-LS2-2, 3-LS1-I



All flowering plants share the same life cycle story, but each plant's story unfolds in a unique way. Through stories, a family photo album, guided exploration and data gathering, students will discover and explore the diversity of flowering plant life cycles in Michigan.

Plants Around Us – An Ecosystem Comparison

Grade: K-2

When: Sept-Oct, mid-April-May

Length: 1.5 or 2 hours

Max. students: 60

State correlations: *Science:* K-LS1-I, 2-LS4-I



Students will visit a meadow, forest and pond to carefully investigate the plants they find and search for evidence of animals living in each place. They utilize scanning techniques, hand lenses and collect the "ingredients" of a forest.

Ready for Winter

Grade: PreK-2

When: Nov-Jan

Length: 1 or 1.5* hours

Max. students: 60

State correlations: *Science:* 1-LS1-I



During this indoor class, students discuss how they get ready for winter. They compare this with the ways animals prepare for and cope with Michigan winters. A puppet show illustrating migration, hibernation and adaptation

reinforces the concepts. **Please note: The 1.5-hour session will spend time outdoors looking for signs of animals preparing for winter.*

Seasonal Ecology

Grade: PreK-5

Length: 1-2 hours

State correlations: *This program can be customized to address topics and concepts that you specify.*

When: Year-round

Max. students: 60



Discover what's happening in nature that makes a season unique. Games, activities and hands-on exploration will help concepts come to life as students explore different ecosystems.

Soil!

Grade: 5-8

Length: 2 hours

When: Sept-Oct, April-May

Max. students: 60

State correlations: *Science:* MS-LS2-4, MS-LS2-5



Soil is the critical foundation of ecosystems. Students will discover the importance of soil and various soil properties. They will gather data on seven different soil properties in two different ecosystems. The program also includes activities related to soil erosion and its impact on the ecosystem.

Sugarbush

Grade: PreK-1

Length: 1.5 hours

When: March

Max. students: 60

State correlations: *Science:* K-LS1-1



During an indoor puppet show, puppets introduce children to the early spring maple forest. The puppets explain how maple syrup begins as tree sap, and suggests the children visit the woods to see for themselves.

The outdoor time includes sensory activities to teach about sap production and the process of making syrup. Students will practice tapping a tree and visit the Sugarhouse.

Surviving the Elements

Grade: 4-12

When: Sept-Oct, mid-April-May

Length: 4.5 hours (including 30 min. lunch break)

Max. students: 60



teambuilding!

Students are given survival scenarios and as a group, make decisions and take appropriate action. Students learn map and compass, fire making, shelter construction and water purification skills. This program is also a great exercise in

Water, Water Everywhere

Grade: 2

When: Sept-Oct, mid-April-May

Length: 1.5 hours

Max. students: 60

State correlations: *Science:* 2-ESS2-3, 2-ESS2-2



Students will discover the many ways water is essential to our daily lives, where it is found on the earth and properties of our beloved resource. Using experiments, role playing and hands-on activities, students will investigate the different states of water, the properties of water and where water is found in Michigan.

Wetlands

Grade: 6-12

When: Sept-Oct, May

Length: 2 hours

Max. students: 60


State correlations: *Science:* 3-LS4-3




A visit to CNC's mitigated wetlands will help students appreciate the unique role these ecosystems play in our landscape. Collecting data on vertebrates, invertebrates, plants and soils will help students identify the characteristics that define a wetland. Practicing scientific collection and observation techniques will provide real-life experience for students.



CNC educators will come to you! These programs are filled with interactive, hands-on activities, so program sizes are limited to single classes of up to 30 students. We are happy to do multiple programs in a day to accommodate as many classes as you would like. Fees are listed on page 11.

 These programs require accessible, outdoor, natural space. All other programs are designed to take place indoors.

 These programs are also available as a *Field Trip* at CNC.

Animal Classification

Grade: 2-4

When: Year-round

Length: 1-1.5 hours

Max. students: 30

State correlations: *Science:* 3-LS3-1, 3-LS4-2



Students will learn basic classifying skills using the basic characteristics of vertebrate animals. Activities related to birds, mammals, fish, amphibians and reptiles will bring animal classification to life in a fun, hands-on way.

Bears, Beavers, Bats – Oh, MI!

Grade: K-2

When: Year-round

Length: 1-1.5 hours

State correlations: *Science:* 3-LS3-1, 3-LS4-2, 4-LS1-1



Students investigate the characteristics, adaptations and lives of Michigan mammals! Students will learn what makes these animals unique and how they adapt to the different seasons.

Flying Feathered Friends

Grade: 2-5

When: Year-round

Length: 1-1.5 hours

State correlations: *Science:* 3-LS3-1, 3-LS4-2, 4-LS1-1



Students discover unique bird adaptations such as flight, song and nest-building. Students inspect study skins, examine feathers and identify bird songs.

Hop, Slither & Crawl with Us!

Grade: K-5

When: Year-round

Length: 1-1.5 hours

State correlations: *Science:* 3-LS3-1, 3-LS4-2, 4-LS1-1



Michigan amphibians and reptiles are fascinating animals uniquely adapted for life. Students will learn to classify reptiles and amphibians and their various adaptations. *Live animal visit available for an additional fee of \$20/program.

Incredible Insects!

Grade: K-3

When: Sept-Oct, mid-April-May

Length: 1-1.5 hrs

Max. students: 60

State correlations:

Science: K-LS1-1, 2-LS2-2, 2-LS4-1, 3-LS4-2, 4-LS1-1



This program focuses on the characteristics, diversity and importance of insects. Students will learn basic characteristics and life cycles, and will try their hand at collecting insects.

Geology Rocks!

Grade: 3-5

When: Year-round

Length: 1-1.5 hours

State correlations: *Science:* 3-LS4-1, 4-ESS1-1



Students will explore the exciting world of geology including our modern reliance on geologic resources for everyday living. Students investigate fossils, simulate glacier and land formation in Michigan and examine rocks and minerals.

Native American Uses of Natural Resources

Grade: 3-6

When: Year-round

Length: 1-1.5 hours

State correlations: *Social Studies:* 3-H3.0.5; 3-H3.0.6; 3-G5.0.1; 3-G5.0.2; 5-UI.1.3



Learn how Michigan's Woodland Indians used local natural resources to meet their needs before the arrival of Europeans. Students will handle rock and bone tools, learn about hide preparation and use a bow and drill to try to make fire.

Students will also make a small piece of pottery, practice basket-making skills and learn more about the plants Native Americans used.

Plant Cycles

Grade: 2-3

Length: 1-1.5 hours

State correlations: *Science:* 1-LS3-1, 2-LS2-2, 3-LS1-1



All flowering plants share the same life cycle story, but each plant's story unfolds in a unique way. Through stories, a family photo album, guided exploration and data gathering, students will discover and explore the diversity of flowering plant

life cycles in Michigan.

Plant Power

Grade: K-2

Length: 1 or 1.5 hours

State correlations: *Science:* 1-LS3-1, 2-LS2-2



Interactive activities will bring the power of plants to life. Plant parts, plant life cycles and seed dispersal are all addressed through large or small group hands-on elements of this fun program.

Ready for Winter

Grade: PreK-2

Length: 1 or 1.5 hour

State correlations: *Science:* 1-LS1-1



During this indoor class, students discuss how they get ready for winter. They compare this with the ways animals prepare for and cope with Michigan winters. A puppet show illustrating migration, hibernation and adaptation

reinforces the concepts.

Seasons of Change

Grade: K-3

Length: 1-1.5 hours

Students discover what's happening in nature that makes a particular season special. Attention is focused on adaptations of plants and animals and the interrelationships among them. Hands-on activities help explain the concepts.



Soil!

Grade: 5-8

Length: 1-1.5 hours

State correlations: *Science:* MS-LS2-4, MS-LS2-5



Soil is the critical foundation of ecosystems. Students will discover the importance of soil and various soil properties. They will gather data on seven different soil properties. The program also includes activities related to soil erosion and its impact on the ecosystem.



Traveling Trunks

Checking out a trunk will provide you and your students access to a variety of activities and materials to enhance your classroom learning. From furs and skulls, to 1870s games, to replica Native American tools, learning will come alive when you bring a trunk to your classroom. Trunk fees are \$25 for two weeks.

Furs & Skulls

Grade: K-8



Included in this trunk are the skulls and furs to compare carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. Skulls and furs of a coyote, raccoon, rabbit, beaver and deer are in the trunk. Also included are activity and identification guides.

Homestead Life

Grade: K-5



This trunk uses a variety of artifacts to teach children about Michigan farm life in the 1870s. Included in the trunk are items such as McGuffey readers, toys and games typically played, clothes, butter molds, wool carders and much more!

There is also a written packet with background information and activity ideas.

Invasive Species

Grade: 3-8



This trunk includes activities focusing on identification of invasive exotic species, management, the impact exotic species have on ecosystems and more. It's packed full of hands-on lessons, pictures, books, videos and posters!

Native American Uses of Natural Resources

Grade: 3-6



Use this Traveling Trunk to discover how Native Americans interacted with natural resources a thousand years ago. Reproduction items include an arrow, stone drill, stone point and stone knife. Among other items, the trunk also includes a brain tanned hide, beaver pelt, fire making kit and baskets.

The Tree Trunk

Grade: 3-6



This trunk includes activities on tree identification, forest ecology, forest measurements, Michigan lumbering history and human uses of trees. Materials include cross-sections of trees, tree identification books, historical lumbering photos and more.

Self-Guided Opportunities

FREE!

These self-guided programs are designed for teachers who are comfortable leading their own field trip. Teachers must provide sufficient staff/volunteers to supervise their own classes; we recommend a minimum ratio of 1 adult to 10 children.

Hike and Scavenger Hunt



All ages | Approx. .5-1 hr

Group size: up to 60 children
(rotating through areas in smaller groups)
Explore the nature center trails at your own pace. With 19 miles of trails, you can select a route that fits

the age and abilities of the students in your class. We will provide a scavenger hunt that will encourage the students to look high and low for a variety of natural elements. The scavenger hunt can be used on any of our trails.

CNC Visitor Center



All ages | Approx. .5-1 hr

Group size: up to 60 children
(rotating through areas in smaller groups)
CNC's Visitor Center offers a hands-on Nature Discovery Area, engaging exhibits in the Ecosystem Gallery, a Wildlife

Viewing Area where children can watch squirrels and birds visit feeders, the Bur Oak theater with short nature-related videos, and a River Overlook room where you can see the Pine River.

Registration Process

Online program requests accepted beginning:

Aug 1 for Fall 2017 programs • Dec 1 for Spring 2018 programs

Once your request is submitted, your program will be considered confirmed once you receive an email from CNC with a specific date, time and program cost.

Field Trip Fees

Program Length	Student Fee*	Min. Fee/Program
1 hour	\$2.50	\$25
1.5 hours	\$2.75	\$27.50
2 hours	\$3	\$30
4 hours	\$5	\$50
Lunch Room	—	\$5



*The student fee is for youth participating in the program. Please bring one chaperone for every 10-12 students. Teachers, chaperones and bus drivers are free.

CNC at Your School Fees

Program Length	First Program per day <i>Plus mileage (see chart)</i>	Each add'l program on the same day <i>No mileage fee for add'l programs</i>
1 hour	\$50	\$25
1.5 hours	\$60	\$30

Mileage

Distance	Fee
0-15 miles	\$0
16-30 miles	\$15
31-45 miles	\$30
46-60 miles	\$45

Traveling Trunk Fees

Check out Period	Fee
2 weeks	\$25

Trunks may be picked up from the Visitor Center 8 am-5 pm Mon-Sat and 12-5 pm Sun and select holidays.



Confirmation

After your program is scheduled, you will receive an initial confirmation with the date, time, cost and other details of your program. Two weeks prior to your scheduled program, you will receive a more detailed confirmation with information for chaperones, dividing students into groups, and other tips for a successful field trip.

Cancellations

There is no fee for programs cancelled more than 2 days before the scheduled program. A \$25 fee will be assessed for a program cancelled with less than 2 days' notice. Cancellations due to school closures will not be assessed a fee. If Bullock Creek Schools are closed due to weather, all CNC school programs will be cancelled.

Questions regarding program scheduling or content?

Please contact: Susan Kruse, Scheduler
skruse@chippewanaturecenter.org

Teacher Education Programs



We can schedule **Project Learning Tree** or **Project Wild Certification workshops**, as well as **Early Childhood** and **Nature Workshops** for groups of educators. Individual teachers are

invited to register for CNC's annual Nature Preschool Institute or **FREE Teacher's Night in Nature** events!

Teacher's Night in Nature

Enjoy time with other teachers while learning ways to integrate nature into your curriculum!

**Pre-registration is required for these free events.*

Visit www.chippewanaturecenter.org to register and for additional dates and topics.

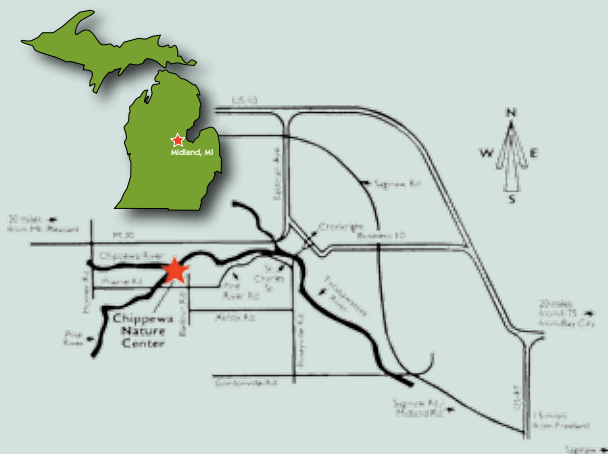
Night Lighting

Wed, Oct 4 | 6-8 pm

FREE!



All teachers are invited to explore nature at night with night lighting! Bring your flashlight to use on our hike as we search for the glittery eyes of nocturnal creatures. Afterwards, we'll enjoy light refreshments in the Visitor Center.



Mission: To connect all people with nature through educational, recreational and cultural experiences.

Vision: Inspiring people to be stewards of the natural world.