

BEC HIKES

TREE-TECTIVES

Can trees get sick? Yes they can! Learn about some common tree illnesses, then hike the Coppell Nature Trail and look for trees that may have some common tree problems. Keep track of what problems you find with your tree-tective bingo card.

SPIDER WEBS

As students hike the trails, spider webs will be pointed out and each web type that is observed will be identified. Typically orb webs, tangle webs, sheet webs, and funnel webs can be observed.

BIRDS

Using binoculars and basic bird identification guides, students will learn how to use binoculars, where to look for identifying marks on birds, and what is best for bird watching.

EROSION AND NATURAL SPRINGS

Students will hike to Cottonwood Creek to observe the location of one of the natural springs that supply the creek while discussing ground water. They will also discuss erosion as they hike to other locations and observe the banks of the creek. If time allows, students will be allowed to try skipping rocks on the creek.

PLANT FAMILIES

This hike focuses on families of plants and trees by discussing their shared traits and looking at examples of them on the nature trail.

A WALK IN THE WOODS

Enjoy a guided leisurely walk through the woods of Coppell Nature Park. Guides will point out such plants as poison ivy and briar and will introduce students to many different nature wonders that can be observed.

SCAVENGER HUNTS

The BEC staff provide teachers with age appropriate scavenger hunts to use while the teachers lead their students on a hike on the trails of Coppell Nature Park.

COPPELL NATURE PARK HABITATS

Students will begin their hike with an introduction to the four basic components of habitat (water, food, shelter, and space). Then students will hike on the trails and stop to discuss what components they observe in a forest/wooded habitat, a creek habitat, and a prairie habitat.

GEOLOGY

This hike begins at the BEC and introduces students to the creatures of the inland sea that once covered Texas using the BEC's metal mural. Students will then look at the limestone walls of the BEC and discuss limestone formation and the reasons for sea creatures in the limestone. From the BEC, students will hike down to the creek and look for fossilized oysters and observe the shale formations that line the creek.

SHUTTERBUG HIKE

Bring your students' ipads and hike the trails of Coppell Nature Park while taking pictures of the diverse natural features found along the trails. Students will go through forested/woodland areas and cross a creek.

POETRY AND ART

Bring your writing journals and your sketch pads. After hiking the trails, students will be given 15-30 minutes to write and sketch nature inspired poems and pictures.

