

EDINBURG SCENIC WETLANDS & WORLD BIRDING CENTER

ENVIRONMENTAL, NATURAL HISTORY AND OUTDOOR BASED

EDUCATION PROGRAMS



Field Trips, Outreach, Home School and Scout
Programs for Pre-K through High School



General Information

Foster a deeper appreciation and an understanding of the natural world with environmental education programming at the Edinburg Scenic Wetlands and World Birding Center (EWBC). Through a variety of real world, immersive outdoor experiences, we are able to help educators bring classroom lessons to life. Supporting state and national standards, and meeting STEAM requirements, our programs are infused with adventure and creativity to create unique experiential learning experience for your students.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are a wonderful way for students to immerse themselves in nature and the outdoors through guided explorations of our grounds. Field Trips consists of an introduction to a topic, followed by 30 minute break out sessions covering various aspects of a topic and utilizing different learning styles. Field trips begin at \$2 per child per hour. Programs can be from 1 to 4 hours in length. Group size maximum is 100 students.

OUTREACH

In addition to offering programming at EWBC, we also provide programs at schools, child care centers, libraries, hospitals and other settings. Our staff deliver high quality, interactive nature programs at your site on a variety of topics including birds, plants, insects, reptiles & amphibians. Outreach Program fees begin at \$50 for up to one hour and will vary depending on program length, supplies needed, & traveling distance.

ACCESSIBILITY & SPECIAL NEEDS

We welcome students of all abilities and strongly believe that everyone should have the opportunity to benefit from nature. Our staff will work with you to meet the needs of students or teachers.

INQUIRIES

We recommend contacting us at least one month in advance to book your program and with several date options in mind. For request, please contact Veronica Guzman, Env. Education Coordinator, at vguzman@cityofedinburg.com or call us at (956) 381-9922. You can also submit your request online at www.edinburgwbc.org by visiting the "Field Trips & Programs" tab under the "Programs and Events" sub-heading. Programs are not considered confirmed until a confirmation email is sent out.

CANCELLATION POLICY

A fee will be charged for programs cancelled with insufficient notice. \$50 for classes canceled less than 2 weeks notice. \$100 for classes canceled less than 24 hours notice. Alternate programs may be arranged for inclement weather.

CHAPERONES

Teachers, school designated chaperones, and group leaders are invited to attend for free with each EWBC on-site field trip. We recommend at least 1 adult for every 10 students.

ADULTS & TAG-ALONGS

Parents and/or caretakers following along on a field trip will be charged \$2 per person. Siblings under 5 years of age who are not participating in the program are admitted free of charge. Siblings participating in the program will pay the program fee rate.

PAYMENT

We take cash, checks, credit cards and purchase orders. To make payment arrangements, please contact our registrar at (956) 381-9922. Please make checks payable to: The City of Edinburg. C/O Edinburg World Birding Center.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information about our site, please visit us online at www.EdinburgWBC.org or call us at (956) 381-9922.

FIELD TRIPS for Pre-K and Elementary

Surrounding Senses

Grade Level: Pre K– K

This program focuses on the five senses. Bring your students out for an amazing journey that will include a walk through our grounds looking, listening, feeling, and smelling what surrounds them. This walk will be sure to engage their senses and their creativity. Also in this program students will enjoy a sensory show and tell and an educational game of Animal Charades.

Insect Investigations

Grade Level: 1-3

Students will jump into the amazing world of insects. In this program they will learn about insect life cycles, adaptations, and habitat. Students will love an outdoor adventure as they take an insect walk through our grounds to investigate the types of insects that can be found here. This program may also include an educational puppet show and/or insect game.

Living and Non-living

Grade Level: 1-3

What's the difference between living and non-living? It's a great question every young child might be asking. This program offers an insight to the two. Students will be challenged to identify what they see as living and non-living in this interactive field trip. Let your students get a better understanding of all the wonderful things live and not.

Amazing Adaptations

Grade Level: 1-3

Adaptations are the key to survival! From a butterfly's proboscis to a Roseate Spoonbill's beak, many creatures have adapted to their environment in order to thrive. This program explores the adaptations of many different animals and makes learning about adaptations absolutely amazing! The program may include a walk, show & tell, game, and/or puppet show.



Magical Metamorphosis

Grade Level: 2-5

Meta-huh? Metamorphosis is the change in animals' growth as it develops into its different stages of life. In this program, students will discover the transformations of different insects and amphibians. Learn how these animals grow from an egg to an adult in our interactive puppet show and show and tell. Then take a walk through our grounds to discover these metamorphic creatures. Your students are sure to be amazed!

Power of Pollination

Grade Level: 2-5

Did you know that pollinators are responsible for 1 out of every 3rd bite of food we eat? In this lesson children learn about the connection between pollinators, like bees and butterflies, and plant growth. Students will be introduced to several different pollinators that are found in the area. This lesson may include observation tools and data sheets; a fun way to learn about the importance of pollinators!



Whose Habitat

Grade Level: 2-5

Habitat, what's that? In this program, students will be introduced to a variety of wildlife and their habitats. They will learn what habitat is and how animals have been able to adapt and survive in the RGV. This program may include a habitat walk through our grounds where students will observe different habitats of different wildlife big and small, a wildlife show and tell, and/or an interactive habitat card game.

Plant Particulars

Grade Level: 2-5

Would your students like to get a better understanding of plants? In this program all about plants, students will learn how to identify plants, what the difference between native and non-native is, and also observe them under the microscope. With this interactive program, students are sure to gain the knowledge they need on plant parts, their importance to wetlands, and other particulars.

FIELD TRIPS for Upper Elementary, Middle & High School

Soil Sense

Grade Level: 4-8

Do you dig soil? We sure do! And we would like to share our knowledge with you about soil and the many hidden wonders found there. Also learn about why wetlands need soil and what type works best in this habitat. This program offers hands-on soil testing that may include getting dirty with dirt! Don't be shy. Let us help you with a better way to learn about soil!

Wetland Explorations

Grade Level: 4-8

This interactive, science-based program will introduce students to a world they have never encountered. Water beetles, dragonflies, and pond critters galore; your kids will get their hands wet and dirty exploring wetlands. Activities may include macroinvertebrate collecting, water testing and/or microscopic observations. Bring your students to learn the importance of wetlands!

Birding Bonanza

Grade Level: 4-8

Let the EWBC teach your class about what is so special about the Rio Grande Valley when it comes to birds! Students will learn to use tools such as binoculars, spotting scopes, and field guides as they tour the grounds learning how to identify these diverse groups of animals at our site. This program will get your students outside and is sure to open their eyes to the unique role of South Texas in bird migration through hands-on activities.

Water Works

Grade Level: 5-8

The wonders of water surround us and it can be tricky when it comes to learning all of its amazing properties. The EWBC offers activities for students to experience water and how it works in the water cycle. Provided in this program may be a hands-on look at our watershed with the help of our enviroscape model, an interactive game, and/or a walk through our grounds to see our wetlands.

Reptile Mania

Grade Level: 5-8

Are your students into snakes, lizards, turtles, and other reptiles? Then this program is perfect for them. Reptile Mania offers educational games, a show and tell, and a walk through our grounds that teaches students all about reptiles and their amazing abilities. Learn why they are important, where they can be found, and what you can do to help protect these amazing animals.

Natural History Tour

Grade Level: 5-12

During this program students will learn the use of field equipment, such as binoculars, field guides and check lists. On a guided tour of our grounds, students will learn about native plants, wildlife and the history of our site. A great introduction to the diversity found in our native habitat oasis. A short introductory lesson on field safety is included. Come join us for an adventure at the EWBC!

Wetland Ecology

Grade Level: 9-12

This interactive, Biology-based program will introduce students to the world of wetlands. Your students are sure to get a better appreciation for this special habitat and the animals that can be found here. Activities may include macroinvertebrate surveying, microorganism sampling, a wetland walk, and water chemistry. Bring your students to learn how wetlands function and what they can do for you!

Birding Naturalist

Grade Level: 9-12

Naturalists all over the world study all walks of wildlife. Bring your students to experience a field trip that is sure to open their minds to a career in nature. This program teaches students the value of avian wildlife, how to identify and survey them, and ways in which to measure their diversity and abundance by collecting data. This includes a tour through our grounds with the use of binoculars, a field guide and a survey checklist.



OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Birds/Wildlife of the RGV

Grade Level: 1-4

This program provides students with the knowledge of birds and/or wildlife that we see here in the RGV through an interactive show and tell. EWBC educators will bring skull replicas, life cycle models, and much more for you to enjoy.

Nature Puppet Show

Grade Level: 1-4

How would you like us to have one at your school? Our puppet shows offer fun learning experiences and stories with puppets the young ones are sure to enjoy. Learn about insects, frogs, and more as we entertain you!

Classroom Gardens

Grade Level: 2-5

Ready to introduce your students to plants? Learn some basics about gardening and the native plants of the RGV. This program includes a hands-on component where students will make a pot from recycled newspaper to plant and watch grow!

Wild Watershed

Grade Level: 4-8

Would you like your students to learn more about our watershed? The EWBC will take our enviroscape model to your school for an interactive, educational experience where students will learn about the water cycle and wetlands.

Nature Career Presentation

Grade Level: 3-12

A program for career days, an EWBC staffer will come to your school equipped with a presentation about opportunities and details of a career in the nature field. Learn what our site is all about, ways to volunteer, and what you can do if interested in nature.



SCOUT PROGRAMS

We offer interactive outdoor and nature based programs designed to help Scout troops fulfill requirements needed to complete badges and patches while instill a sense of environmental stewardship. Our programs correlate with National Boy Scout and National Girl Scout standards.

BSA SCOUT PROGRAMS

Tigers in the Wild
Paws on the Path
Fur, Feathers & Fern
Into the Wild
Into the Woods
Forestry Badge
Bird Study Badge

Tiger Cub Scout
Wolf Cub Scout
Bear Cub Scout
Webalo Scout
Webalo Scout
Boy Scout
Boy Scout

GIRL SCOUT PROGRAMS

Eco-learner
Outdoor Art Creator
EcoFriend
Eco Camper
Eco Trekker
Geocaching

Daisy Girl Scout
Brownie Girl Scout
Brownie Girl Scout
Junior Girl Scout
Junior Girl Scout
Junior Girl Scout

OTHER PROGRAMS

EWBC staff can provide custom programming around any nature-focused or outdoor skills based programs, including: geocaching, knot-tying, fishing skills, camping skills, outdoor cooking skills, Leave No Trace principles, outdoor safety, animal and plant ID, conservation, ecological studies, and more. Please contact our Education Coordinator, Veronica Guzman at vguzman@cityofedinburg.com to set-up a program.

SERVICE PROJECTS

We have a variety of exciting opportunities for Scouts interested in completing their service project at the Edinburg Scenic Wetlands & World Birding Center. Please contact the Volunteer Coordinator Becky Reyes at breyes@cityofedinburg.com or 956-381-9922 for more information.



DIRECTIONS to EWBC



Edinburg WBC is located on the northwest corner of the Edinburg Municipal Park. Take Exp. 281 / 69C into Edinburg. *From the north:* exit University Dr. (SH 107) and turn east. Turn south on Raul Longoria. Turn east into the Park. *From the south:* exit Freddy Gonzalez and stay on access road until Sprague. Turn east on Sprague and drive straight into the Park. PARKING is on the left after canal.