



Recommended Secondary Level Programs

Blue Jay's education staff loves working with Secondary Level students! Our free two-hour programs are particularly reserved for groups of 10-25 students that have the necessary background in relation to the requested program. If you need additional subject preparation, please chose a one-hour program from our **Group Programs** sheet followed in the future by your preferred 2-hour program. While our programs are free, please be mindful that we are reserving this spot especially for your group—any cancellations must take place in writing at least 30 days in advance of your program date. **Programs go on rain or shine**—we have great indoor resources and activities to use when needed.

Call (919) 870-4330 or email bluejaypoint@wakegov.com to make a reservation.

- Adaptations for Living** This program is specifically designed to take a closer look at the flora and fauna of the piedmont region. We will explore the many ways that wildlife has adapted to living in their environment and making the most of their niche. This 2 hour program begins indoors, followed by a hike. Alternative adverse weather activities are included when needed. *Note: Due to some similarity in information, we do not recommend this program in conjunction with **Extreme Ecology**.* **Note to Group Leader:** This 2 hour staff-led program is complemented by using one or more of the following Discovery Boxes (under your direction) immediately before or after the program. You may feel more comfortable leading some of these Discovery Boxes if you preview them first—email us at bluejaypoint@wakegov.com to arrange a preview or to reserve these boxes for your group's use.

DON'T TAKE A "LICHEN" FOR POLLUTION

Length: 30 minutes - 1 hour **Source:** Air and Waste Management Association:
Area: Marked Outdoor area with lichen Environmental Resource Guide—Air Quality
Summary: Participants learn about different kinds of lichen and how they act as bio-indicators for air pollution. The participants will evaluate the relative health of the environment they are studying based on the presence, diversity, and size of lichen in the area.

ORDERING INSECTS

Length: 1 hour **Source:** Stephanie Avett
Area: Indoors or Outdoors – seated
Summary: Discover how scientists categorize living things. Students use pictures and models to figure out the characteristics common to their order of insects and create their own insect that fits into their order. Several orders of insects are introduced (Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Odonata, Hymenoptera, and Orthoptera), with information on other common orders.

WHIRLIGIGS 'N WATER BUGS

Length: 45 minutes **Source:** Blue Jay Point Staff
Area: Outdoors – Blue Jay Point's Garden Pond
Summary: Dip a net into Blue Jay 's study pond and get the real scoop on what types of aquatic life inhabit its waters.

- Chemical and Macroinvertebrate Water Quality** Learn what makes good and bad quality water and the organisms that inhabit both. Check out the water quality of our pond in this two hour program. Participants will learn about and perform basic chemical water testing. They will also collect organisms and calculate values for an introductory biotic index. This program is an indoor-outdoor program with alternative adverse weather activities when needed. **There WILL be work that students/teacher must do to prepare for this program.** **Note to Group Leader:** This two hour staff-led program is complemented by using one or more of the following Discovery Boxes (under your direction) immediately before or after the program. You may feel more comfortable leading some of the Discovery Boxes on the following page if you preview them first—email us at bluejaypoint@wakegov.com to arrange a preview or to reserve these boxes for your group's use.

MACROINVERTEBRATE MAYHEM

Length: 45 minutes - 1 hour

Source: Project WET

Area: Outdoors

Summary: Learn the effects of environmental stressors on the macroinvertebrate population of an aquatic ecosystem by playing a game of tag. Students will model different behaviors to learn characteristics of pollution intolerant and tolerant insects.

DISCOVER OUR ECOLOGICAL ADDRESS

Length: 30 min. – 2 hours

Source: Adapted from Proj. WET and NC OEE website

Area: Outdoor

Summary: Where does the water go when it rains? Learn what a river basin is with the following activities, each lasting approximately 30 minutes. **Water Drop Match:** Discover Blue Jay Point's river basin and what makes it special (this particular activity could be done inside). The following activities use Blue Jay's giant N.C. river basin map. **River Basin Riddler Relay:** This action-packed, trivia-based fact game promotes participant learning about N.C.'s 17 river basins (best for class-size groups). **Map Makers:** Using the provided information, participants label geological features, cities, etc. on the giant map with sidewalk chalk. Participants draw in the major rivers and tributaries, then trace how the water flows in the basins.

WETLAND METAPHORS

Length: 30 minutes

Source: Aquatic Project WILD

Area: Indoors or Outdoors – seated

Summary: Citizens of our rapidly changing world should understand the benefits of wetlands as resources for humans and other species. By matching metaphoric objects and pictures to written wetland functions, this activity brings those benefits to life and encourages an appreciation for the important roles of wetlands.

-
- **Extreme Ecology** Take an intensive look at ecology with Population Ecology, Community Ecology, and Biomes. Take a hike and learn about your own backyard, the Piedmont! Have you ever wondered what environmental issues affect our area? Now is your chance to find out! This program begins indoors followed by a hike. Alternative adverse weather activities will be provided when needed. *Note: Due to some similarity in information, we do not recommend this program in conjunction with **Adaptations for Living**.* **Essential Standards** 8.L.3.1, 8.L.3.2, 8.3.3 Bio.2.1.1 Bio.2.2.1, Bio.2.2.2 **Note to Group Leader:** This two hour staff-led program is complemented by using one or more of the following Discovery Boxes (under your direction) immediately before or after the program. You may feel more comfortable leading some of these Discovery Boxes if you preview them first—email us at bluejaypoint@wakegov.com to arrange a preview or to reserve these boxes for your group's use.

DON'T TAKE A "LICHEN" FOR POLLUTION

Length: 30 minutes - 1 hour

Source: Air and Waste Management Association:

Area: Marked Outdoor area with lichen Environmental Resource Guide—Air Quality

Summary: Participants learn about different kinds of lichen and how they act as bio-indicators for air pollution. The participants will evaluate the relative health of the environment they are studying based on the presence, diversity, and size of lichen in the area.

INDOOR INFORMATION SCAVENGER HUNT

Length: 20 – 60 minutes

Source: Blue Jay Point Staff

Area: Blue Jay Center for Environmental Education (Mon-Sat 8a.m.-5p.m.)

Summary: Team up to compete in an indoor information scavenger hunt through the Blue Jay Center exhibits with this great rainy/hot/cold day activity! Search for elusive answers about water quality, current environmental issues, habitat types, and more. Following activity, discuss as a group!

WHIRLIGIGS 'N WATER BUGS

Length: 45 minutes

Source: Blue Jay Point Staff

Area: Outdoors – Blue Jay Point's Garden Pond

Summary: Dip a net into Blue Jay 's study pond and get the real scoop on what aquatic life inhabits its waters.

Blue Jay Point County Park
3200 Pleasant Union Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27614
www.wakegov.com/parks/bluejay