



# Nature's Necessities

## OUTDOOR PROGRAM SUMMARY

**Level: Grades K-1**  
**Program Length: 40–50 minutes**

**Maximum: 32**  
**Minimum: 15 students**

### Description

What is a living thing and what do they need to survive? Students will have the opportunity to identify living and non-living features of a Georgia Piedmont forest and track a woodland mammal in search of its basic needs.

### Curriculum Correlations

Students will:

1. Describe the physical attributes of rocks and soils. **SKE2**
2. Sort living organisms and non-living materials into groups by observable physical attributes. **SKL1**
3. Compare the similarities and differences in groups of organisms. **SKL2**
4. Investigate the characteristics and basic needs of plants and animals. **S1L1**.

### Main Themes

#### Outdoor Classroom Activity

- Distinguish between living and non-living things and how they are related.
- Describe the basic needs of different animals.
- Describe how habitats provide for animal basic needs.

#### Outdoor Exploration

- Find habitats suitable for featured mammals and discuss their adaptations.
- Explore the surrounding habitats to find animals.

### Vocabulary

Living

Non-living

Adaptation

Habitat

Observation

Mammal

Omnivore

Herbivore

Deciduous

### Pre-Visit Activities

- Introduce or review vocabulary.
- Discuss living and non-living things that can be found in a woodland.
- Discuss what basic needs are and how habitats provide for them.

### At the Museum

Be sure to visit Nature Stories to explore the types of creatures that can be found in our area. Throughout the WildWoods experience, learn about features of the Piedmont forest and find hidden animals. Download grade-specific activities from our website for use at the Museum at <http://www.fernbankmuseum.org/learn/downloadable-resources/>.

### Post-visit Activities

Have students recreate a habitat they observed during their program and search for other habitats around the schoolyard.

### Resources

<http://serc.carleton.edu/sp/mnstep/activities/26878.html>

[https://www.wnps.org/include/pages/files/StarFlower/Q&E\\_Cover.pdf](https://www.wnps.org/include/pages/files/StarFlower/Q&E_Cover.pdf)

[http://gpb.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/tdc02.sci.life.colt.lp\\_stayalive/the-needs-of-living-things/](http://gpb.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/tdc02.sci.life.colt.lp_stayalive/the-needs-of-living-things/)

[http://gpb.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/tdc02.sci.life.colt.lp\\_living/living-vs-nonliving/](http://gpb.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/tdc02.sci.life.colt.lp_living/living-vs-nonliving/)

<http://www.georgiawildlife.com/WildlifeSpeciesFactSheets>

<http://www.nwf.org/kids/family-fun/outdoor-activities/sand-silt-and-clay.aspx>