

Whitewater State Park Interpretive Programs
Reference and Planning Chart for Schools and Youth Groups

Program Title	Description	Season	Grade Levels	Group Size	Program Length	History	English/ Language	STEM	P.E.	Arts	Boy Scout Badges	Girl Scout Badges	American Heritage Girls Badges	4-H Project Work
American Indian Use of Local Resources	Make twine from natural fibers as you learn about the Native American Indians who once called the Whitewater area their home and the tools they used to survive.	Year-round	3 – 12	10 - 100	45 min	X	X	x		x	Webelos - Forester			Forest Resources, Exploring the Environment
Animal Tracking	Learn to identify animals tracks and other animal signs and make a plaster track cast to keep.	Sp, sum, fall	K – 8	10 - 30	60 min		X	X			Webelos - Naturalist Cub Scouts – Wildlife Conservation Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Management Boy Scouts – Mammal Study	Junior-Animal Habitats	Nature & Wildlife, Outdoor Skills	Wildlife Biology, Wildlife Management/ Shooting Sports
Basic Survival	Learn what to do in a survival situation by experiencing a mock survival incident in the woods of Whitewater State Park.	Year-round	3 – 12	10 -30	60 min		X	X	x		Boy Scouts – Wilderness Survival		Fire Safety and Fire Building, Outdoor Skills	Exploring the Environment
Bats	Learn about the eight bat species that live in Minnesota. See a video and play a game.	Sp, sum, fall	3 – 12	10 - 100	60 min		X	X			Webelos - Naturalist Cub Scout – Wildlife Conservation Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Management Boy Scouts – Mammal Study Boy Scout – Nature Study	Junior-Animal Habitats	Nature & Wildlife	Wildlife Biology
Beavers	We'll play a game to learn about the special adaptations that beavers have and then hike to see a beaver lodge.	Year-round	All	10 - 30	60 min	X	X	X	x		Webelos - Naturalist Cub Scouts – Wildlife Conservation Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Management Boy Scouts – Hiking Boy Scouts – Mammal	Junior-Animal Habitats	Hiking Nature & Wildlife	Wildlife Biology

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Beavers Cont'd											Study Boy Scouts– Nature Study			
Birds of Prey	We'll play some games and take a hike to learn about the birds of prey that live in the blufflands. Binoculars will be provided.	Year-round	3 – 12	10 - 30	90 min		X	X	x		Webelos - Naturalist Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Management Boy Scouts – Hiking Boy Scout – Nature Study	Junior – Animal Habitats	Hiking Nature & Wildlife	Wildlife Biology
Bird Watching for Kids	Learn how to identify some of the common birds in our area as we take a hike around the nature center. Binoculars will be provided.	Year-round	All	10 - 30	60 min		X	X	x		Webelos – Naturalist Boy Scout – Bird Study Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Management Boy Scouts – Hiking Boy Scout – Nature Study	Junior – Animal Habitats	Hiking Nature & Wildlife Outdoor Skills	Wildlife Biology, Wildlife Management/ Shooting Sports
Butterfly Tagging/Pollinators	Learn about the beautiful butterflies of the blufflands, including our amazing Monarchs. After an indoor power point presentation, we'll head out to search for butterflies and tag some monarchs.	Sp, sum, fall	3 - 12	10 - 30	90 min		x	x	x		Webelos – Naturalist Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Management Boy Scouts- Insect Study Boy Scout – Nature Study	Brownie – Naturalist Bugs	Nature & Wildlife	Entomology, Wildlife Biology
Camouflage Walk	Learn how animals use camouflage for survival as we hike the Discovery Loop Trail to look for hidden creatures.	Year-round	K - 5	10 - 30	45 min		X	X	x		Cub Scouts – Wildlife Conservation Boy Scouts – Mammal Study	Junior – Animal Habitats	Hiking	Wildlife Biology
Campfire Sing Along	Use music to learn about our natural world. We'll learn traditional and new songs as well as some fun campfire activities.	Sp, sum, wint	K-5	10 - 100	60 min	x	X	x		x				Youth Leadership
Caving Field Trip	Learn about groundwater and karst topography while	Year-round	5 - 12	10 -30	120 min		X	X	x		Webelos - Geologist Cub Scout - Geology	Senior – Outdoors	Nature & Wildlife Geology	Geology

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Caving Field Trip Cont'd	you get dirty exploring a small limestone cave.										Boy Scouts - Geology	Adventurer		
CCC & WPA	After a power point presentation on the history of the CCC/WPA at Whitewater State Park, we'll hike to see some of the structures built during this era.	Year-round	9 – 12	10 - 50	120 min	x	X		x					Citizenship
Crystal Springs Hatchery Tour Field Trip	Learn and see how trout are raised in the hatchery to be stocked in our rivers and lakes. Find out how land use affects streams.	Year-round	3 - 12	10 - 30	60 min	x	X	x			Cub Scouts – Fishing Cub Scouts – Wildlife Conservation Boy Scouts – Fishing Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Management		Nature & Wildlife	Fishing Sports
Digital Bridge to Nature	After an indoor presentation on how to use digital cameras and tips for photographing nature, we'll explore outdoors with cameras. All equipment is provided.	Year-round	3 – 12	10 - 30	120 min		X	X	X	x	Boy Scout – Nature Study Boy Scouts - Photography	Junior – Digital Photography	Outdoor Skills	Photography
Discovery Room Scavenger Hunt	Learn about history through a self-guided scavenger hunt of the visitor center's Discovery Room.	Year-round	3 – 12	10 - 30	30 min	X	X	x			Boy Scouts – Soil & Water Conservation			Natural Sciences, Citizenship
Dragonflies	Learn about our amazing dragonflies through a game and craft. We'll look for dragonfly nymphs and flying adults. Older youth can help with our Dragonfly Monitoring Project.	Sp, sum, fall	K – 12	10 - 30	45 – 120 min		x	x	x	x	Webelos - Naturalist Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Management Boy Scouts – Insect Study Boy Scout – Nature Study	Brownie – Naturalist Bugs	Nature & Wildlife	Entomology, Wildlife Biology

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Eagle Watching Field Trip	We'll visit some eagle nests in the area to learn about bald eagles and their amazing comeback.	winter	3 - 12	10 - 50	120 min	x	X	x			Boy Scout – Bird Study Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Mgmt. Boy Scout – Nature Study		Nature & Wildlife	Exploring the Environment
Exotic Species and Emerald Ash Borer Monitoring	Learn about exotic invasive species and participate in our current Emerald Ash Borer monitoring project. Students will learn how to identify an ash tree, assess it for EAB damage, mark it's GPS coordinates and report their findings.	Year-round	9-12	10 - 50	120 min		X	x	x		Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Management Boy Scouts – Insect Study Boy Scout – Nature Study	Cadette – Naturalist Trees	Nature & Wildlife	Forest Resources, Exploring the Environment
Exploring the Night Sky	Here's an opportunity for those staying overnight at the park to learn about the constellations, meteors and phases of the moon above us. After a power point presentation, we'll spend some time observing the night sky.	Year-round	4-12	10 – 100	60 min	x	X	x			Webelos - Naturalist Cub Scout - Astronomy	Senior – Naturalist Sky	Outdoor Skills	Exploring the Environment
Flood Walk	See a video about the historic flood of 2007 and walk the park to look at the lasting impacts. Regional land uses will be discussed.	Year – round	6 - 12	10 - 50	120 min	x	X	x	x		Boy Scouts – Geology Boy Scouts – Hiking Boy Scouts – Soil & Water Conservation		Hiking, Geology	Exploring the Environment
Fossil Field Trip	Travel back in time 450 million years ago and learn about an ancient sea that once covered Minnesota and the neat creatures that once lived here.	Year-round	All	10 - 100	120 min		X	X	x		Webelos - Geologist Cub Scout - Geology Boy Scouts - Geology		Geology	Geology

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Frogs and Toads	After an indoor presentation, we'll head out to the pond to catch tadpoles and frogs.	Sp, sum	1 -6	10 - 30	90 min		X	x	x		Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Mgmt. Boy Scout – Nature Study Boy Scouts – Reptiles & Amphibians	Junior – Animal Habitats	Nature & Wildlife	Wildlife Biology, Waters/Wetlands
GPS & Geo-caching	Learn how to use GPS to find hidden treasures you can keep. All equipment is provided.	Year-round	3 – 12	10 - 30	90 min		X	x	x		Boy Scouts – Geocaching Boy Scouts - Hiking	Brownie – Outdoors Hiker	Hiking, Outdoor Skills	Geo-spatial, Healthy Living
History of the Whitewater Watershed	Learn about the changes in land use since European settlement of the Whitewater Valley and how those changes impacted the landscape. This is an indoor presentation.	Year-round	6 - 12	10 -100	60 min	X	X	x			Boy Scouts – Soil & Water Conservation	Ambassador – Naturalist Water		Exploring the Environment
Make A Walking Stick	Learn about invasive species as you make your own walking stick from European Buckthorn.	Year-round	3 – 12	10 - 100	90 min	X	X	X		x	Webelos - Forester Webelos - Naturalist Boy Scouts - Forestry			Forest Resources, Exploring the Environment
Maple Syrup Making	Learn about the history of maple syrup making by helping to tap a tree, collect and boil sap, and taste the finished syrup.	Spring	K – 12	10 - 50	90 min	X	X	X	x		Webelos – Naturalist Boy Scouts - Forestry			Forest Resources
Nature Games	Learn about wildlife and our natural world while having fun.	Year-round	K - 12	10 - 50	30 – 60 min		X	x	x		Webelos - Naturalist		Nature & Wildlife	
Nature Scavenger Hunt	Explore the Discovery Loop Trail using all of your five senses to learn about nature.	Year-round	K-6	10 - 100	30 – 60 min		X	x	x		Boy Scouts - Hiking		Hiking Nature & Wildlife	Exploring the Environment
Night Hike	For those staying overnight at the park, a night hike is a	Year-round	3 – 12	10 - 100	90 min		X	X	x		Boy Scouts – Hiking Boy Scout – Nature Study	Cadette – Night Owl	Hiking Nature & Wildlife	Wildlife Biology

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Night Hike Cont'd	great way to use your senses and learn about the creatures of the night.													
Owls of Whitewater State Park	An inter-active, indoor presentation about our owls can also be followed up with a hike to call to the owls.	Year-round	3 - 12	10 - 100	90 min		X	X	x		Boy Scout – Bird Study Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Management Boy Scout – Nature Study	Junior – Animal Habitats Cadette – Night Owl	Nature & Wildlife	Wildlife Biology
Ghost Town Cemetery Field Trip	Learn about the early pioneers who settled the Whitewater Valley.	Sp, Sum, fall	5 - 12	10 - 30	90 min	x	x		x					
Poisonous Plants & Animals	Learn about some of the poisonous plants & animals at the park. After a power point presentation, we'll hike to see some of these plants.	Sp, sum, fall	3-12	10 - 30	60 – 90 min	x	x	x	x		Webelos – Naturalist Boy Scouts – Wilderness Survival	Junior – Naturalist Flowers	Hiking, Nature & Wildlife	Forest Resources, Exploring the Environment
Prairie Seed Collecting	Learn about our native prairies and help collect seeds that will be used in restoration sites around the park.	Fall	5-12	10 – 30	2 hours	X		X	X		Boy Scout – Nature Study	Junior – Naturalist Flowers	Nature & Wildlife	Exploring the Environment
Rocks Rock!	Learn about rocks and the processes that form them by playing a game and making a pet rock you can keep.	Sp, sum, fall	3 – 8	10 - 30	60 min		X	X	X	x	Webelos - Geologist Cub Scout - Geology Boy Scouts – Geology Boy Scout – Nature Study		Nature & Wildlife, Geology	Geology
Seed Collecting at Weaver Dunes	Learn about our native prairies and the rare sand prairie ecosystem at Weaver Dunes. Help collect seeds that will be used in prairie restoration at Weaver Dunes Preserve, near Kellogg.	Fall	9-12	10 - 30	3 hours	x		x	x		Boy Scout – Nature Study	Junior – Naturalist Flowers	Nature & Wildlife	Exploring the Environment
Self-guided Trails	Two self-guided trails provide a natural history tour	Year-round	3 – 12	10 - 100	60 – 120 min	X	X	X	x		Boy Scouts - Hiking	Brownie – Outdoors Hiker	Hiking, Nature & Wildlife	Exploring the Environment

	of two different areas of the park.													
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Snowshoe Walk	Learn about the history of snowshoes while experiencing nature in the winter time. All equipment is provided.	Winter	3 - 12	10 - 30	90 min	X	X	X	x		Webelos - Naturalist Boy Scouts - Hiking		Nature & Wildlife	Exploring the Environment, Wildlife Biology
Stream Study	Get wet while learning about the insects and critters that live in the river.	Sp, sum, fall	K-12	10 - 30	30 - 60 min		X	x	x		Boy Scouts – Fish & Wildlife Mgmt. Boy Scouts – Insect Study Boy Scouts – Nature Study	Ambassador – Naturalist Water	Nature & Wildlife	Water/ Wetlands
Tree Identification	Learn about the trees of the bluffs by participating in an inter-active scavenger hunt near the visitor center.	Year-round	5 – 12	10 - 30	60 min		X	x			Boy Scouts – Forestry Boy Scout – Nature Study	Cadette – Naturalist Trees	Nature & Wildlife	Forest Resources
Tree Planting	Your group can help with our spring tree planting project. Learn about forest products and the proper way to plant a tree. All equipment is provided.	April & May	2 - 12	10 - 100	30 - 60 min	x	x	x			Webelos - Forester	Cadette – Naturalist Trees	Nature & Wildlife	Forest Resources
Trout Fishing	Learn the basics of trout fishing including; trout habitat, stream fishing techniques and basic equipment. Anyone over age 16 must have a fishing license and trout stamp. Groups must bring their own bait. We'll provide the equipment and tackle.	Wi, Sp, sum (Jan – Sept)	3 – 12	10 - 30	90 min		x	X	x		Cub Scout - Fishing Boy Scouts – Fishing Boy Scout – Nature Study		Fishing, Fishing	Fishing Sports

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Turtle Rescue Field Trip	Learn about the rare Blanding's turtle and their dependency on a unique sand prairie habitat in the area. We'll learn how to properly handle turtles and head up to a special site to help them cross the road.	Early June and Early September	9 - 12	10 - 30	2 - 4 hours	x		x	x					
Whitewater's German POW Camp	Learn about the German Prisoner of War Camp that once existed at Whitewater State Park. After an indoor presentation, we'll explore where the camp was located.	Sp, sum, Fall	9-12	10 - 100	120 min	x	X		x					
Wild Edibles Walk	Learn what plants are safe to eat and ok to pick in State Parks.	Sum, fall	6 - 12	10 - 30	60 min	X	X	x			Boy Scouts - Hiking Boy Scout - Nature Study Boy Scouts - Wilderness Survival	Brownie - Outdoors Hiker	Hiking, Nature & Wildlife	Forest Resources
Wildflower Walk	This inter-active walk will allow the students to teach one another about the common wildflowers at Whitewater State Park.	Sp, sum, fall	5 - 12	10 - 30	60 min		X	X	x		Boy Scouts - Hiking Boy Scout - Nature Study	Junior - Naturalist Flowers	Hiking, Nature & Wildlife	Forest Resources, Exploring the Environment
Wildlife Puppet Show	Learn about the wildlife of Whitewater State Park from puppets who sing and share amazing stories.	Year-round	K-4	10 - 100	30 min	X	x	X		x	Webelos - Naturalist Cub Scouts - Wildlife Conservation		Nature & Wildlife	