

Nature Center Programs at Keyauwee Program Center

You can use the Nature Center for a setting for a variety of activities that you bring with you to camp.

The Nature Center offers:

- ✓ Science and animal resources to answer questions
- ✓ ID cards for trees, flowers, plants, birds and mammals
- ✓ Posters to learn and ID animals before you go on a hike
- ✓ Microscopes with pre-made slides and clean slides to make your own.
- ✓ Packets of activities to use with your troop

Please remember! We value the items in our Nature Center and MANY Troops use this resource throughout the year. Please talk with your girls first about respecting Nature Center supplies. Please make sure that you collect back ALL items used (magnifying glasses, microscope slides, scissors, etc) and put them back where you found them. Thank you!

Please note that you will need to bring your own pens, pencils, paper and other supplies to the Nature Center for activities. There are limited scissors and glue available (depending on troops leaving supplies for the next group)

Junior Badge requirements:

Camp Together 3. Split the group in a few small groups. Give each group a subject in this activity and have them brainstorm and get facts with the resources available at the Nature Center. Have them each share their findings with the group.

*Camp Together 6. Bird watching information is in the Nature Center. They can use the resources to find tips and they can look for birds with the charts (Bounce loves birding, so if you have some questions you can ask her!)

*Camp Together 8. Plan a hike! Use the posters in the Nature Center to identify some animals they think might live at camp. How should we treat these animals in the wild? You can take some ID charts of birds, trees and plants on your hike. Use the brochure for the Hoffman Lake Trail hike and head down the trail!

Earth Connections 1. Use the forested area across from the Nature Center. You will need to bring your own thermometer. Have the girls use the small shovels hanging on the back porch of the Nature Center to do this activity.

Earth Connections 2. Start at the Nature Center to explain the concept of Ecological Succession. These places are all within sight of the Center. Have the girls go out and pick a spot to choose as long as they can still see the Nature Center and follow the instructions in the activity.

*Earth Connections 3. Look at the tree ID sheets in the tree box and the posters on the wall. From those trees decide the ecosystems where they may be found. Bring the tree ID sheets with you on a hike to find and identify some trees.

*Earth Connections 4. Look at the tree ring in the Nature Center to do this activity. When you go on a hike and see a stump ask the girls to find out how old that tree is!

Earth Connections 7. Look at the varieties of animals on the posters. What are some of the differences between turtles (sea turtles to land turtles) point out the flippers on sea turtles and claws on land turtles, notice the difference in shells (sea/water turtles have a more aerodynamic shell, land turtles are more curved) how do these features help?

Earth Connections 8. Use the plant ID charts to find new plants in the area.

Earth Connections 10. Great activity to bring with you to do at the Nature Center. You will have to find some information about environmental issues in the area and around the country BEFORE you arrive at camp. The Nature Center would offer a good setting to show the things that are effected such as the animals and plants depicted on the posters and even the garden. Have the girls pick one animal they see in the Nature Center that would be effected, tell the group how.

Eco-Action 1. Start your club here!! Brainstorm what you can do for the environment in a great outdoor setting. Continue your plans at your troop meetings!

Eco-Action 2. Bring a tree with you to camp to plant. Have the girls put a border around it to make sure it stays safe. Ask camp staff where a good place may be to plant it. If you come back as a troop or during summer camp, check on it.

Finding Your Way, Hiker 5. Want to earn these badges? Ask about scheduling orienteering and tying these requirements into that activity.

Hiker, Outdoor Cook 10, Your Outdoor Surroundings 1, 2. Want to learn more about backpacking? Bounce and Chaco love it! Before your troop arrives at camp ask if they can come down and talk with your troop about backpacking and the gear you need to do it.

Hiker 4. Do a service project for a section of Keyauwee's trails. We will supply you with the tools you will need (you'll want to bring work gloves if the girls would like to use them)

Outdoor Creativity 6, 7. Use the camp garden as a model for a garden for your troop to plant. Don't have a place to plant at home? Plant something at camp! If you are spring camping or have a winter vegetable to plant (they are out there!) Let us know what and how much you would like to plant so we can make sure you have space in the garden. Plan a trip to come back out and see how it is turning out. Ask Bounce to take pics and email them back in a month to see the progress.

Outdoor Fun 6. Use the resources at camp to fulfill this requirement. Recycle items used on your campout and drop them off at the recycling station in Hillsville (it's on your way home if you are heading north.. right by the gas stations!) Compost vegetable, bread and fruit items; drop them off in the compost by the dining hall (we can show you where it is when you check in) make sure you complete the rest of the requirements over the weekend.

Plants and Animals 10. Use the resources in the Nature Center to answer these questions.

*Water Fun 8. Hike down the Hoffman Lake Trail towards the lake. When you get to the bottom use the lake to answer these questions.

Wildlife 1. Use the animals and plants on the posters and have the girls pick a plant or animal to play the game.

*Wildlife 2. Use the charts to pick a flower or bird to draw.. go on the trail and draw something

Wildlife 3. Look at the bird corner and bird charts. Bring these utensils and others with you to the Nature Center so the girls have many to choose from.

Wildlife 4. Use Resources in Nature Center to answer these questions

*Wildlife 5. The plant box has picture of poison ivy to show the girls. If you are hiking during a season that you can point it out on the trail make sure you do! A camp staff member can find some for you if you're not sure!

Wildlife 7. Use the microscopes and magnifying glasses to look at the pre-made slides. Make your own slides if you wish!

*Wildlife 8. Learn about these identifiers while you're at the Nature Center. See if girls can identify something on the hike or anytime throughout the rest of the trip.

Your Outdoor Surroundings 3. Go to the Leave No Trace website before you leave for your trip. Introduce this concept at the beginning of your trip or the troop meeting before you arrive. www.lnt.org

Your Outdoor Surroundings 4. Do this as your last activity before you leave!

Your Outdoor Surroundings 6. Do this activity around the Nature Center and on your hike.

Your Outdoor Surroundings 7. Ask one of the camp staff to talk about their career (you're visiting us right here at work already!).

*Your Outdoor Surroundings 8. Use this activity on the hike!

*Your Outdoor Surroundings 9. Use these activities and others listed above for your hike!

*Science Discovery. Hike down to Lands End to fulfill this requirement. Worksheet attached.

* Indicates a great hike activity. Write these down and bring them on the trail with you so you're prepared for a great, activity packed hike!

Stream Health Checklist

G, Good

F, Fair

P, Poor

_____ Variety of Stream Animals (fish, snails, insects, worms and other living creatures). The greater the number of types, or species, the healthier the stream.

_____ Available shade. Shade is good for water temperature.

_____ Stability (lack of erosion) of stream bank

_____ Turbidity of water (amount of stuff suspended in the water) Does the water appear cloudy or clear? Clear is good.

_____ Smell of water (smell can indicate pollution)

_____ Signs of run off from surrounding land. Runoff can pollute and take away oxygen.

_____ Amount of garbage along the stream.

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