Welcome to Drumlin Farm’s Afterschool Programs. We offer science-based nature programs that are engaging, educational, and fun. Our goal is to provide your students with a dynamic and inquiry-based afterschool experience, exposing them to field science, local wildlife, and the wonder of the natural world.

Each week, our teacher naturalists bring native wildlife to your classroom and engage students in age-appropriate exploration. The visits will vary and may include crafts, games, children’s literature, storytelling, journaling, and other hands-on, nature-based activities.

Afterschool Programs run throughout the academic year, and typically meet weekly for one hour over the course of a school semester. We also offer single visit programs, please ask for details.

www.massaudubon.org/drumlinfarm
Explore That Habitat
Students will explore a different animal and its unique habitat each week. What animals live in a tree or underground, and why? We’ll discover how animals find food, survive the seasons (including winter!) and escape from predators in Massachusetts’ fields, forests, and wetlands.

Animal Tales
We’ll read a favorite book and meet some of the main characters – furred, feathered, or scaled – at each of our weekly visits. By sharing these stories together, students get a close-up look at a variety of wild and farm animals.

Nature Detectives
What makes a mammal a mammal, and a bird a bird? What are some of the similarities and differences between animals that live in our backyards? During each session, we will investigate the natural history of a different species, and explore outdoors to look for clues about where these animals live, and why they make these “wild” places their home.

Space Requirements:
Bringing live animals to your school means we need a safe space to store the animals (in their carrying cases) during programs when they are not in use.

We Are Happy To Customize:
Are you looking for something specific that’s not covered in our afterschool program descriptions? Would you like us to tie into a school-wide theme or customize our program? Please contact us to discuss your school’s interests and needs.

Outdoor Space
We welcome the opportunity to bring students outdoors as part of our programs, and some are designed to include an outdoor component. In either case, a safe and appropriate outdoor space is required for outdoor exploration. This could be - a shrubby or lightly wooded area, field or forest edge habitat, a wild patch near your playground, conservation land adjacent to your schoolyard.

Programs for Children

Afternoon Explorers
Each week, students will meet a different animal, investigating its habitat needs and adaptations. Then we’ll hit the trail to explore the wild side of your schoolyard or nearby open land. What evidence can we find about food webs, life cycles, and shelter in the different ecosystems we find right in our own backyards? Students will keep weekly field notes to record their observations.

Offered to schools with suitable outdoor space.

All About Birds
Students will meet a variety of feathered friends during our weekly sessions, and learn about flight, food-finding strategies, habitat requirements, and other aspects of avian natural history. We may bring in a few non-birds to compare and contrast different adaptations other classes of animals use to survive. Students will keep weekly field journals to document their findings through writing and sketching. No prior drawing skills required.

Animals, Authors and Art
A different children’s book provides our theme for each week. This engaging group of nature-based stories matches up with our weekly seasonally-appropriate activities.

Program Logistics and Cost:
Length of Series: Minimum of 4 weeks
Number of Participants: PreK-K- max of 8 participants
Gr. 1-6- max of 10 participants
Note: If you can provide an adult (age 16 or older) who can be with the group for supervision and support each week, you may increase enrollment with no additional charge to: PreK-K- 12 participants
Gr. 1-6- 15 participants
Program Fee: $130 for a 1 hour program plus a travel fee per week.

To Register or for more information, please contact our School and Groups program registrar at 781-259-2220 or dfeducation@massaudubon.org.

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