



School Program Name: Trees
Name of Sanctuary: Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary
Grade Level: 3-5
Location Options: At sanctuary
Time: 2 hours
For more info: arcadia@massaudubon.org or
413-584-3009

Program Description

Students will visit a wooded area to observe the different stages in the life of a tree.

Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks

Framework: Science and Technology
Strand: Life Science
Topic: Characteristics of Living Things
Living Things and Their Environment

Learning Standards

Characteristics of Living Things

PreK-2 Life Science #1: Recognize that animals (including humans) and plants are living things that grow, reproduce, and need food, air, and water.

PreK-2 Life Science #3: Recognize that plants and animals have life cycles, and that life cycles vary for different living things.

Living Things and Their Environment

PreK-2 Life Science #8: Identify the ways in which an organism's habitat provides for its basic needs (plants require air, water, nutrients, and light; animals require food, water, air, and shelter).

Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks

Framework: English Language Arts
Strand: Language
Topic: Questioning, Listening, and Contributing

Learning Standards

Questioning, Listening, and Contributing

PreK-12 Language #2: Students will pose questions, listen to the ideas of others, and contribute their own information or ideas in group discussions or interviews in order to acquire new knowledge.



Lesson Objectives

What will students know and be able to do? These objectives must be observable and measurable.

Students will know and be able to:

- Explain how the structures in trees (leaves, roots, flowers, stem, bark, wood) are responsible for the growth of the tree.
- Describe, by drawing, some of the stages of the life cycle of a tree.
- Understand the direction of flow of energy in the food chain.
- Observe the changes in forms during the life cycle of a tree.

Vocabulary

environment	plants
habitat	shelter
life cycle	soil
organism	decay

Assessments

How will you know that the students have met the standards?

- Mass Audubon Educator will observe students exploring and observing fallen logs.
- Students will participate in answering Mass Audubon Educator-prompted questions about the life cycle of a tree.
- Students will demonstrate their understanding that plants and animals go through a predictable life cycle through their drawings.
- Students will participate in a wrap-up activity to demonstrate their knowledge of the life cycle of a tree.

Summarizer

Students will act out the life cycle of a tree.



Mass Audubon School Programs

At Mass Audubon we strive to create learning experiences that are enriching, innovative, meaningful, and engaging. All our school programs are aligned with Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. Our network of wildlife sanctuaries and nature centers located in urban, suburban, and rural communities around the state enable us to have strong relationships with local schools.

Our Education Foundations

- Place-based education is an educational philosophy that connects learning to what is local for an individual. We help build conservation communities, working with students and teachers in cities and towns to develop place-based environmental education that is linked directly to their home community.
 - Inquiry-based learning is focused on teamwork, being learner-centered, questioning ourselves and the world around us, providing a more focused, time-intensive exploration, promoting lifelong learning, communication, and learning as fun.
 - We are fully committed to creating a positive and supportive environment for all learners.
 - We strive to be culturally sensitive, recognizing and embracing cultural differences.
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Differentiated Instruction

- We strive to create a positive learning environment that is inclusive, supportive to all learners, and sensitive to cultural diversity.
 - Outdoor classroom experiences are structured to meet the needs of the particular learners.
 - Students work in small groups using hands-on materials.
 - A variety of educational media are used, including colorful illustrations.
 - With advance notice, efforts will be made to accommodate all learning styles and physical needs.
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Notes

- Nature exploration is dependent upon the weather and other conditions. A class might observe different wildlife than they expected to see. An outdoor lesson can sometimes provide unexpected, but enriching teachable moments on a natural history topic that was not planned.
- Mass Audubon nature centers each have a unique landscape and will customize programs to work best at their particular site.
- Our lessons can be adapted to incorporate a classroom teacher's needs.

