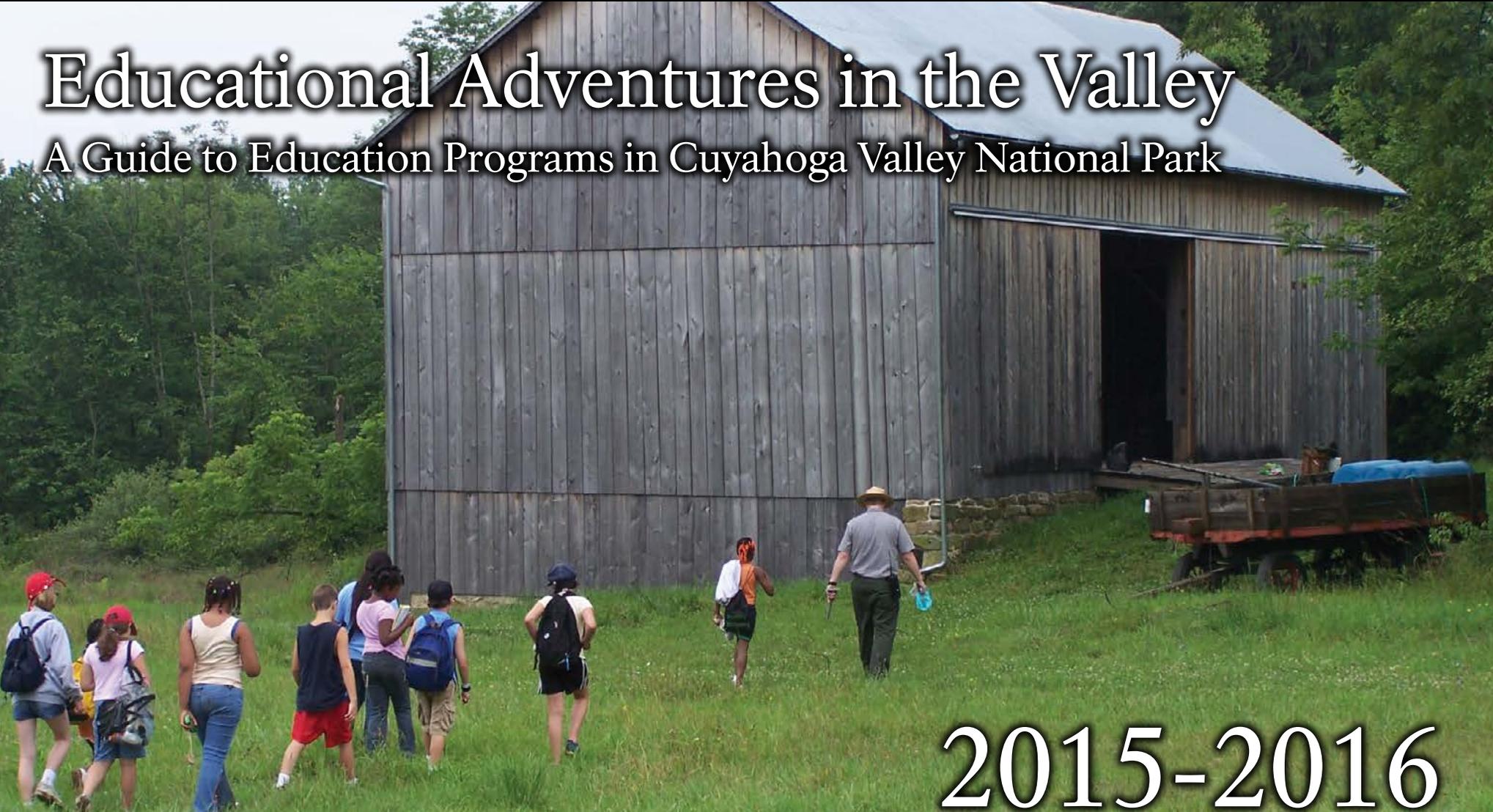




Educational Adventures in the Valley

A Guide to Education Programs in Cuyahoga Valley National Park



2015-2016

Learning in Cuyahoga Valley National Park

National parks are dynamic classrooms where students interact with real places. Students retain information more readily, grasp meanings, and strengthen critical thinking skills through place-based learning in parks.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park is one of over 400 national park sites where powerful learning takes place. This guide highlights the educational opportunities offered by the National Park Service and its primary partners. The first section provides an at-a-glance matrix. Teacher professional development opportunities are highlighted on page 11.

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Courtesy CCVNP



NPS / TED TOTH

Every Kid in a Park



The National Park Service turns 100 on August 25, 2016. The Centennial will celebrate the achievements of the past 100 years, but it is really about the future and engaging the next generation of citizens in parks.

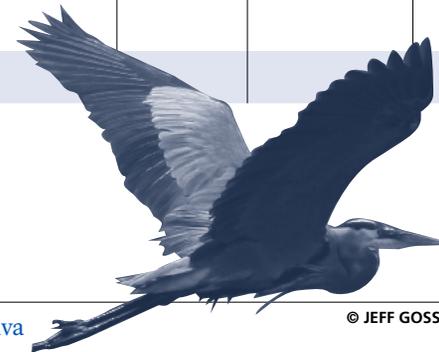
The *Every Kid in a Park* campaign is a signature of the Centennial. It will create opportunities for every fourth grader in the nation to visit public lands during the 2015-2016 school year. We encourage fourth-grade teachers to try one of our programs this year.

Starting in September 2016, every fourth grader will also receive an *Every Kid in a Park* pass that's good for free admission to all of America's federal lands and waters — for them and their families — for a full year. Cuyahoga Valley National Park has speakers available for fourth grade classrooms, as well as for parent groups to help families take advantage of this opportunity. See page 6.

2016
National Park Service.
CENTENNIAL

Education Program Matrix 2015-2016

Programs Offered	Pre-K – Grade 1	Grades 2-3	Grades 4-6	Grades 7-8	Grades 9-12	Residential	Student Fee	Dates available	Page
Reserved through the National Park Service									
Service Learning			✓	✓	✓		Free	September-October; March-May	6
Every Kid in a Park: For Students			✓				Free	September-May	6
Every Kid in a Park: For Parents							Free	September-May	6
Reserved through Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center									
All the Rivers Run, Level 1			✓			✓	\$120-210	September-June	8
All the Rivers Run, Level 2				✓		✓	\$120-210	September-June	8
Seeds of Learning			✓			✓	\$120-210	September-June	8
Soar into Science			✓	✓		✓	\$120-210	September-June	8
Among the Trees		✓	✓	✓			\$6	September-June	9
At Waters Edge		✓	✓	✓			\$6	September-June	9
Low Bridge Everybody Down			✓	✓			\$6	September-June	9
Naturally Diverse Field Trip Package		✓	✓				\$15	September-June	9
Nobody Likes Me	✓						\$6	September-June	10



Education Program Matrix 2015-2016

Programs Offered	Pre-K – Grade 1	Grades 2-3	Grades 4-6	Grades 7-8	Grades 9-12	Residential	Student Fee	Dates available	Page
Really Big Rocks	✓						\$6	September-June	10
Rockin' at the Run			✓	✓			\$6	September-June	10
Ways of the Whittlesey		✓	✓				\$6	September-June	10
Who's Hiding	✓						\$6	September-June	10
Winter Blues	✓						\$6	September-June	10
Reserved through Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad									
Deer's Ears	✓						\$7	March-May	13
All Aboard for Animals	✓	✓					\$7	March-May	13
Are We There Yet			✓				\$7	March-May	13
Explore the Underground Railroad			✓	✓			\$7	March-May	13
Reserved through Countryside Conservancy									
Countryside Kids	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Call	Call	14
Farm Tours	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Call	Call	14



The grade levels listed here are recommendations. We can adapt programs for your grade level and for children with special needs. If you don't see what you are looking for, call 440-546-5991 or email us at cuva_info@nps.gov.

National Park Service



Cuyahoga Valley National Park

was established in 1974 to preserve “the historic, scenic, natural, and recreational values of the Cuyahoga River and the adjacent lands of the Cuyahoga Valley.” The park protects 33,000 acres of open space, natural ecosystems, and historic structures in close proximity to many schools in northeast Ohio.

Thousands of students participate in education programs every year. Most programs are scheduled through park partners and are listed on other pages of this guide. This section features programs scheduled directly through the National Park Service.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Mailing Address: 15610 Vaughn Road; Brecksville, Ohio 44141

General Information:
330-657-2352

cuva_info@nps.gov
www.nps.gov/cuva

Service Learning

Grades 4-12

September-October and March-May

The National Park Service is the land management agency responsible for Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Our daily work involves inventorying, monitoring, and ensuring the health of natural ecosystems. We conduct historical research and preserve historic structures. We build and maintain trails. We provide services for visitors that promote their understanding and enjoyment of the park.

All of this work ties to concepts taught in the classroom. Through service learning, we involve students in critical thinking around park management issues and help them to take action to improve the park while learning along the way.

Service learning activities are designed individually to match classroom goals with park needs. We prefer to work with a single classroom of up to 30 students, but can take groups that range in size from 15 to 120. Free. To schedule, call 330-657-2350 at least a month in advance.



Courtesy CCVNP

Every Kid in a Park: For Parents

For the National Park Service Centennial, every fourth grader will receive an *Every Kid in a Park* pass during the 2015-2016 school year. It is good for free admission to all of America’s federal lands for a full year. Cuyahoga Valley National Park does not charge for admission, but we do have staff and volunteers who would like to prepare families to take advantage of the pass. Speakers are available to attend parent meetings. Free. To schedule, call 440-546-5991.

Every Kid in a Park: For Students

Fourth grade

For the National Park Service Centennial, every fourth grader will receive an *Every Kid in a Park* pass. What is this pass good for anyway? A park ranger or volunteer will visit your classroom to introduce the National Park Service and public lands. Free. To schedule, call 440-546-5991.



Courtesy CCVNP

Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center

Self-guided Classroom Visits

Schools are welcome to come on a self-guided visit. We would like to help you have the best experience possible. Calling us prior to your visit will help you avoid conflicts with other groups. Call 440-546-5991.

Online Lesson Plans, and Activities

The National Park Service maintains a website that provides one stop for educators seeking curriculum guides and lesson plans about national parks, including Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Visit www.nps.gov/learn.

More than 50 interactive online activities challenge children to use critical thinking in order to earn the coveted WebRanger patch. Activities cover themes such as marine life, water quality, the Civil War, and U.S. Presidents. Activities involve the use of skills and knowledge ranging from mathematics and science to writing. Visit www.nps.gov/webrangers.

CONSERVANCY
for CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

The Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center

(CVEEC) is the home base for educational experiences offered in partnership with the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, a non-profit organization that engages the public to support and enjoy the park. CVEEC programs

occur on its 500-acre campus and throughout the park. Programs are taught by Conservancy field instructor interns, National Park Service rangers, and volunteers.

The Conservancy raises funds for scholarships so that all children may attend programs at CVEEC. At least 25 percent of the children who attend the residential program receive assistance thanks to area foundations, businesses, and individuals.

Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center

3675 Oak Hill Rd,
Peninsula, Ohio 44264

www.conservancyforcvnp.org

For scheduling call:
330-657-2796, extension 100
info@forcvnp.org

Sign up for our educator newsletter by contacting info@forcvnp.org



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Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center

Resident and Multi-day Programs

Overnight and multi-day experiences deepen the impact of learning in a national park. CVEEC has two 64-bed dormitories, two dining halls, science labs, and a program building. All buildings are heated, air-conditioned, and wheelchair accessible.

Correlated to Ohio academic content standards, the programs incorporate the arts, technology, science, math, social studies, and language arts. Emphases on discovery, higher-level thinking skills, project-based learning, and use of modern technological tools make the programs truly unique. Children also enjoy classic camp activities such as hiking, freshly prepared food, campfires, and songs.

To experience the project-based curriculum effectively, three-night or two-night programs are recommended. Multi-day programs that do not include overnight stays are also possible. Programs occur through the school year. Schools can reserve dates up to two years in advance. We



recommend that schools schedule at least one year in advance. Fees range from \$120-\$210 per student.

All the Rivers Run, Level I

Grades 4-6

Students discover the Cuyahoga River watershed; explore the river, ponds, meadows, and forests; conduct water quality tests; explore a sustainably built building; and apply their knowledge to the design of a dream building. Students learn concepts of energy flow, biodiversity, inter-relationships, cycles, ecosystems, change, and sustainability.

All the Rivers Run, Level II

Grades 7-8

Through a week of discovery, the students examine how humans have impacted the environment. Students learn how to assess stream health, explore basic concepts of storm water management, and are challenged with the task of designing a housing development using low-impact development strategies.

Seeds of Learning

Grades 4-6

Students learn about farming in the Cuyahoga Valley and explore

the question, “Where does our food come from?” The question challenges students to explore how food consumption impacts personal well-being, the environment, and local economies.

Soar into Science

Grades 6-8

Students engage in citizen science and study local bird populations through data collection, analysis, and interpretation. Students discover biodiversity and how habitat, healthy waters, and climate change can impact some of our more common bird species.

Summer Environmental Education Academy

The Summer Environmental Education Academy is designed for rising 9th-grade students. It incorporates academic enrichment through field-based learning experiences designed to improve academic skills. This program is offered in partnership with school districts with the goal of increasing student success in the 9th grade. Please call for details.

Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center



Courtesy CCVNP



NPS / TED TOTTH

Day Programs

Day programs are scheduled through Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center and conducted at sites throughout the park, as well as in local schools. The listing includes the recommended grade levels, but programs can be adapted to your needs. Programs occur September through June. Call 330-657-2796 extension 100 to schedule.

Among The Trees

Grades 2-7

Uncover clues about the inhabitants

of local fields and forests and learn how both of these natural habitats change with time. \$6 per student.

At Water's Edge

Grades 2-7

Learn what's living beneath the surface of a pond. Understand how these organisms depend on each other for survival. \$6 per student.

Low Bridge Everybody Down

Grade 4

Students will learn about the history

and importance of the Ohio & Erie Canal while helping operate a working canal lock and hiking on the Towpath Trail. \$6 per student.

Grade 8

Students will explore how the Ohio & Erie Canal impacted growth of Ohio's economy and population; how the canal connected Ohio to the larger nation; and specifically how the canal encouraged entrepreneurship, business growth, and diversity. \$6 per student.

Naturally Diverse Field Trip Package

Grades 2-5

Learn about biodiversity here in Ohio! The series begins with preparatory activities in your classroom, followed by two programs in the park. Students will visit pond and forest habitats to experience the variety of life that makes up a healthy ecosystem and explore adaptations for survival, energy flow, food webs, and more. \$15 per student.

Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center

Nobody Likes Me

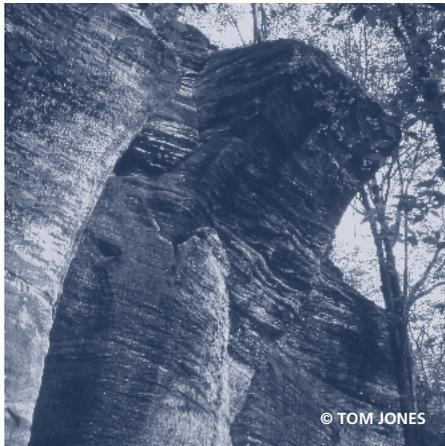
Preschool-kindergarten

Unpopular animal characters bemoan their unfair reputation with children. Learn the positive traits of bees, bats, earthworms, and spiders through science, craft, and music. This program can travel to your school. \$6 per student.

Really Big Rocks

Preschool-kindergarten

Step into a wondrous place of huge rocks, evergreens, and moss. A hike below the Ledges is always special. How were these rocks made? Do they change? \$6 per student.



Rockin' at the Run

Grades 4-8

Hike along Haskell Run to the Ledges looking for evidence of how geologic forces have shaped the landscape and what environments formed the rock layers. \$6 per student.

Ways of the Whittlesey

Grades 3-5

Discover the culture of these and other American Indians who once inhabited this region. Practice your hunting skills, grind corn, and listen to American Indian stories. This program can travel to your school. \$6 per student.

Who's Hiding?

Preschool-Grade 1

Who lives in these woods? We'll search together for animal homes, tracks, scat, and other signs of forest critters. These clues reveal how animals survive in the woods. \$6 per student.

Winter Blues

Preschool-Grade 1

Animal puppets discuss their feelings

about winter and learn what changes spring will bring. This program can travel to your school. \$6 per student.



Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center

Teacher Professional Development

CVEEC offers multi- and single-day professional development opportunities. The extended experiences go deep into a topic and promote problem-based teaching skills. Shorter experiences let teachers build their knowledge and toolbox of activities for the classroom. Additional sessions may be listed at www.conservancyforcvnp.org

To register, call 330-657-2796 extension 100.

Great Lakes Earth Partnership for Schools Workshop

Monday, June 22- Friday, June 26 and Saturday, September 26, 2015

Learn how to use the outdoors as a classroom to teach about native ecosystems and transform your schoolyard into a learning lab. \$150 fee includes instruction, materials, curriculum guide, and three graduate credits from University of Wisconsin.



Beaver lodge in canal
© TOM JONES

9 a.m.-3 p.m. each day. Please register by June 1.

Rambling Along the River

October 16, 2015 (NEOEA Day)
Hike along the historic Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail and practice the work of a water quality scientist. Explore the story of the Cuyahoga

River and bring hands-on lessons back to the classroom. Fee \$25.

9 a.m.-12 p.m. Family members welcome.

Learning History Locally

Friday, November 13- Sunday, November 15

Learn to more effectively teach



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Ohio history using problem-based learning, primary source documents, and local historic resources. Sessions are led by local history faculty and experts in history pedagogy. Create problem-based lesson plans to share at a follow-up meeting in the spring. Earn two graduate degree credits. Pre-registration required. Fee: \$175. Stanford House, 4 p.m. Friday-12 p.m. Sunday.

Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center



Courtesy CCVNP

Project WET

Friday, October 9, 2015

Saturday, April 9, 2016

Spend the day participating in activities from an award-winning curriculum. Take home your copy of the Project WET 2.0 Curriculum Guide full of activities for your students on watersheds, water quality,

and water conservation. \$25.
9a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Watershed Stories Workshop

Friday, April 15-Sunday,

April 17, 2016

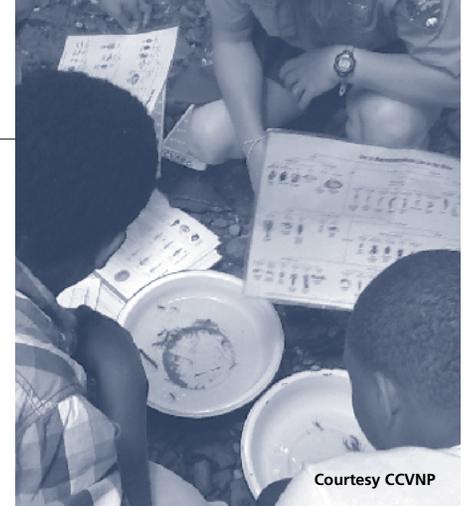
Learn to create lesson plans around

the Cuyahoga Valley watershed, storm water management issues, and methods to assess water quality and stream health.

\$175 includes instruction, meals, and lodging for the weekend workshop; materials and curriculum guides; and two graduate credits. 4 p.m. Friday-12 p.m. Sunday. Attendees must also take the Project Wet course on Saturday, April 9, 2016, but do not have to pay the extra \$25 fee.

School District Presentations

A park ranger can present a session at your school during a professional development day or faculty meeting. We can introduce opportunities for place-based learning in Cuyahoga Valley National Park or present environmental education curricula such as Project WET, Project Wild, Healthy Water Healthy People, or Leopold Education Project. Programs are free but a fee will be charged for curriculum guides. Subject to availability. Call 330-657-2796 extension 113.



Courtesy CCVNP

Teacher Ranger Teacher Program

*Applications accepted starting
in February*

Teachers can spend a summer in the Cuyahoga Valley and then bring the lessons of the park back to their students through the Teacher Ranger Teacher (TRT) program. Teachers learn about the park, participate in a webinar about lesson planning, develop a lesson for their school, assist the park with an education project, and increase their understanding of place-based learning. Priority is given to K-12 teachers from Title 1 schools. Stipends and graduate credit are available. Visit www.nps.gov/cuva/ or call extension 330-657-2796 extension 113.

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad

is a non-profit organization that operates passenger rail service on the historic route of the Valley Railway. Education programs aboard the train are scheduled through Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad and presented by National Park Service rangers and volunteers. Wheelchair accessible passenger cars are available.

All programs are two hours in length. They are offered March-May. Programs are \$7 per child. One adult chaperone is free for every 10 children. Additional adults are \$9 each. Scholarship opportunities are available for qualified schools. Please ask when booking your program.

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad

P.O. Box 158
Peninsula, Ohio 44264

www.cvsr.com

To schedule programs, call
800-468-4070 extension 232



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Deer's Ears

Preschool-kindergarten

Explore your five senses on a fun-filled train ride through the national park. Along the route, we'll answer the questions that little minds want to know: Is your nose as good as a coyote's? Can you hear as well as a deer? Are your eyes as sharp as an owl? Are your taste buds the same as a raccoon? Is your sense of touch similar to a river otter? \$7 per student.

All Aboard For Animals

Kindergarten-Grade 3

Climb aboard Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad for a journey of discovery

and revelation in Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Park rangers and volunteers will share pelts, skulls and stories of the animals who call the park home. \$7 per student.

Are We There Yet?

Grades 4-6

Are We There Yet? explores the history of transportation in Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Students will experience a historical form of transportation while participating in interactive activities that explore how different modes of transportation have changed the landscape and the lives of those who have lived and traveled here. \$7 per student.

Explore the Underground Railroad

Grades 5-8

Take a journey through the harsh realities that were the Underground Railroad. Traveling through an area utilized by runaway slaves, students will participate in hands-on and interactive activities. Join park rangers and costumed characters as they draw your students into a complex period of history when individuals used their lives to change the world. \$7 per student.

Countryside Conservancy



Countryside Conservancy connects people, food, and land by increasing public awareness of how food and farming impact personal, community, and environmental health, and by inspiring personal commitment to building a resilient, sustainable food culture.

Countryside has worked with the National Park Service to reestablish working family farms in the Cuyahoga Valley. It also manages three thriving farmers' markets and offers education programs.

Countryside Conservancy
2179 Everett Road
Peninsula, Ohio 44264

To schedule programs,
call: 330-657-2542 extension 225

www.cvcountryside.org
hroszczyk@cvcountryside.org



Countryside Kids and Farm Tours

Work with Countryside to customize educational experiences for your classroom. We can help create exciting, hands-on days of learning that focus on local food, farming, and sustainability. Opportunities include trips to working farms in Cuyahoga Valley National Park to give students a chance to experience agriculture

up close and learn about the sustainability of our local food system. All age groups are welcome.

Technical Assistance

From helping to secure sourcing for local food in the cafeteria, to finding in-classroom speakers, Countryside provides reliable support to schools and educational networks.



Train the Trainer through Countryside U

Countryside offers educational programming for farmers, backyard gardeners, and home cooks through the Countryside U. Educators are invited to participate to build skills that they can use with their students. Visit www.cvcountryside.org/countryside-u-classes for current offerings.



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Serving the Visitors to America's
National Parks and Other Public Trusts

Eastern National promotes the public's understanding and support of America's national parks by providing quality educational experiences, products, and services. It supports education at Cuyahoga Valley National Park by funding this publication.