



# FREE and FUN Curriculum-Based Programs



*These opportunities for Kindergarten through 5th grades challenge students with hands-on learning experiences that are correlated with North Carolina elementary curriculum standards. Each program enhances classroom learning by using Great Smoky Mountains National Park's cultural and/or natural resources as teaching tools. Students have the opportunity to make real-world connections with science and history, while having fun at the same time!*

## Program Description

## North Carolina Essentials

### Kindergarten

#### *Explore with Your Senses! Classroom*

Students will explore the Mountain Farm Museum and neighboring river and forest. Using their senses to learn about this protected place, students are introduced to the history and wildlife of the National Park.

**Locations:** Oconaluftee Visitor Center

### Science

K.P.2 - Physical properties

K.P.2.1

K.P.2.2

EX K.P.2.2

K.L.1 - Animal characteristics

K.L.1.1

### First Grade

#### *Have to Have a Habitat Classroom*

Great Smoky Mountains National Park is a special area that provides habitats for many of North Carolina's native plants and animals. Students explore the park's habitats while discussing how they can help protect their National Park.

**Locations:** Deep Creek Picnic Area near Bryson City; Collins Creek Picnic Area

### Science

1.E.2 - Physical properties of Earth

1.E.2.2

1.L.1 - Environment characteristics and human behavior

1.L.1.1

1.L.1.2

1.L.1.3



## Program Description

### Second Grade

#### *History and Culture*

Students study communities as they tour Mingus Mill and learn the role corn played in lives of local residents 100+ years ago. Students will also learn how the forest was a supermarket and a drugstore and make a wooden toy to take home.

**Location:** Mingus Mill

## North Carolina Essentials

### Social Studies

- 2.H.1 - Information about the past  
2.H.1.2, 2.H.1.3
- 2.G.2 - Environment interactions  
2.G.1, 2.G.2
- 2.E.1 - Economic concepts  
2.E.1.1, 2.E.1.4
- 2.C&G.2 - Roles of citizens  
2.C&G.2.2
- 2.C.1 - Community influences  
2.C.2.1

### Science

- EX.2.L.2 - Ecosystem  
EX.2.L.2.3

### Third Grade

#### *What Makes Great Smokies Great?*

Quiet trails and mountain streams provide the backdrop for students to discover soil properties, plant adaptations, and the environmental issues facing the park. Lifecycles and habitats are a constant focus of the hands-on activities while stewardship is the underlying theme during discussions.

**Locations:** Collins Creek Picnic Area; Deep Creek Picnic Area near Bryson City

### Science

- 3.L.2 - Plant survival  
3.L.2.1-3.L.2.4

### Fourth Grade

#### *Mountain Farm Museum*

Students study rural life in the 1800's by working in a blacksmith shop, cooking at an open hearth, and studying artifacts. Through this exposure, students learn about challenges and rewards of preserving and protecting our heritage and public spaces.

**Locations:** Mountain Farm Museum (at Oconaluftee Visitor Center)

**Offered in Spring ONLY**

### Social Studies

- 4.H.1 - North Carolina events  
4.H.1.3
- 4.G.1 - Growth and development  
4.G.1.2 - 4.G.1.4
- 4.E.1 - Market economy  
4.E.1.1
- 4.C.1 - Cultural groups  
4.C.1.1

### Fifth Grade

#### *On Top of Old Smoky*

Clingmans Dome serves as the high elevation classroom where students examine the ecology of sky-island habitats. The mountain top is also a great venue for students to build their understanding of weather and high elevation ecosystems both through direct observation and through the use of maps, data, and activities.

**Location:** Clingmans Dome

### Science

- 5.P.1 - Force and motion  
5.P.1.1
- 5.P.2 - Matter  
5.P.2.1, 5.P.2.3,  
EX.5.P.2.3
- 5.E.1 - Weather patterns  
5.E.1.1 - 5.E.1.3
- 5.L.1 - Organism structure  
EX.5.L.1.2
- 5.L.2 - Interdependence  
5.L.2.1 - 5.L.2.3,  
EX.5.L.2., EX.5.L.3



*All Programs Are Free  
Bus assistance money may be available*

*For additional information or to sign your class up, call today!*

*Ranger Beth  
828-497-1907  
mcwright@nps.gov*

