

Classroom Programs



Can't get a bus? Worried about the weather? We can bring a program to your classroom! Choose from one of the many classroom programs that we offer for grades K-12. We request that only one class is scheduled at a time, however we can arrange to visit more than one classroom during a school day. The following list of programs is a general selection of programs that are offered for the classroom. All programs are limited to a maximum of 36 students/session. More than one session can be scheduled in one day.

Grades K-2

At Home in My Habitat

Students discover what makes a good home for an animal in RMNP. They discover that even though habitats can look very different, they all have what the plants and animals need for survival: food, water, shelter/space.

45 min. Target Grade: 1st - 2nd

Investigating Invertebrates

Students discover the tiny and amazing world of animals without backbones. Students will learn how to identify an insect, explore the environment around their school, and learn about the important roles of bugs in our world.

1 hr. Target Grade: 2nd

Getting Ready for Winter

Students explore the three strategies that animals have to survive the winter in Colorado: migrating, hibernating and tolerating.

30 min. Target Grade: K-1st

Flaky Formations

Students investigate snow, discover how snowflakes are formed, and learn about the role that snow plays in the winter world of the Rocky Mountains.

1 hr. Target Grade: 2nd

What Rangers Do

Park rangers have many different jobs. Working together, the rangers of Rocky Mountain National Park help to keep the plants, animals, and visitors safe. Students get to dress up as different rangers and learn about each of their jobs. 45 min.

Grades 3-5

Ecosystems of Rocky Mountain National Park

Students investigate three of the ecosystems found in RMNP. They will use the scientific method to help them determine where animals live in the park and why.

1 hr. Target Grades: 4th - 5th

The Mystery of the Stolen Cone

Students play the roles of animals in RMNP and participate in a trial to discover who stole the pine squirrel's cone. They investigate clues and learn about animal adaptations.

1 hr. Target Grades: 4th - 5th

Story of the Rocks

Students will get up close and personal with their very own rock. They will learn about the journeys that rocks can take through the rock cycle and how rocks reveal stories about how our earth has changed then write their own rock story.

1 hr. Target Grades: 3rd

Unlocking the Secrets of Maps

Students will identify landform features on three different maps. They will unlock the secrets of the maps by asking why the landforms exist and using models to discover how they formed.

1 hr. Target Grades: 5th

Our National Parks

Students will learn all about The National Park Service and its significance. They will discover the different types of rangers in the park and the tools that they use to protect and preserve the resources. 1hr. Target Grades: 3rd - 5th

The Tolerator Challenge (W)

Students will face the tolerator challenge and attempt to conserve enough energy to survive the winter in the Rocky Mountains.

1 hr. Target Grades: 4th-5th

Grades 6-12

Issue Investigation

Students investigate one of the management challenges faced by the park. Students explore the issue, review the data, and share their own conclusions about how the issue could be managed. Current issues include elk management, pine beetle management, and climate change. 1 hr.

Writers of the Rocky Mountains

Students learn about some of the authors that were inspired by and shaped the destiny of Rocky Mountain National Park. Students read and reflect on writings by the authors, and write their own story to inspire people to visit a place that they love. 1 hr.

Careers in the Park Service

Students will learn about the career possibilities with the park service and about all the possibilities for getting a foot in the door, beginning with HS internship programs. 1 hr.

The Importance of Parks

Students will learn about our collection of national parks and the significance of our parks in preserving our natural and cultural heritage. 1 hr.