



Educational Materials and Programs

IDNR Division of Education

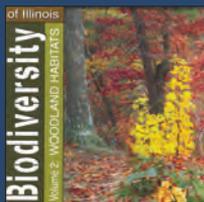


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Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Division of Education
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702-1271
217-524-4126
dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

ENTICE

Environment and Nature Training Institute for Conservation Education



Enhance your teaching by including Illinois' natural resources in your lessons. The ENTICE program from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) can show you how!

What is ENTICE?

The ENTICE program:

- provides training for educators through hands-on, interdisciplinary workshops led by natural resources professionals and other educators.
- supplies educators with easy-to-use natural resources educational materials and activities that are correlated to the Illinois Learning Standards.
- involves participants in experiences that promote effective stewardship of Illinois' natural resources.
- is approved to offer Continuing Professional Development Units for teachers.
- schedules workshops statewide on a variety of topics.
- conducts online versions of many workshops.



For a workshop schedule and/or to register, visit <http://dnr.state.il.us/education/entice>. For more information, call (217-524-4126) or email (dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov) the IDNR Division of Education.

Experience ENTICE!

Earth Day in the Parks

Show students that they can make a difference in their world by participating in *Earth Day in the Parks*. A cooperative project of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the Illinois Conservation Foundation, *Earth Day in the Parks* provides an opportunity for students to perform meaningful natural resources stewardship activities at an Illinois state park.



- The event is held annually on a day in April.
- Participating students/teachers are selected through an application process.
- Projects are determined by staff at the state park and may include, but not be limited to, planting native wildflowers and trees, constructing and installing bird nesting boxes, removing invasive exotic plant species and developing woodland pools for amphibians.



- Students are encouraged to return to the site to see the results and to study how native wildlife species are affected by the project.
- The application form and the list of participating state parks is posted on the IDNR Division of Education Web page in mid- to late-December. Applications are accepted between January 1 and February 28 each year for that year's event.

For more information visit the IDNR Division of Education's Internet site at <http://dnr.state.il.us/education>.

Illinois Biodiversity Studies through the Collaboratory Project

Join teachers and students from throughout Illinois as they take to the outdoors (and indoors) to collect data about Illinois' wildlife! Three projects are available through this cooperative program from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' (IDNR) Division of Education and Northwestern University's Collaboratory Project. Students observe and collect data about the species, then record and analyze the results as well as communicate with other classes in the state who are working on the same projects. Scientists monitor the results and interact with classes as needed. All data entry, analysis and discussion occur online.

Illinois Biodiversity Squirrel Study

The *Illinois Biodiversity Squirrel Study* offers teachers and their students of **grades kindergarten through 12** the opportunity to participate in a statewide, year-long study of three Illinois squirrel species: the fox squirrel; gray squirrel; and red squirrel.

Illinois Biodiversity Spider Study

In the *Illinois Biodiversity Spider Study* for **fourth through eighth grade** teachers and their students, as many as six spider species commonly found in and around schools can be researched.

Illinois Biodiversity Frog and Toad Study

The *Illinois Biodiversity Frog and Toad Study* will allow your students of **grades four through eight** to help monitor six species of frogs and toads in the state by listening for their calls. Monitoring is conducted once a month from March through May or June.

Enrollment

To enroll in the IDNR *Illinois Biodiversity* studies, please visit the Collaboratory Project Web site at <http://collaboratory.nunet.net> and click the "Participate" button (if you do not already have an account). Follow the instructions to create a new Collaboratory account. Once your account is approved, please send a message to Collaboratory Staff (cstaff) using your Collaboratory account, stating which project you are interested in participating in and what grade your students are in. You'll soon be helping us monitor Illinois species!



Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant Program

What's It All About?

Educators may apply for funding to create or enhance schoolyard habitat areas or nearby sites. Grants of up to \$600 are awarded.

Eligibility

The program is available to Illinois schools, nature centers and youth groups.

Important Dates

Applications must be postmarked by November 30. Distribution of funds will occur by February 1.

To Apply

An application form may be downloaded at the following Internet address.
<http://dnr.state.il.us/education/classrm/grants.htm>

For more information, contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Division of Education (217-524-4126; dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov). Major funding provided by the Jadel Family Foundation and administered by the Illinois Conservation Foundation.

Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grant Program

What?

Teachers in Illinois, including home-schooling teachers, may apply to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' (IDNR) Division of Education to receive funding for natural resources-related field trips. There is a \$500 application limit per teacher.

Where?

Places to visit include state parks, museums and nature centers. The field trip destination must be in Illinois.

Why?

The field trip should be for the purpose of studying some aspect of Illinois' biodiversity.

When?

Applications must be postmarked by January 31. Major funding has been provided by the Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation and the Independence Tube Corporation. Funding is administered by the Illinois Conservation Foundation.

For More Information

For additional information, contact the IDNR Division of Education at 217-524-4126 or dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov. An application form may be downloaded at the following Internet address.

<http://dnr.state.il.us/education/classrm/grants.htm>

Grants are available pending receipt of funding.

CD-ROMs and DVD

How Can I Obtain These Items?

The CD-ROMs and DVD are available to teachers in Illinois by written request on school letterhead. Mail request to the address on page 2. The CD-ROMs and DVD may be borrowed for short-term use from lending locations throughout Illinois. Visit the Web page at the following address for a list of lending locations. <http://dnr.state.il.us/education/classrm/teach.htm>

CD-ROMs

All CD-ROMs are cross-platformed to run on both Windows® and Macintosh® operating systems. Lessons are correlated to the Illinois Learning Standards and, where applicable, the Illinois Early Learning Standards.

Aquatic Illinois



Splash into Illinois' aquatic habitats with the *Aquatic Illinois* CD-ROM. Designed for use with students of **grades five through nine**, this CD-ROM includes lessons, teacher background information, a video, frog calls and more. Lessons cover a variety of topics from aquatic habitats and their inhabitants to uses of water, aquatic history, aquatic adaptations and exotic species.

The calls of 12 species of Illinois frogs and toads are also accessible. This supplemental educational tool will allow you to incorporate Illinois-specific information into your existing curriculum.

Illinois Biodiversity



You and your students can discover the wonders of our state with the *Illinois Biodiversity* CD-ROM. You'll find the innovative lessons of *Illinois Biodiversity Basics*, scenes of wildlife and habitats in the *Biodiversity of Illinois* video and learning opportunities in the *Biodiversity of Illinois Video: Supplemental Activities*. This CD-ROM is designed for use with **grades five through 10**.

Illinois Birds



The *Illinois Birds* CD-ROM offers lessons, background information, a video and an audio section to help you teach students about these amazing animals. Additional supplemental materials, including the *One Bird–Two Habitats* unit on Neotropical migratory birds, are also available. Designed for use with students of **grades four through six**, *Illinois Birds* makes learning about the world of birds fun and easy.

Kids for Trees



Be a tree teacher with the *Kids for Trees* CD-ROM. Designed for use with students of **grades PreK through three**, this CD-ROM includes lessons, teacher background information, videos and more. Topics include biodiversity, why leaves change color, people who work in the woods and how to plant a tree.

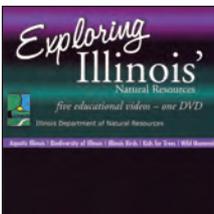
Wild Mammals of Illinois



Discover the fascinating mammal species that live in our state with the *Wild Mammals of Illinois* CD-ROM. Designed for use with students of **grades four through six**, this CD-ROM includes lessons, teacher background information, videos and mammal sounds. Teach about mammal signs, raising mammal young, mammal teeth, predators and prey, threatened and endangered species and other topics.

DVD

Exploring Illinois' Natural Resources



Take your students on a tour of Illinois' natural heritage without leaving the classroom with this DVD. The *Exploring Illinois' Natural Resources* DVD contains five videos that can be used as supplemental tools in a variety of ways.

Biodiversity of Illinois CD-ROM Series

The three CD-ROMs in this series from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) are targeted to **grades five through nine** and are designed in a searchable, field guide format. They are available to teachers in Illinois by written request on school letterhead. Please list requested CD-ROMs by title. Mail request to the address on page 2.

Features of These CD-ROMs Include:

- at least one color image of each species;
- information about life history, Illinois range, size, common name, scientific name, status, habitat and more;
- sounds and tracks produced by selected species;
- descriptions and photographs of habitats;
- cross-platformed to run on both Windows® and Macintosh® operating systems;
- formatted for use on in-school network.



Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume I: Aquatic Habitats

Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume II: Woodland Habitats

Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume III: Prairie and Edge Habitats

These CD-ROMs are also available for loan from lending locations statewide and through the Illinois State Library system. Visit the IDNR Web site at <http://dnr.state.il.us/education/classrm/teach.htm> for a complete list of lending locations.

Supplemental Materials

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources' (IDNR) Division of Education offers a good variety of Illinois-specific, supplemental educational materials.



Posters

Choose from many posters, most with information on both sides. Some posters are available in both English- and Spanish-language versions.

Activity Books and Worksheets

Several activity books, including Spanish-language versions, and numerous supplemental worksheets may be obtained. Most are available in classroom sets.

Other Information and Lessons

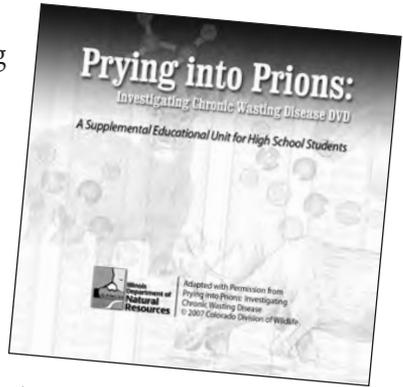
For a complete list of educational materials and ordering information, visit <http://dnr.state.il.us/teachkids>.

Still have questions? Call (217-524-4126) or email (dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov) the IDNR Division of Education for assistance.

Prying into Prions: Investigating Chronic Wasting Disease DVD

A Supplemental Unit for High School Students

This supplemental unit for high school students explores prion diseases, including chronic wasting disease. In six lessons, students learn about transmissible spongiform encephalopathies by examining the role of proteins in organisms, the chemistry and properties of proteins, the genetic processes that create proteins, and how proteins can become pathogenic. Students also



study how chronic wasting disease is affecting Illinois' white-tailed deer herd and what control measures are being taken. Adapted with permission from the Colorado Division of Wildlife's original unit, the lessons are designed to be taught in sequence. A video is included. All lessons are correlated to the Illinois Learning Standards. **This unit is only available to high school teachers in Illinois.** Request should be made in writing on school letterhead and mailed to the IDNR Division of Education, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702.

Online Order Form

<http://dnr.state.il.us/teachkids>

Posters, activity books, activity sheets, brochures, books and other information are available through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' (IDNR) online order form.

The search feature allows you to quickly find all materials related to your selected topic. Each of the hundreds of items listed includes a description and image. It's your one-stop shopping location!

Have questions? Call (217-524-4126) or email (dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov) the IDNR Division of Education.

Illinois' Natural Resources Trading Cards

The IDNR Division of Education provides several sets of *Illinois' Natural Resources Trading Cards* and their accompanying poster for teachers to use with their students. Each card contains a photograph and information about an Illinois animal, plant, fungus, protist, bacterium, rock, mineral or fossil. The accompanying poster shows all the cards in the set and provides an activity and suggestions on how to use the cards to help your students meet the Illinois Learning Standards. To order, send a written request on school letterhead. Please specify the title and set number. Check <http://dnr.state.il.us/teachkids> for the latest set number. Only one of each set of cards is available per teacher. Send your request to IDNR Education, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702.



Resources Trunks

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources' (IDNR) Division of Education has compiled resources trunks on seven topics: *Aquatic Illinois*; *Illinois Birds*; *Illinois Fossils*; *Illinois' Insects and Spiders*; *Illinois Trees*; *Illinois Wild Mammals*; and *People and Animals from Illinois' Past*.

Each of the trunks is a large, plastic container filled with supplemental items to enhance your lessons. Educators can borrow these resources trunks from locations throughout Illinois. The current list of lending locations for each trunk can be found on the IDNR Web site at <http://dnr.state.il.us/education/classrm/teach.htm>. A two-week loan period is suggested. All lessons and activities are correlated to the Illinois Learning Standards and, where applicable, the Illinois Early Learning Standards. The trunk items can be modified for grade levels other than those shown in the "Suggested Grades" section.

For more information, contact the IDNR Division of Education (217-524-4126 dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov).



Aquatic Illinois Trunk

The *Aquatic Illinois Trunk* includes many items to help you teach about the biological, historical, chemical and other aspects of water. Books, posters, water sampling tools, CD-ROMs, videos, DVDs and activities are among the contents of this trunk. Suggested Grades: 5 - 9.

Illinois Birds Trunk



Studying birds can jump-start your students' interest in nature and conservation. The *Illinois Birds Trunk* is a great way to enhance your lessons. This trunk is filled with field guides, books, track and egg replicas, videos, DVDs, CDs with bird songs and calls and even bird replicas that sing! Suggested Grades: PreK - 8.

Illinois Fossils Trunk

Borrow an *Illinois Fossils Trunk* to help your students explore Illinois' past. Each trunk contains fossil molds, a fossil hunt kit, a video, a fossil reference collection, field guides, posters and more information. Suggested Grades: 7 - 10.



Illinois' Insects/Spiders Trunk

Insects and spiders fascinate students. Encourage them to learn more about these organisms by using the resources in this trunk. Books, CD-ROMs, student activities, field guides, posters, insect/spider observation equipment and a video are just some of the items included. Suggested Grades: PreK - 6.

Online Graduate-Level Courses

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources' (IDNR) Division of Education in cooperation with Illinois universities offers a series of online graduate-level courses. These classes are designed to educate teachers about the natural resources of the state and how to incorporate the information into their curricula. For more information, visit <http://dnr.state.il.us/education>.

List Server

Let the IDNR's Division of Education keep you updated about new products, workshop schedules, grants available and more items of interest by signing up for the Division of Education's list server. Enrollment is free, and you may leave the list at any time. To join, send an email message with the text "subscribe education Your Name" in the body of the message to imailsrv@idnrteachkids.com. For example, you would type "subscribe education May Apple" if your name is May Apple. Sign up today!

Podcasts

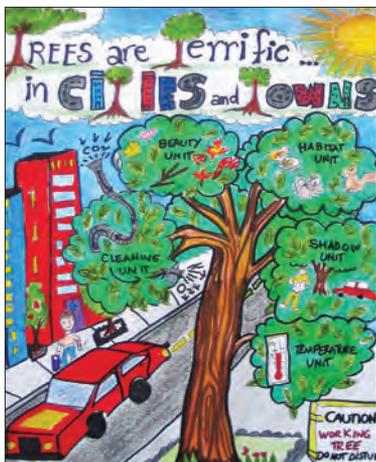
Download information now and listen to it later with the IDNR Division of Education podcasts available through the iTunes Store©! Subscribe and you'll automatically receive updates. Visit <http://phobos.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewPodcast?id'268684806> to listen and subscribe or use the RSS versions at <http://dnr.state.il.us/education/podcasts.htm>.

Federal Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest



- This annual educational program and art contest highlights wetland and waterfowl conservation.
- The contest is open to all Illinois students, grades kindergarten - 12.
- An informational packet is available for download at <http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck/ArtContest.htm>
- Entries must be received by March 15.

National Arbor Day Poster Contest



- Forests, tree diversity and tree planting are promoted through this annual educational program and art contest.
- Open to all Illinois fifth-grade students, entries are due by February 20.
- An informational packet is mailed each fall to Illinois schools that contain fifth-grade classes. Additional packets are available through the order form at <http://dnr.state.il.us/teachkids>.

For more information about either of these contests, contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Division of Education (217-524-4126; dnr.teachkids@illinois.gov).

http://dnr.state.il.us

Access a wide variety of educational materials and information through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Web site.



Educator Materials and Information
Online Order Form
ENTICE
Podcasts
Grant Applications
Online Workshops
New This Month!
Interactive Pages
Resources Trunks Lending Locations
Contests
SMARTBoard™ Activities
For Your Garden

Visit often!
Updates made regularly.

Need more information? Contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Division of Education at the following address.



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Equal opportunity to participate in programs of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies is available to all individuals regardless of race, sex, national origin, disability, age, religion or other non-merit factors. If you believe you have been discriminated against, contact the funding source's civil rights office and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, IDNR, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271; 217-785-0067; TTY 217-782-9175. This information may be provided in an alternative format if required. Contact the IDNR Clearinghouse at 217-782-7498 for assistance. Printed by the authority of the State of Illinois. PRT XXXXXX - XXM - 11/08.

