

Chattahoochee NATURE CENTER

Where Nature Comes Alive!



2011-2012 School Programs

The mission of the Chattahoochee Nature Center is to provide unique learning experiences focused on the Chattahoochee River that connect people to the natural world and empower them to positively impact their local environments.

9135 Willeo Road, Roswell, GA 30075 770-992-2055
www.chattnaturecenter.org



Come explore the Chattahoochee Nature Center with your class for a fun-filled educational experience your students won't ever forget! Can't make the trip to visit us? No problem, book an Outreach Program and we will bring the learning and fun right into your classroom! Either way, a CNC naturalist will lead your class on a great day of exploration. School programs are correlated to the Georgia Performance Standards, and include hands-on activities and pre and post-curriculum.

Chattahoochee NATURE CENTER

Onsite Field Studies 2011-2012

Onsite Programs

All onsite programs are conducted at the Chattahoochee Nature Center and are a 2 hour and 30 minute experience. Each program includes a guided forest hike, an up-close animal encounter with one of our non-releasable wildlife, use of the Nature Center grounds (including picnic areas, gardens and the aviaries), and a guided tour of our Discovery Center. The following programs are GPS correlated for each grade.

Elementary School – Grades K – 5

PreK: *Discover Nature*

Young children receive an introduction to what is and is not a part of nature by using their senses to discover the natural world around them. GPS: SKCS1a; SKCS3a; SKCS4a,b,c

K: *Nature Same and Different*

Children are encouraged to investigate the similarities and differences in plants, animals, and rocks. GPS: SKCS4a,b,c; SKCS5a; SKL1a,b,c; SKL2a,b,c; SKE2a,c; MKM1a,c,d

Grade 1: *Basic Needs of Plants and Animals*

Focusing on the basic needs of Georgia native plants and animals, students will learn how they are able to survive and thrive in the wild. GPS: S1CS3a; S1L1a,b,c,d

Grade 2: *Life Cycles*

What is a tadpole? Journey through the life cycle of several Georgia native plants and animals to find out. GPS: S2CS4b,c,d; S2L1a,d

Grade 2: *Creek and Cherokee I*

This program explores how the native peoples used the land, river, wildlife, and other natural resources for hunting, farming, medicine, shelter, clothing, transportation, music, and games. GPS: SS2G2a,b,c,e; SS2H2a,b

Grade 3: *Georgia Eco-Regions (Habitats)*

Learn about the different Eco-regions of Georgia and the adaptations of plants and animals in the different habitats of these regions. GPS: S3L1a,b,c,d; S3L2a,b

Grade 3: *Pollution Solutions*

This hands-on experience demonstrates the various types of pollution and their causes and effects. Students then discover some possible solutions and recognize ways to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. GPS: S3L1d; S3L2a,b

Grade 4: *Web of Life*

Students examine the connections between living and nonliving elements in nature while focusing on specific eating behaviors of animals and examples of food webs. GPS: S4L1a,b,c,d; S4L2a

Grade 4: *Creek and Cherokee II*

Students gain a deeper understanding of how the native peoples who inhabited this area of Georgia used the land, river, wildlife, and other natural resources for their survival. GPS: SS4G2a, SS4H1b

Grade 5: *Vertebrate Classification*

What do a Brown Thrasher, Largemouth Bass, Green Treefrog, Gopher Tortoise and Right Whale all have in common? A backbone! Students will learn how scientists classify the five vertebrate groups. GPS: S5L1a

Middle School – Grades 6 – 8

Grade 6 – Grade 8: *Dichotomous Key Tree ID*

Students will create and use a dichotomous key to identify native trees. GPS: S7L1a,b

Grade 7: *Advanced Web of Life*

Students gain a deeper understanding of how living organisms are inter-related and the fragile balance of food chains within a food web. GPS: S7L4a,b,c,d

High School – Grade 9 -12

Forest Ecology and Dichotomous Key Tree ID

Students will create and use a dichotomous key to identify native trees and learn about forest ecology. GPS: SCSh3b,c,e,f

Contact the Director of Education to customize your program's needs for your class. t.howick@chattnaturecenter.org 770-992-2055 x235

Chattahoochee NATURE CENTER

Onsite Field Studies 2011-2012

Great For All Ages

These additional onsite programs can be adapted to meet your curriculum needs

Wildlife Discovery – K and Up

A general introduction to nature and wildlife for younger visitors, students will explore the native plants and animals of the CNC through hands-on exploration and inquisitive observation. GPS: SKCS3a; SKL1a,b,c; SKL2a,b; S1CS3a; S1L1a,b,c,d; S2CS3a; S2L1a,b,d; S3L1b,c,d; S3L2a,b; S4L1a,b,c,d; S4L2a; S5L1a,b; S7L4a,b,c,d; SB4a,b,c,d,e,f

Nature Journaling & Field Sketching – Grades 3 – 12

This field based experience combines science, writing, and art to help students develop a broader understanding of the natural history of their environment by using the wonderful natural setting at the Chattahoochee Nature Center. Our interactions with nature will reinforce science skills. Science is a process that requires freedom for curiosity and creativity to answer one's questions about the natural world. GPS: S3CS1 a; S3CS5 b; S3CS8 b; S4CS5 b; S4CS8 b; S5CS1 a; S5CS5 b; S6CS1 a; S7CS1 a; S8CS1 a; VA3MC 2a; VA3PR 3b; VA3PR 2a; VA4MC 2a; VA4PR 1e; VA4PR 2a; VA5MC 2a; VA5PR 1e; VA5PR 2a; VA6PR.1a; VA6PR.4d, e; VA6C.2b; VA7PR.1e; VA7C.2b; VAHSVAPR.2a; VAHSVAPR.5a; VAHSVAC.3d; VAHSDRPR.2a; VAHSDRC.3c; VAHSPAC.3c

Raptors – Grade 3 and Up

This program focuses on the birds of prey that call Georgia home. Habitats, adaptations, and conservation issues will be discussed. Hands-on owl pellet dissection is included. GPS: S3L1c,d; S3L1a,b; S4L1a,b,c,d; S4L2a; S5L1a; S5L2a

Reptiles and Amphibians – Grade 2 and Up

Focusing on Georgia native species, students will learn about these fascinating animals while exploring the grounds looking for them in the wild. GPS: S2L1b; S3L1a,b,c,d; S4L1a,b,c,d; S4L2a; S4L1a,b,c,d; S5L1a

Georgia Wildlife Journey – K and Up

A guided tour of the Nature Center's permanent wildlife residents; owls, hawks, snakes, and a beaver are just a few of the animals your group will encounter. GPS: SKL1a,b; SKL2a; S1L1b,d; S2L1a; S3L1c,d; S3L2a,b; S4L1a,b,c,d; S4L2a; S5L1a; S7L4a,b,c,d; SB4f

Insects – Grade 2 and Up

This spring program explores the world of the insects to learn what good things these creatures do for their environment. Second grade and up. GPS: S2CS3a; S2CS4b; S2L1a; S3L1c,d; S3L2a,b; S4L2a

Plants and Trees – Grade 1 and Up

Students discover how plants and trees grow and learn about the relationships between humans, plants and animals. GPS: S1CS4a; S1CS7d; S1L1a,c; S2CS3a; S2CS4b; S4L1a,b,c,d; S5L1b

Chattahoochee NATURE CENTER

Onsite Field Studies 2011-2012

Water Study Programs

Come and investigate the Chattahoochee River Watershed. We have several hands-on, interdisciplinary programs that will have your students pushing up their sleeves for a great day of exploration. The following programs are GPS correlated for each grade. Water programs are limited to 80 student max per time slot.

Elementary School — Grades 3 – 5

Pond Study I

Using dip nets, students collect macroinvertebrates to identify and use them to make inferences about the condition and health of the pond habitat. GPS: S3CS3c; S3L1d; S3L2a,b; S4L1a,b,c,d; S4L2a; S5L1a

Wild Wetlands

Students hike our river wetlands boardwalk to learn about the unique relationships of this very fragile and important ecosystem. GPS: S3L1d; S3L2a,b; S4L1a,b,c,d; S4L2a

Middle and High School — Grades 6 – 12

Advanced Pond Study

Students examine the biodiversity of the Nature Center ponds by sampling the macroinvertebrates that live there. Students will explain impacts of water quality, concept of life cycles and relationships found within the pond habitat. GPS: S6CS2a,b; S7CS2a,b; S7CS4b,c; S7CS5a; S7L4a,b,c; S8CS2a,b; S8CS4b,c; SCSH2a,b; SB4d,f

Wetland Ecology

Using field sampling methods, students will study wetland soils and water to better understand the characteristics of a wetland and the importance of this ecosystem. GPS: S6CS2a,b; S7CS2a,b; S7CS4b; S7CS5a,b; S7L4a,b,c; S8CS2a,b; S8CS5a; SCSH2a; SCSH3b,c; SEC2d, SEC3a,b,c,d,e; SB4c,d,e,f; SEV3e; SEV5d

Service Learning Opportunities at CNC

A variety of service learning opportunities exist at the Chattahoochee Nature Center for both individuals and groups in middle and high school. Please contact our Director of Education for additional information at 770-992-2055 x 235 or refer to our website.

Canoe Trips on the Chattahoochee River

There is no program more hands on than our canoe programs. These 3 hour guided canoe trips introduce students to the Chattahoochee River, its history, current issues surrounding our watershed, and how students can impact the river. Each trip is led by a CNC naturalist and offers a unique introduction to the ecology of the Chattahoochee River. No prior canoeing experience is necessary. Canoe guides are all CPR/First Aid Certified and are experienced paddlers and naturalists. CNC provides all equipment - canoe, paddles, and personal flotation device (PFDs) for participants. Maximum 24 students/teachers. (April to October). \$30 per participant. GPS: SEV5e; SEC2d; SEC5a

High School – Grades 9 – 12

Project H₂O (3 hours 30 minutes)

Bring real world experiences to your students in this hands-on 3 pond comparison on the grounds of CNC. This is a Social and Historical, Chemical & Biological Assessment. Students will sample macroinvertebrates as bioindicators and do chemical testing which includes temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH and nitrate/phosphate levels and delve into social & historical information to understand land use, pollution and the importance of maintaining good water quality in the Chattahoochee River watershed. Class time from 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM, includes a break for snack.

Ideal for AP Environmental Science classes to conduct field base experiences - “students can acquire skills in specific techniques and procedures (such as collecting and analyzing water samples)”.

GPS Reference -History, Science, Math
SCS6-12h3, SCS6-12h4bc, SS8H1a, SS8H2c, SS8G1, S6E3, S6E5, S7L4, S8P1be, SB1a, SB4abd, SC2, SPS6, SES3a, SES6, SEV1-25, M6-8D1, MM1D3a, MC6-12 P4 S5P2, S6E5cehi, S6-12CS4, S7L4, S8P1be, S8CS9, SC-Sabcd, SES6acde, SB4bd, SC2, 5, 7, SEV1ace, SEV4ef, SEV5, SS7L1, S7L4c SEV2a,b,c,d, SEV3a,b,c,d

Chattahoochee NATURE CENTER

Onsite Field Studies 2011-2012

STARLAB Programs

Using an inflatable planetarium, CNC educator will lead students on a journey through the night sky to view constellations and the solar system. Starlab is terrific program to bring to your school. Please inquire about space limitations when booking the Starlab as an outreach program. A Starlab program can be adapted for Astronomy Club meetings or classes.

2nd: *STARLAB I*

Students will learn about the brightness and color of stars as while viewing the constellations. Observe the phases of the moon through a hands-on activity using models. GPS: S2E1a; S2E2d

Grade 4: *STARLAB II*

Students discover the difference between stars and planets and participate in a hands-on activity to learn about the Earth's seasons. GPS: S4E1a,b,c,d; S4E2a,b,c,d

6th: *STARLAB III*

Students will explore our earth's position in the solar system and the solar system's position in the Milky Way. We will also discuss deep sky objects, moon phases, seasons, and lunar and solar eclipses. GPS: S6E2a,b,c

Grades 2 and 4: Ask about combining STARLAB with our Creek and Cherokee programs. Students will first learn about the Creek and Cherokee peoples of Georgia then enter our planetarium for stargazing and listening to Native American myths about the stars. GPS: StarLab GPS plus SS2G2a,b,c,e; SS2H2a,b or SS4G2a, SS4H1b

Schedule and Reservations

Schedule and Reservations for Onsite Programs

For more information or to schedule your program please contact us at scheduling@chattnaturecenter.org or 770-992-2055 x237 for onsite programs, and outreach@chattnaturecenter.org or 770-992-2055 x246 for Outreach programs.

Reservations are taken year-round by email or phone call on a first-come basis. Schedule early to ensure the dates of your choice. Please email us or call between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM and plan approximately 10 – 15 minutes per call. If we are busy or unavailable, please leave a message and we will make every attempt to return your call on the same day.

We can accommodate groups as large as 150 per time slot (9:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. or 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) for a single program unless otherwise noted.

Program Pricing — Onsite Field Studies 2011 — 2012

Onsite, Water, and STARLAB Programs

- \$10 per student
- Two FREE adults per every 28 students
- Additional adults pay \$10

- Project H₂O - \$20 per student -Two FREE adults per every 30 students - Additional adults pay \$20
- Canoe Trip on the Chattahoochee River - (6 – 12) grades (limit 24 per time slot) - \$30 per student

Double program - any combination of programs we offer (except Project H₂O & Canoe Trip) – \$16 per student – two free adults per 30 students - additional adults pay \$16

Scholarships Available. Call us for details.

Chattahoochee NATURE CENTER

Onsite Field Studies 2011-2012

All Onsite Programs Start and End Promptly

9:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. or 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

- 1 hour 15 minute naturalist-led trail program of your choice and animal demo
- 20 minute lower gallery time in the New Discovery Center
- 15 minute break (optional)
- 30 minute self-guided of our wildlife aviaries & grounds and/or lunch in our picnic area (optional)
- Allow time for travel and unloading buses

- All programs occur rain or shine. Please dress for the weather.
- Bring your lunch and enjoy the day—picnic tables available.
- Program reservations require three weeks advance notice
- Project H₂O reservations required five weeks in advance notice
- Deposit of \$100 is required for all program reservations

Planning Your Nature Center Program

Be sure to allow enough time for your trip. Programs last the full time scheduled unless prior arrangements have been made. Please plan additional time to visit restrooms, visit the Nature Store, and picnic. Discovery Center admission is included in the program fee. Because we schedule several groups each day, it is necessary to adhere to a strict schedule. If your group is late we will do everything possible to provide a complete program, but your program may be shortened to end at the scheduled time.

Information Needed When You Email or Call the Scheduling Office

- Organization name, mailing address, phone number
- Contact person's name and email address
- Grade (or age) and number of participants (students and adults)
- Program Choice
- Several possible dates for the program
- Start time of the program you want
- Time you need to be back on the bus to leave CNC
- Your school calendar for reference

Confirmation Packet

After scheduling a program, you will receive an invoice/confirmation letter and teacher pre-visit packet (found on website as a pdf). Please share these materials with other teachers who will be participating in the field study and review the information with your students. Also included will be information about a sample health form, nametags, what to wear, directions to the center, and arrival logistics.

Deposit

- Reservations are guaranteed only after we receive a \$100 deposit
- You have *three weeks* to return the form and deposit to Scheduling (if we do not receive both, your program will be cancelled and become available to other groups)
- We accept checks made payable to CNC. We also accept Visa, Master Card, Discover, and American Express
- *Programs booked less than 3 weeks from the program date will require deposit during time of booking*

Payment

- Balance, minus the deposit, will be due upon arrival
- One form of payment only is accepted for the entire group (*includes additional chaperones*)
- We accept checks made payable to CNC. We also accept Visa, Master Card, Discover, and American Express
- All programs are scheduled for a minimum of ten paying students. If your number drops below ten, you will be required to pay for 10 students
- We require that one person check in and pay for the entire group and must use one form of payment

Cancellation Policy

All programs take place rain or shine. An alternative curriculum is planned in the event of inclement weather. Programs may be rescheduled if space is available, or canceled up to four weeks before your originally scheduled date. It is the responsibility of the scheduling teacher to inform the Chattahoochee Nature Center scheduling office 770-992-2055 x237 or scheduling@chattnaturecenter.org in order to reschedule or cancel. Your deposit will be forfeited for cancellations without at least four weeks notification in writing.

Chattahoochee NATURE CENTER

Outreach Programs 2011-2012

Transportation issues? Not a problem. CNC educators can bring high-quality programming directly into your school. In addition to the large group programs listed below, all of our Onsite Programs (except water programs) can be conducted at your school in individual classrooms. They still include an animal encounter and hands-on activities. We can offer large group programs designed for a gymnasium (STARLAB) or an auditorium setting. All programs are GPS correlated for each grade.

Classroom Programs

All Onsite programs we offer can also be tailored to a classroom setting, and include a live animal encounter.

The Five Part Series

This 3rd grade program includes five one hour visits from the CNC to your classroom over the course of the school-year. Each visit includes a hands-on activity and an animal encounter. Each student receives his/her own journal to use throughout the program. Classes include: Adaptations, Skull Study, Endangered Species, Pollution Solutions, and Nature's Neighborhoods. GPS: S3L2a,b; S3L1a,b,c,d; S3E2a,b

STARLAB Programs

Using an inflatable planetarium CNC educator will lead students on a journey through the night sky to view constellations, planets, and the solar system. Starlab is terrific program to bring to your school. Please inquire about space limitations when booking the Starlab as an outreach program. A Starlab program can be adapted for Astronomy Club meetings or classes.

Grade 2: *STARLAB I*

Students will learn about the brightness and color of stars while viewing the constellations and observe the phases of the moon through a hands-on activity using models. GPS: S2E1a; S2E2d

Grade 4: *STARLAB II*

Students discover the difference between stars and planets and participate in a hands-on activity to learn about the Earth's seasons. GPS: S4E1a,b,c,d; S4E2a,b,c,d

Grades 2 and 4: Ask about combining STARLAB with our Creek and Cherokee programs. Students will first learn about the Creek and Cherokee peoples of Georgia, then enter our planetarium for stargazing and listening to Native American myths about the stars. GPS: StarLab GPS plus SS2G2a,b,c,e; SS2H2a,b or SS4G2a, SS4H1b 6th:

STARLAB III

Students will explore the Earth's position in the solar system and the solar system's position in the Milky Way. We will also discuss deep sky objects, moon phases, seasons, and lunar and solar eclipses. GPS: S6E2a,b,c

Auditorium Programs

Grades K – 12: *Hunters In The Sky*

Raptors are one of our most fascinating native predators. This program compares and contrasts a hawk and owl. Utilizing audience involvement and live animals this program teaches students about these birds' impressive abilities. GPS: SKL2a; S1L1b,d; S2L1a, S3L1c,d; S3L2a, S4L1a, S5L1a, S5L2a; S7L4a,c,d; SB4a,c,d,f

Grades K – 12: *OWL WISE*

Get up close and personal with Georgia's native nocturnal raptors. CNC naturalists bring three species of owls to you and teach about the unique adaptations and life histories of this amazing group of raptors. GPS: SKL2a; S1L1b,d; S2L1a, S3L1c,d; S3L2a, S4L1a, S5L1a, S5L2a; S7L4a,c,d; SB4a,c,d,f

Grades K – 12: *HAWK SQUAWK*

Who's that soaring above your head? Learn about the diverse diurnal raptors that inhabit Georgia. CNC naturalists bring along three native hawk species and teach about their cool characteristics. GPS: SKL2a; S1L1b,d; S2L1a, S3L1c,d; S3L2a, S4L1a, S5L1a, S5L2a; S7L4a,c,d; SB4a,c,d,f

Grades K – 12: *Georgia Wildlife Journey*

What lives in your own backyard? This program allows students to learn about three animals native to the Piedmont region of Georgia. Investigate a mammal, reptile, and bird of prey. GPS: SKCS3a; SKL1a,b,c; SKL2a,b; S1CS3a; S1L1a,b,c,d; S2CS3a; S2L1a,b,d; S3L1b,c,d; S3L2a,b; S4L1a,b,c,d; S4L2a; S5L1a,b; S7L4a,b,c,d; SB4a,b,c,d,e,f

Chattahoochee NATURE CENTER

Outreach Field Studies 2011-2012

Teacher Resources

Traveling Trunks - Prepackaged curriculum and activities you can rent from the CNC to use in your classroom for up to three weeks. All three trunks are GPS correlated.

PreK – K: *The Skunk Trunk - La Moleta de Mofeta*

BILINGUAL. This is a Spanish- English program all about exploring the five senses.

GPS: SKCS4a; SKL1a,b,c; SKL2a,b,c,d; SKP1a,b

Grades K – 5: *Bat's Incredible—The Endangered Grey Bat*

All about bats. Covering concepts from ecosystems and habitats to endangered species and animal classification.

GPS: SKCS4a; SKL1a,b,c; SKL2a,b,c,d; S1P1; S1L1; S2L1; S2E3; S3L1; S3L2; S4P2; S4L1; S4L2; S5E1; S5L1; S5L2

Grades 2 – 6: *Our Shared Forests*

In partnership with the State Botanical Gardens of Georgia this trunk covers Neotropical bird migration, habitat conservation, and Ecuadorian culture. Great for your PTA Science Nights.

GPS: SS2H2a,b; S2CS2; S2CS3a,c; S2CS5a; S2CS7a,d; SS3E1a,b,c,d; SS3E3c; S3CS1b; S3CS3a,c; S3CS8c; S3E2a, S3L1b,c,d; SS4H1b; S4CS3a,b; S4CS8c; S4L1a,b,c,d; S5CS3a,b; S5CS8b,c,d; S5P1b; S5L1a,b; S5L3a

Trunk Pricing 2011–2012

Traveling Trunks

- \$100 fully refundable deposit
- \$100 rental fee

For more information or to schedule your program please contact us at:

outreach@chattnaturecenter.org or 770-992-2055 x246 for Outreach programs. Visit our website for more information:

www.chattnaturecenter.org

Outreach Programs Pricing 2011–2012

Pre-school Programs for Age 3: 20 students maximum, 30 minutes. \$170 for the first program

\$85 for each additional program

Program for Ages 4-5: 25 students maximum, 45 minutes

\$190 for the first program, \$95 for each additional program

Program for Ages 6-Adult: 30 students maximum, 60 minutes.

\$215 for the first program, \$110 for each additional program

Auditorium Programs: 150 students maximum, 60 minutes

2 Animal Programs: \$300 for the first program,

\$225 for each additional program

3 Animal Programs: \$375 for the first program,

\$250 for each additional program

Starlab Programs: 60 minutes

Large Starlab (50 students maximum): \$300 for the first program, \$225 for each additional program.

Standard Starlab (25 students maximum): \$215 for the first program, \$110 for each additional program.

Festival Programs: \$200 for the first hour, \$100 each additional hour

Additional Pricing information: \$50 as a one time development fee for customized programming.

\$40 per day travel fee for locations 21-30 miles away from CNC, 31-40 miles = \$50 travel fee, 41-50 miles = \$60 travel fee. Locations outside of 50 miles, please contact CNC.

Non-profit Rate for Programs: 25% off

*NOTE: Audience limits are set to ensure an optimal experience for every student / participant. Audience size may not exceed the published limits without permission of the Chattahoochee Nature Center. Audiences who do exceed the published limits will incur additional session fees. Please contact us if you have any questions about our policies.

Chattahoochee NATURE CENTER

What Teachers Are Saying About Chattahoochee Nature Center

This is a great field trip for children. It goes along with our standards and gives them the experience they need to make connections when they are studying the subjects in class.

Woodson Elementary School

We absolutely love coming to the Chattahoochee Nature Center every year as one of our fall field trips. We teach a thematic unit on Georgia and study animals/plants/rivers, etc. located in our state. This field trip goes perfectly with the standards that we teach. The kids love being able to walk around outside and the guides are very good at managing kids. I'm happy to say that the employees at Chattahoochee Nature Center are great at managing 1st graders! We also love getting to see an animal at the end of our hike. This is a huge highlight of the day. We also love when it's time to picnic on the pretty grounds. We talk about taking care of the environment and cleaning up. We were thrilled that CNC offers recycling options for our trash!

Sarah Smith Elementary

We loved the new Nature Building (Discovery Center). The interactive activities are wonderful. The guided nature hike was engaging. All of the naturalists were very knowledgeable and kept our students' attention (even on the last day of school). The whole experience was perfect for our culminating activity in our Animal Planet unit. CNC staff is wonderful about accommodating students with special needs.

Morris Brandon Elementary

The Chattahoochee Nature Center was an amazing wildlife excursion within our city limits. My students were fully engaged with the various sights and sounds found along the hike. A definite highlight of the experience was an opportunity to touch the skeleton of many animals and see live animals. It was encouraging to see students overcome their fears to have a hands-on learning experience. I am excited about the prospect of bringing more students to participate in this experience.

KIPP WAYS Academy

We had the StarLab visit our school and set up in our auditorium. We had two wonderful and knowledgeable presenters who engaged our students with the type of stars in the sky, their location and even ancient Greek stories about them. It was very informative as well as entertaining: a good mixture when teaching 2nd graders about stars in the pitch black!

Morningside Elementary

The students were excited and eager to visit the exhibits. The Discovery Center showed all of the animals with their habitats that we are studying in 3rd grade. This is an incredible experience for the students to make connections.

Heritage Elementary

My students referred back to the visit to the Chattahoochee Nature Center all year long as we discussed and reviewed ecology concepts. And, my students did better on the ecology section of the state biology test than any other section despite it being taught at the beginning of the first semester and I am sure a part of this was the experiential learning they received at the Chattahoochee Nature Center. Also, for many of my students it was their only field trip of the year, for some it was the first field trip ever even though I teach high school students and for many it was a rare occasion to spend a day learning about nature. I am grateful for the exposure and education my students received.

*9th Grade Biology
Grady High School*