

SELF-GUIDED PROGRAMS

Junior Ranger Packet: Recommended for all ages, this booklet tests your creativity, observational skills and ecological knowledge.

TRACK Trails: A program that connects families to the outdoors through exploration. Find these brochures at the Shady Ridge Trailhead. Track your adventure at kidsinparks.com to win prizes!

Visitor Center: Located at the historic Howe House, come to the Visitor Center to learn about the park history and ecology.

Amenities: Our park offers picnic shelters reservable by a ranger for free, two playgrounds and an interpretive campfire pit for classes and programs alike.

Accessibility: For accommodations, please reserve the All Terrain Wheelchair with this link: <https://tinyurl.com/atwreservation>



MORE INFORMATION

At school: We'll come to you!

At park: You come to us! See what our park has to offer by coming directly to it by [Requesting a Ranger](#).

Please fill out this form or scan the QR code below:



<https://tinyurl.com/requestaranger>

Cost: All programs are free of charge.

Ready to schedule a program?

CONTACT:

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**Ranger-led
environmental
education programs!**



VIRGINIA STATE PARKS

K-5TH GRADE

AQUATIC ADVENTURE

Explore our lake and learn about water, our relationship with it and some of the wildlife that call it home.

* VERNAL POOL SCAVENGER HUNT

Join our rangers as we walk (1 mile total) to our entrance vernal pool searching for salamanders, frogs, turtles and to complete a scavenger hunt.

BEGINNER BIRDS & CRITTER CRAFTS

Learn to use binoculars as we discuss common backyard birds and how to ID them, then join our rangers to view pelts & skulls and complete an educational craft.



"A list of covered
SOLs is available
upon request"

6TH-8TH GRADE

DISCOVERING THE CRITTERS OF CLAYTOR LAKE

Embark on a short birding hike with our rangers, then, further investigate the local fauna of Claytor Lake with pelts, skulls and other biofacts as we talk adaptations and natural selection.

ECO-DETECTIVES: EXPLORING NATURE'S CLUES

After a brief lesson on food webs and forest ecology, students will take to the forest to work together and solve a series of ecological queries and quests.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE OVERLOOK

Hike to the Claytor Lake Overlook and see what we find by observing animal behavior and surrounding plants along with a fun game of nature bingo.

Field trip availability dependent on the time of year



9TH-12TH GRADE

HIKING: THE ECOLOGY SERIES

Choose one or more hikes from the list below to join our rangers on:

***Wetland Ecology:** A 1 mile hike to a vernal pool to learn the value of these ephemeral spaces.

Forest Ecology: A 2 mile hike to Claytor Lake Overlook while we observe the flora and fauna around us.

Freshwater Ecology: Learn how to throw out a cast net and dip net to see what we can collect and identify. Field guides and nets will be provided.

IN THE FIELD AND IN THE PARK

Learn how to use field methods and tools to survey the land. After, we'll break into small groups to conduct our own habitat survey with what we learned.