

## Summer Group Programs



There are many things hiding around the boardwalk

**“The presenter was very good with the children and very knowledgeable with the materials. I would rate this as being a Super field trip.”**



Girl Scouts find out which Bird Beak works the best

School is out for the summer and all the students are at Day Camp! Spirit Creek Educational Forest is the perfect place for these groups to come to. Our selection of summertime activities are both fun and educational. Since the weather is more humid, Summer Groups can arrive at 9:00 a.m. and stay until 12:00 p.m., when the humidity really starts to rise. It is recommended that you choose 2 hours worth of activities. We do have several picnic areas if your group wishes to have lunch after your activities.

### Activities - 30 minutes

#### Bats and Moths

How often do you use your sense of hearing? Could you find your food strictly by using your ears? Learn about Bats and how they use echolocation to find their food in this fun game.

#### Boardwalk

This self guided activity is the coolest spot in the forest! Our 800 foot boardwalk takes you through a Tupelo Swamp. Choose to find items on a scavenger hunt or bring a copy of Dr. Suess's *The Lorax* to enjoy at our observation deck.

#### Get in Touch With Nature

In the forest world, all of your senses are important. Your sense of touch can help you become more familiar with the surrounding environment. By using their hands, students will try to guess what is inside a box and why it is important in nature.

#### How Sharp is Your Snout?

How important is an animals sense of smell? Do you think your snout is as sharp as theirs? Test your nose in this game to find out!

#### Make Your Own Paper

Do you know how paper is made? Discover the process that starts with a pine tree and ends with a sheet of paper and other forest products that we use in our everyday lives. Each student will make and take home their own sheet of homemade paper.

#### Scavenger Hunt

Need we say more!!

#### Where Did All the Panthers Go?

Many years ago the Florida Panther lived across Georgia. Now the panther is endangered due to

loss of habitat. Discover the many causes of habitat loss as kids try to survive in a shrinking environment. Students will also take a short walk in search of animal habitats in the forest.

#### What's Hiding in the Forest?

“Blending with the crowd” is an important element in the survival of many animals. Students will learn about camouflage as they try to trick other students with hidden animal and color cards.

### Activities - 60 minutes

#### Forest in a Jar

The pine forest is a unique ecosystem made up of many different parts that all work together to support each other. Students will put together their own forest to take home. *Each student will need to bring an empty and clean jar or bottle.*

#### Icky, Sticky Body Bits

Insects are small, but amazing creatures. Learn the parts of an insect and distinguish them from other invertebrates. Play a game to classify insects and non-insects. Then go on a search for insects around the forest.

#### Leaf Journal

Leaves are often what people use to identify trees. Go on a leaf safari and search for different leaf shapes and sizes. Make a journal with leaf rubbings, specimens, and drawings to take along on future hikes.

#### Rain Sticks

Water is very important to all living things. Some cultures make up rain dances and chants to imitate the sound of rain. Students will make a rain stick out of materials found in the natural environment and see if they can make it rain. *Each student will need to bring an empty paper towel or wrapping paper roll.*