Audubon Naturalist Society School Programs
Nature-based learning for schools in Virginia

Two options for schools:

Rust Nature Sanctuary Field Trips | Visit our 68-acre sanctuary right by Route 7, 802 Children’s Center Rd. Leesburg, VA

Naturalist in the Classroom | Save on travel fees and let us bring the program to your classroom

PROGRAM FEES:

Field Trip: $10.50 per student for a 2-hour program/minimum $1050 per field trip (chaperones are free)

Naturalist in the Classroom: $150 for 1 in-class experience | $400 for a 1-hour grade level assembly | Mileage fee may apply to schools over 25 miles from Leesburg

Get 30% off when you combine a Field Trip and Naturalist in the Classroom

Lessons are Hands on STEAM activities that tie directly to the Virginia Standards of Learning. Programs support Project Based Learning. ANS partners with the LCPS and FCPS Science Departments. Programs can be adapted for K-5 classes.
Sanctuary Field Trips

**Discovery Hunt** | On a nature walk full of sensory exploration, look under logs, listen for birds, and touch trees as we explore local biodiversity and observe creatures in their natural habitats.

**Life Cycles** | Investigate seasonal life cycles of animals and insects, learn about complete vs. incomplete metamorphosis, and observe life cycle adaptations of creatures on the sanctuary.

**Habitats** | Explore our forest, meadow, and pond ecosystems while learning about the adaptations that allow various creatures to survive in these habitats. This field trip can be conducted on your school grounds as well.

**Compost & Decomposers** | Dig through soil and compost to examine insects, worms, and other amazing decomposers that we depend on for nutrient cycling.

**Water Science Exploration** | Analyze the health of a stream/pond by testing water chemistry and searching for benthic macroinvertebrates. Use our Creek Critter App and data collected to analyze the health of this habitat. This field trip can be conducted at the Rust Sanctuary pond or a stream/pond within walking distance from your school.

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**Naturalist in the Classroom**

**Wonderful Worms** | Explore the anatomy and role of these amazing decomposers and conduct simple experiments on their preferred habitat conditions.

**Papermaking** | Get hands-on experience making your own recycled paper from old newspaper and explore ways to reduce paper waste at school.

**Green Cleaners** | Learn about pollution from harmful cleaning chemicals and commit to a healthier environment by making an effective, eco-friendly desk cleaner for your class.

**Garbology** | Investigate the "science of garbage" in this look at what your school throws away every day.

**Watersheds** | Use a watershed model to examine human impacts on water quality and how we affect the Chesapeake Bay.

**Erosion in a Bottle** | Learn about the impact erosion has on our waterways and what can be done to prevent run off.

**Skull and Scat Sleuths** | Look for animal signs around your schoolyard. Learn to recognize physical and behavioral adaptations.

**Watt’s Up** | Conduct a classroom energy audit and identify ways to increase energy efficiency at school and home.

**We All Live Downstream** | Learn about different types of pollution sources and address pollution issues.

**Birds of a Feather** | Hike the grounds of your school and identify native birds and explore lifecycles, behavior, anatomy and seasonal adaptations. Learn how you can increase habitat biodiversity at your school.

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Don’t see a field trip or in class program that meets your curricular requirements? Want to incorporate a stewardship activity into your program? We would be happy to create a program that is tailored to your needs. Please email Susanne Ortmann at susanne.ortmann@anshome.org for information.