



Program Application Summer 2016

Thank you for applying to the Science Explorers in Nature program brought to you by Lake County Forest Preserves.

Participating in Science Explorers in Nature will give you an opportunity to stretch your mental muscles and learn just how fun science can be. If accepted, you will spend four weeks exploring the world of science in fun and hands-on ways. We are excited to be able to offer this program free of charge to 36 students from Lake County schools that will be entering grades 7th-9th in the fall of 2016. We appreciate your interest in the program!

To apply to the Science Explorers in Nature program you must submit:

1. **A completed application form and agreement**, signed by you and your parent/guardian.
2. **A completed recommendation form**, preferably from a science teacher or community leader (pastor, youth group leader, etc.) who knows you well and is not related to you.
3. **A copy of your report card** from 2nd quarter (January) OR the most recent one you have.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR RECEIVED BY Friday, April 29. Submit your completed application package as soon as possible to help ensure your chances of being accepted.

Submit ALL application components together
(application, agreement, recommendation, and report card)
by Friday, April 29 to:

Melissa Alderson
Science Explorers in Nature
Lake County Forest Preserves
21950 N. Riverwoods Road
Riverwoods, IL 60015

Please keep this page for your records. If you have any questions, call Melissa Alderson at 847-968-3326. You can also find information about Science Explorers in Nature at www.LCFPD.org/science-explorers.



What is Science Explorers in Nature?

Science Explorers in Nature is a FREE summer science enrichment program. The goal is to increase students' knowledge and appreciation of the environment. In Science Explorers in Nature, students become scientists and learn how scientists study the environment. Students can enroll in the four-week session that takes place at the Greenbelt Cultural Center in North Chicago. A school bus route with stops at participating schools provides transportation starting as early as 7:00 AM to bring students to the Greenbelt Cultural Center by 9:00 AM. Students are provided with all the materials they need to participate, including free snacks and lunch every day of the program. Students leave the Center at 3:00 PM each day to return to the school bus stop.

What do students do?

- Learn about a variety of science related careers.
- Take field trips in Lake County Forest Preserves to learn about natural areas including prairies, woods and wetlands.
- Learn how to conduct their own scientific research and prepare a presentation.
- Spend a lot of time outside taking part in hands-on science activities.
- Spend all day in a new world surrounded by nature and other curious students.

When is the program?

Monday through Friday, June 20 – July 15, 2016

NO session on Monday, July 4

Who can participate?

Eligible students are entering grades 7-9 in fall 2016 in a Lake County school. Priority is given to students who receive (or would be eligible for) a free or subsidized school lunch and to returning students. Students and parents must commit to all four weeks of the program and agree to provide their own transportation to one of our designated school bus stops in Zion, Beach Park, North Chicago, Waukegan, Round Lake area, Diamond Lake/Mundelein, Fox Lake, or Ingleside or to the Greenbelt Cultural Center. There is no supervision at these school bus stops.

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Program Application Form Summer 2016

Student Name

Address

City & State

Zip Code

Date of Birth

Current Grade

Gender (M or F)

School

Father/Guardian Name

Daytime Phone

Occupation (Job)

Mother/Guardian Name

Daytime Phone

Occupation (Job)

Evening Phone

Parent E-mail Address

Do you (or would you if you applied) qualify to receive free or reduced-price school lunch?

Yes

No

Have you participated in Science First in Lake County before?

Yes

No

Please mark your child's T-shirt size so that we may order the right size:

ADULT T-Shirt Size:

☐ Small

☐ Medium

☐ Large

☐ Extra Large

☐ XXL

Please check your preferred summer bus stop at middle schools from eligible Lake County school districts *:

☐ Beach Park Middle School, Beach Park

☐ Neal Math & Science Academy, North Chicago

☐ Miguel Juarez Middle School, Waukegan

☐ Robert Abbott Middle School, Waukegan

☐ Jack Benny Middle School, Waukegan

☐ Thomas Jefferson Middle School, Waukegan

☐ Daniel Webster Middle School, Waukegan

☐ Zion Central Middle School, Zion

☐ Round Lake Middle School, Round Lake Heights

☐ John T. Magee Middle School, Round Lake

☐ West Oak Middle School, Diamond Lake (Mundelein)

☐ Stanton School, Fox Lake

☐ Gavin South Junior High School, Ingleside

Schools are not responsible for supervision or coordination at the bus stops.

* If you live outside of these districts you may still apply to the program but must provide your own transportation each day to and from one of the above bus stops or to and from the Greenbelt Cultural Center, 1215 Green Bay Road, North Chicago, IL 60064. Bus stops will not be supervised. The bus schedule will be determined prior to the program start date and handed out at the Parent Orientation.



The applying student should complete the questionnaire below. Keep in mind that you should be honest and answer each question in detail.

1. What are your favorite subjects in school? Why?

2. Are you involved in any after-school activities? If so, which ones?

3. What do you normally do during your summer break?

4. Do you like being outside and spending time in nature (with plants and insects, etc.)? Why?

5. Please describe a science experiment that you have done. Tell us as much as you can remember about the experiment. What was interesting to you about this experiment?

6. Why do you want to attend the Science Explorers in Nature program? What do you think you will get out of this program?



Student Agreement:

I understand that I am applying for the Science Explorers in Nature program offered at the Greenbelt Cultural Center in North Chicago. If I am chosen to participate in this program and accept, **I agree to attend every day of all four weeks of the program, and participate in all program activities.**

Print Your Name (student)

Date

Signature

Parent/Guardian Agreement:

I give my child permission to apply for, and if chosen, to accept, a place in the Science Explorers in Nature program at the Greenbelt Cultural Center. I understand that my child is expected to attend the program every day for the entire four weeks. I understand that the bus will pick my child up at no cost on Monday through Friday, June 20 - July 15, 2016 (no class Monday, July 4) at the school selected if we live in Zion, Beach Park, North Chicago, Waukegan, Round Lake area, Diamond Lake/Mundelein, Fox Lake, or Ingleside. We will let you know the bus arrival times prior to the start of the program.

Print Name (parent)

Date

Signature

Daytime Phone

Important! Before mailing your application, make sure you have the following:

- ☐ Completed Application Form
- ☐ Completed Student Agreement
- ☐ Completed Recommendation Form
- ☐ Copy of most recent report card





Recommendation Form Summer 2016

Dear Recommender:

Thank you for taking the time to help us assess applicants for the Science Explorers in Nature program. A few brief thoughts from you will be of great assistance to us. Please answer the questions on the back of this form, place it in a sealed envelope and give it to the applicant to include with her/his application. If you need more space, you may attach another sheet. Please be as honest as possible to help us find students who will contribute to the program as well as benefit from it. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Melissa Alderson

Science Explorers in Nature
Environmental Educator
Lake County Forest Preserves
847-968-3326

STUDENT NAME

Please provide some information about yourself (recommender):

Recommender's Name

Affiliation (School / Group)

Daytime Phone #

How do you know the student?





Recommendation Form Summer 2016

In order to receive full benefits from the Science Explorers in Nature program, participants must be present, attentive, and able to work with other students and teachers. Please indicate how this applicant compares to other students you have known in the areas listed below.

Please circle the appropriate number regarding the following skills.

Responsibility/Timeliness:

1	2	3	4	5
	⇐			⇒
Poor display of responsibility and timeliness				Highly responsible and timely

Respect for others:

1	2	3	4	5
	⇐			⇒
Has substantial problems interacting with others				Superior at showing respect for others

Ability to work in a team:

1	2	3	4	5
	⇐			⇒
Has difficulty working with other students				Is excellent at working with other students

Our program includes children from diverse backgrounds. How does this child handle meeting new people and dealing with challenges?

How do you think this applicant would benefit from participating in the Science Explorers in Nature program?

