

**What is the Science Explorers in Nature program?**

Science Explorers in Nature is a free summer science enrichment program designed for Lake County youth from underserved communities who are currently in grades 6–8. Students spend one month exploring the natural world and learning about potential careers in the sciences.

Students from selected schools may enroll in the four-week session that takes place at [Greenbelt Cultural Center](https://www.lcfpd.org/greenbelt-cultural-center) in North Chicago Monday–Friday, 9 am–3 pm. A school bus route with stops at participating schools provides transportation starting as early as 7:30 am to bring students to the Center by 9 am. Students are provided with all materials they need to participate, including free snacks and lunch every day of the program.

**What do students do?**

* Explore outside taking part in hands-on science activities
* Discover local forest preserves to learn about natural areas including prairies, woods, and wetlands
* Talk to a variety of scientists and field experts
* Conduct their own scientific research project and prepare a presentation for the parent open house

**Who can participate?**

Eligible students currently in grades 6–8 in a Lake County school. Priority is given to students from select schools 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 middle school bus stops in Zion, Beach Park, North Chicago, Waukegan, Round Lake, Diamond Lake/Mundelein, Fox Lake or Ingleside, or to the [Greenbelt Cultural Center](https://www.lcfpd.org/greenbelt-cultural-center). There is no supervision at these school bus stops.

**How do students apply?**

To apply to Science Explorers in Nature you must submit:

1. Completed application/agreement form signed by the student and parent or guardian.
2. Completed student questionnaire form, filled out by the student.
3. 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.
4. Provide a copy of the student’s most recent report card.

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR RECIVED BY FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2019.** Submit all application components to:
Lake County Forest Preserves
SEN Forms
1899 W. Winchester Road
Libertyville, IL 60048

**Or email to:** avaos@LCFPD.org

**What if I have questions?**

Feel free to check out more about this program, including pictures at <https://www.lcfpd.org/science-explorers/> or contact April Vaos at 847-968-3368 or avaos@LCFPD.org