



Maine Wildlife Park Educational Group Programs

Who: Designed for youth educational groups (schools and homeschools)

When: Tuesday and Thursday mornings in April, May, June, September, October, and November

Cost: \$50 per session plus admission (see details below)

- Park admission required
 - Group Park Admission is \$5 per person (minimum of 15 people and need to enter as a group)
 - Individual admission (not entering as a group)
 - Children 2 and under Free
 - Ages 3 -12 \$7.50
 - Ages 13 - 59 \$10.00
 - Ages 60+ \$7.50
 - Veteran/Military Personnel \$5.00
- Program fee \$50 for each 30-minute session (up to 25 students per session)
 - We can adjust based on group size as needed
 - Can have more than one session, but each additional session is \$50 each
 - Programs are for all ages - schools, homeschool groups, adult groups, and more

What: Program descriptions are listed below for you to choose a topic.

Where: All programs are held outside at our large picnic shelter.

*Please read the Frequently Asked Questions below for more information.

For questions or to book a program call Maine Wildlife Park at

207-822-6460



MAINE WILDLIFE PARK

Program Descriptions*

Amazing Animal Adaptations

Maine wildlife exhibit amazing varieties of physical and behavioral characteristics that enable them to survive and do their 'jobs' within their environment. From frog eyes to bear noses we will learn how animals are adapted to survive in their habitats. We will look at how animals eat, hide, hunt, move, and more! *(This presentation will focus on examples from different animal groups and talk about elements like camouflage, predators, prey, as well as some about reproduction, and other types of animal adaptations.)*

Mainely Mammals

Take a look at the wide variety of mammals that live in Maine. Many have a long history with humans, but all are an important part of Maine's ecosystems. Learn about the amazing adaptations of some of Maine's mammals as we look at skulls, furs, tracks, and scat. We will learn what characteristics define herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores, as well as some key species identifiers. *(Food webs, predator relationships, and tracking will be mentioned but not a primary focus unless asked.)*

Birds of a Feather

Birds are a unique group of animals on this planet that have fascinated humans for centuries. But what truly makes them special? Why are there so many different kinds? Join us as we examine different adaptations of birds from beak to feet in this hands-on appreciation of birds.

Creatures of the Night – There are many animals that come out after dark. We might hear them or see signs of them in the morning. Join as we take a look at a variety of nocturnal wildlife from bats to skunks. We will look at furs, skulls, and other artifacts as we learn to appreciate and understand the creatures of the night.

**If there is a certain learning standard or other topic you would like to see included in one of the four programs above book your program by calling 207-822-6460. Then email Education and Outreach Supervisor laura.craver-rogers@maine.gov after confirming booking through MWP.*

**Each presentation is designed to take an inquisitive approach to understanding how wildlife have evolved, adapted to their environments, and been a part of human history. Each presentation will have scientific based information that meets the needs of NGSS as well as conservation messaging that supports Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife goals and objectives with wildlife conservation and outdoor recreation. All while drawing meaningful connections to participants. Each topic can be scaled up or down depending on age and ability of each group. (Please let us know of any special requests or needs when scheduling your visit.)*



MAINE WILDLIFE PARK

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I book more than one time slot for my group that is over 25 students?

Yes, each group that is over 25 students will be split into two or more groups, depending on total headcount. For groups that might only have a couple extra people we may consider them part of the one educational program, please ask.

What if I have a specific topic or species request?

Book the topic that fits your group best and ask that they make note of your request on the reservation. Our education supervisor will follow-up with you if there are any questions after you book your visit to work out details. We will do our best to accommodate when possible. If you have questions about topics or learning standards, you may reach out to our Education Supervisor at 207-592-0750 (this line is not for reserving programs).

What type of location are education programs held?

Education programs are held at our large picnic shelter near the front of the Park. It is an open air, metal roof pole barn with a handful of picnic tables underneath with a natural floor. There is no heat and seats are first for the students, and second for any teachers or chaperones, or as needed by any individual.

What happens if there is inclement weather on the day of my visit?

These programs run rain or shine, but since it is just a picnic shelter, we may try and reschedule if we can, but we don't set rain dates. Field trip season is very busy, and we will do our best to accommodate.

Where do we go when we arrive on the day of our visit?

When your group arrives, there is parking for buses on the far side of the lot, pass the gate house. **Do not unload your group at the gate house, but Park and send one adult up to pay while the rest of the group waits on the bus till the paying adult returns.** Then as a group walk on the side of the parking area to the gate to enter the Park safely. **Please plan on this timing when booking education programs.**

How do I pay for my program and admission?

Please bring a check or cash (prefer no coins or not large quantities) made out to the Maine Wildlife Park. Please have your check written out for the total cost of your visit including all admission fees, programs, and/or tours. Have one adult pay for the group at the gate while the bus parks. Then return to the parked bus to retrieve your group which will be waiting on the bus.



MAINE WILDLIFE PARK

Do chaperones get the group rate if they pay for themselves?

Yes, just have them tell the ticket booth that they are here as part of your field trip, and they will be charged at the same rate as your group. **Please remind them that the ticket booth is cash or check only.**

Where do we meet our chaperones?

Upon arrival all chaperones will park in the dirt lot out in front of the gate house with other personal vehicles. When they arrive, they should go right up to the gate and pay. Then proceed into the Park and wait down by the picnic area or where the paved path splits. Chaperones should not wait outside the gate house in the parking lot for the group.

Is there a place we can eat lunch inside the Park? Where can we leave lunches?

Yes, we have many picnic tables inside the Park where your group can gather together under our tall pine trees. They are on a first come basis unless you reserve a picnic shelter in advance. You may bring your bags and lunches in and leave them at your discretion at a chosen lunch area. You may also leave lunches on the bus and send a small group out to retrieve them when needed.

Can we leave our lunches and bags at the education program area?

If you are the only program that day your group may be able to leave bags at the back of the picnic shelter, but it will take away from program space. Usually, we have more than one group and you will need to find another picnic area to leave your bags. You may also leave lunches on the bus and send a small group out to retrieve them when needed.

Can we leave our bags of trash behind when we leave?

Since this is a place to view nature and wildlife you are not permitted to leave trash behind from your group. We have a few receptacles for recycling and small amounts of trash throughout the Park. We ask that you bring trash bags for your group to use at lunch, and then take that trash with you when you leave to help keep our Park clean and safe for all.

For questions or to book a program call Maine Wildlife Park at

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