

FALL 2018 & WINTER 2019 PROGRAMS AT BAUER PARK
Madison's Agricultural and Environmental Center
257 Copse Road

Register for all classes in the Madison Beach & Recreation office at town campus or online at www.madisonct.org/recreation. Questions? Call 203-245-5623.

Bauer Park is on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/bauerparkmadisonct> Post photos, see event updates, and read about what's happening at Bauer Park!

Educational programs can be arranged for school, scout and community groups at Bauer Park, Salt Meadow Park, Rockland Preserve and the town beaches. Contact the Beach & Recreation Office for more information.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROGRAMS FOR TEACHERS AND ADULTS	2
Classification and Identification of Animals.....	2
Classification and Identification of Plants.....	2
Comparative Anatomy of Mammals.....	2
GENERAL PROGRAMS	3
Ponding for Families	3
Family Nature Sketching	3
Children's Science Book Author Reading and Workshop	3
Harvest Festival.....	4
Autumn Moonlight Walk	4
Calling in the Owls in Your Backyard	4
A Microscopic Tour of Trees	4
Family Maple Sugaring.....	5
Harrowing Tales of our Bauer Birds	5
Get Ready for Bluebirds!.....	5
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS	6
Mini-Explorers.....	6
Are Crabs Really Crabby?	6
Fall Flyers.....	6
Digging Dinosaurs	6
The Wonder of Water	6
Fascinating Fishes	7
Cool Nights	7
Birds of Winter	7
Animal Tracks and Traces	7
After-School Family Garden Club.....	7
Junior Marine Biologists.....	8
Oceanology Club	8

Fish Lab	8
Lobster Lab.....	9
Squid for Kids	9
Electrifying Energy	9

PROGRAMS FOR TEACHERS AND ADULTS

Classification and Identification of Animals

Saturday, September 22

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Is it a bird? A crustacean? A mollusk? Learn the basic classification of vertebrates and invertebrates, and discover how to teach this topic to children with hands-on activities. Then we will go outside to identify and classify the animals of Bauer Park. This class is designed as a teacher continuing education class but is open to all interested adults.

Instructor: Sara Levine

Fee: \$15

Classification and Identification of Plants

Saturday, September 29

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

How do you tell an angiosperm from a conifer? How can you identify trees without leaves? Learn the basics of taxonomy and identification and how to teach this topic to children. Focus will be on learning how to identify common and interesting native plants. This class is designed as a teacher continuing education class but is open to all interested adults.

Instructor: Sara Levine

Fee: \$15

Comparative Anatomy of Mammals

Saturday, October 6

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Learn the basic organ systems in humans and other mammals, and how they compare to one another. We will cover all of the systems, but will emphasize the skeletal system. This will be a hands-on workshop with a focus on how to teach these topics to children. This class is designed as a teacher continuing education class but is open to all interested adults.

Instructor: Sara Levine

Fee: \$15

GENERAL PROGRAMS

Ponding for Families

Saturday, September 22

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Have you ever held a tadpole? Seen a water scorpion or dragonfly nymph up close? Come learn about the animals living in the ponds at Bauer Park. We will catch pond animals, identify and observe them, and then set them free.

All ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Instructor: Sara Levine

Fee: \$5

Family Nature Sketching

Saturday, October 6

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Drawings can be more fun than photos! Find a favorite spot on the trails and in the fields of Bauer Park and create a memory you can take home. Natural Science Illustrator Susannah Graedel will be on hand to give you some tips on drawing what you see. Bring a sketch pad and colored pencils for each person.

For adults and children age 6 and older. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Instructor: Susannah Graedel

Fee: \$7

Children's Science Book Author Reading and Workshop

Saturday, October 6

1:00-2:00 p.m.

Sara Levine, author of *Bone by Bone: Comparing Animal Skeletons*; *Tooth by Tooth: Comparing Tusks, Fangs and Chompers*; and *Fossil by Fossil: Comparing Dinosaur Bones*, will bring real animal bones, teeth and fossils to share in hands-on activities appropriate for children ages 4 – 10. You can buy books ahead of time at RJ Julia or Amazon if you'd like them to be signed by the author.

Sara Levine is a veterinarian, educator and award-winning author of science books for children. She was Assistant Professor of Biology at Wheelock College for twelve years and has enjoyed many years of teaching children about science and nature. <http://www.saralevinebooks.com/>

Instructor: Sara Levine

Fee: \$5

Harvest Festival

Saturday, October 13

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Celebrate the season at the 21st Bauer Park Harvest Festival! Enjoy live music, food, old-fashioned games, animals, crafts, a hay maze and more. Contact the Beach & Rec department if you'd like to volunteer or sponsor this annual community event.

FREE and open to the public. Registration is not required.

Autumn Moonlight Walk

Sunday, October 21

7:00 p.m.

Bring a flashlight and join an evening stroll on the Garvan Trail at the Surf Club. A bagpiper will lead the way. After the walk, refreshments will be served in the Surf Club building, and members of the Astronomical Society of New Haven will set up telescopes for viewing the moon, planets and stars in the night-time sky. FREE and open to the public. Registration is not required. Sponsored by the Madison Land Conservation Trust and Madison Beach & Recreation.

Calling in the Owls in Your Backyard

Sunday, January 27

3:30-5:30 p.m.

Owls are amazing, secretive birds of prey. They are seldom seen, but often heard late at night: "WHO'S AWAKE? ME TOO!" Learn the calls of these stealthy hunters and then try to call them in as it gets dark. Indoors, dissect sterilized owl pellets to reconstruct the tiny skeletons of their prey. This is a science program recommended for adults and children age 6 and older. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Instructor: Susannah Graedel

Fee: \$5

A Microscopic Tour of Trees

Sunday, February 11

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Trees may look similar in winter, but their twigs and buds give them away. On a brief walk outside, learn how to distinguish species by their bark and form. Then, come inside to explore the secrets of

each species' unique twigs and buds. These intricate structures tell the story of a tree's past and foretell its burst into lush green life in the spring. This is an indoor-outdoor science program. Dress for the weather and a short easy walk.

For adults and children age 6 and older. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Instructor: Susannah Graedel

Fee: \$5

Family Maple Sugaring

Saturday, February 23 or Saturday, March 2

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The Bauer farmhouse was framed by two large sugar maples, trees that the Bauer brothers may have used to make maple syrup. Come and learn how maple syrup is made, from tree to table. We'll tap one of Bauer Park's maple trees, taste the sap, and learn how to turn it into syrup (which we'll also taste!). Information on where to acquire sugaring supplies, and when, where and how to tap the maple trees in your own yard will be provided. Boots are recommended as we'll be hiking into the woods to tap a tree.

Recommended for adults and children ages 3 and older. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Instructor: Donna Dione

Fee: \$5

Harrowing Tales of our Bauer Birds

Sunday, March 24

1:00-2:30 p.m.

Experience the extraordinary adventures of the birds that nest at Bauer Park. This slide program will take you from the forests and fields of Bauer Park to the tropics of South America. Each species has its own fascinating stories to tell through its unique behaviors and adaptations. Participants will be encouraged to ask questions about birds throughout the program. Susannah Graedel holds a master's degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and spent many years banding songbirds.

For adults and children age 6 and older. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Instructor: Susannah Graedel

Fee: \$7

Get Ready for Bluebirds!

Sunday, April 7

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Bluebirds start nesting in Madison in early spring. Indoors we will learn about what these lovely songbirds need to raise a family. Nest box plans are available. Then tour the Bauer Bluebird Trail to see the birds in action. Learn how to become a bluebird nest box monitor as part of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology citizen science program.

All ages. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Instructor: Susannah Graedel

Fee: \$7

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Mini-Explorers

Come join in the fun of exploring! We will learn about nature and science through activities such as hiking, singing, games, stories and making crafts. For preschoolers ages 3-5, accompanied by an adult. Indoor/outdoor programs – dress for the weather.

Instructor: Donna Dione

Fee: \$11 per class

Are Crabs Really Crabby?

Saturday, September 29

10:00-11:30 a.m.

How many legs do crabs have, what direction do crabs walk, which crab isn't a crab, and are crabs really crabby? Discover the answers to all your crab questions as we learn many fascinating facts about these ocean creatures. Participants will also have the chance to meet a crab up close.

Fall Flyers

Saturday, October 20

10:00-11:30 a.m.

People often associate bats with the fall season even though they've been busy all summer long. Join us to discover some intriguing facts about bats and dispel a few myths along the way. Play a game to learn how sound helps bats fly and make a "batty" craft.

Digging Dinosaurs

Saturday, November 3

10:00-11:30 a.m.

Become a paleontologist and dig for "fossils" along with making your own to take home. Learn some dinosaur facts like how big they might have been, how they moved, and how to tell the plant-eaters from the meat-eaters.

The Wonder of Water

Saturday, November 17

10:00-11:30 a.m.

It may be too cold to go swimming outside, but discovering the wonders of water is never out of season. As we do some fun experiments and make a craft, we will learn a few interesting facts about water. Entire class will take place inside.

Fascinating Fishes

Saturday, December 8

10:00-11:30 a.m.

Fish have all sorts of adaptations to help them survive in their aquatic environments. Learn about some cool ways that fish eat, protect themselves and maneuver through their habitats. Make a festive holiday fish to take home. Entire class will take place inside.

Cool Nights

Saturday, January 12

10:00-11:30 a.m.

The crisp, clear nights of winter are a great time for viewing the night sky. Hear how some “creatures” ended up among the stars and create your own constellation. Eat your way through the phases of the moon and make craters in the “moon sand.” Entire class will take place inside.

Birds of Winter

Saturday, January 26

10:00-11:30 a.m.

Discover how birds from chickadees to penguins are adapted to survive in the snow and cold. After going on a winter bird search, make a special treat to take home for the birds in your yard. Bring your binoculars!

Animal Tracks and Traces

Saturday, February 9

10:00-11:30 a.m.

While it may seem too cold for any living creature to survive outside in February, many animals are scurrying all around our northern forests and fields. Go on a mystery hunt for tracks and other signs of winter animals venturing out in the snow. Create a fun craft to help you remember the tracks you saw.

After-School Family Garden Club

Tuesdays, September 25 – October 23

4:00-5:30 p.m.

Plan, plant and harvest in the fall garden! Each hands-on work and learning session will cover an aspect of the best practices for establishing a healthy organic garden. Come as a family, or kids 7 and up can be dropped off. Adults welcome! Garden journaling, record keeping, and planning for next year will be covered. Bring a sturdy blank garden journal and a black marker. We will discuss topics such as crop rotation, pest management, mulching, composting and soil preparation as we work in the garden. At the end of each session, we will harvest produce to share and donate.

All ages. Children age 6 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Instructor: Sue Stark

Fee: \$15

Junior Marine Biologists

Mondays, September 24 – November 12 (no meeting 10/8)

4:00-5:30 p.m.

Come to the beach after school to explore the shore! From our home base at the Surf Club, we'll study sandy beaches, tidepools, salt marshes, and the waters of Long Island Sound. Learn how to collect and identify aquatic animals, and discover their amazing adaptations for life in the sea.

Meets at the Surf Club.

Grades 2 - 4

Instructor: Julie Ainsworth

Fee: \$87.50

Oceanology Club

Wednesdays, September 26 – November 14 (no meeting 10/31)

3:30-5:30 p.m.

Investigate our local marine environment in this science club for middle and high school students.

We'll explore a variety of coastal ecosystems -- from sandy beaches and salt marshes, to tidepools and rocky shores. Students will collect and analyze data, learn to identify local species, and assess human impacts on Long Island Sound. We'll also organize a local beach cleanup, and monitor invasive species populations as citizen scientists. The club schedule with meeting locations will be emailed to parents. Students should have a serious interest in math, science and the marine environment.

Grades 5 and up

Instructor: Julie Ainsworth

Fee: \$87.50

Fish Lab

Thursday, October 18 (*Madison early dismissal day*)

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Why are there so many different sizes, shapes and colors of fish? Compare a variety of fish species, examine their scales under microscopes, and make a fish print using the ancient art of gyotaku. Class includes a story, craft and hands-on exploration.

Meets at the Surf Club.

Ages 6-9

Instructor: Julie Ainsworth

Fee: \$17

Lobster Lab

Thursday, November 15

4:00-5:30 p.m.

Meet a live lobster and get to know this amazing crustacean. What do lobsters eat, how do they move, and why are some blue? Class includes a story, craft and hands-on exploration.

Meets at the Surf Club.

Ages 6-9

Instructor: Julie Ainsworth

Fee: \$14

Squid for Kids

Thursday, December 13

4:00-5:30 p.m.

Explore the mysteries of this magnificent mollusk! Discover how squid eat, move and change color, then try writing with their pen and ink. Class includes a story, craft and hands-on exploration.

Meets at the Surf Club.

Ages 6-9

Instructor: Julie Ainsworth

Fee: \$14

Electrifying Energy

Thursday, January 10

4:00-5:30 p.m.

In this sizzling program, explore the power of electricity! Students will become a Human Circuit, use food to complete a circuit, and use Snap Circuits to make a light glow or rotate a fan. Make your own aluminum foil circuit to take home!

Ages 7-10

Instructor: Donna Dione

Fee: \$14