

# EXPLORE!

## The Institute Presents New Winter Programs for Kids Grades K–5



### 2024—New Year, New Adventures Discover the Joys of the Season!

## FIVE Thursdays in February

*EXPLORE! programs are a series of outdoor adventure programs, designed for kids in grades K to 5. All program activities are outside.*

Thursday, Feb. 1 • 4–5 p.m.

### Winter Fun and Fort Building



Students will go on a guided “wondering walk” through the forest, and learn how humans keep warm in the winter. Students work together with others to gather a variety of natural materials like branches and leaves. With a book for inspiration, they will build a lean-to structure or fort, requiring collaborative creativity and teamwork. This program introduces STEM concepts through problem solving.

Thursday, Feb. 8 • 4–5 p.m.

### Mad About Mammals

What is a mammal? How do mammals survive through the cold winter? Students will learn about migration by playing a fun tag-like game, plus look at and feel various animal pelts.

They will also experience what it is like to be a hibernating groundhog!



Thursday, Feb. 15 • 4–5 p.m.

### A Squirrely Snowy Valentine

How many sides does a snowflake have? Can it be too cold to snow? Students will listen to a book about snow, including some “fun facts” about the fluffy white stuff. And what about squirrels? How do squirrels find food in the winter? Can a squirrel plant a tree? Kids will take a nature hike and gather decorations for a squirrel Valentine. If there is snow, they will decorate a “snow cake” with food coloring. Otherwise, they will create a nature art Valentine for squirrels.



Thursday, Feb. 22 • 4–5 p.m.

### Keeping Track

Students learn the art of observation as they look for animal tracks in the snow—or in the mud! What kind of animal tracks are found in the woods? They will also learn other telltale signs of animals being near, like burrow entrances, deer rubs, and gnawed pinecones. They will go on a scavenger hunt looking for these signs, trace their own track path, and read a story!



Thursday, Feb. 29 • 4–5 p.m.

### Backyard Birding

Backyard birding is just what it sounds like—looking for birds in your own backyard!

You don't need to go on a hike to interact with nature. Sometimes, nature is right outside our door! Students learn how to identify common birds, how to use a monocular to spot birds, and how to be respectful while birding. They will also make a bird feeder to take home, and read a story about what birds do in winter to survive.

**LOCATION FOR ALL PROGRAMS:**  
Pine Hill Recreation Area  
Waynesboro, Pa.

**FEE:**

**\$6 Institute Member  
\$7 General Public**

**More details & register at [NatureAndCultureInstitute.org](https://NatureAndCultureInstitute.org)**

• Pre-registration and payment in advance are required. Call or email for more info: •

**717-762-0373 • [info@natureandcultureinstitute.org](mailto:info@natureandcultureinstitute.org)**



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