

# SCHOOL PROGRAMS ONSITE: PRE-K TO 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

### UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED:

MAX: 75 students max/program  
 PROGRAM FEES  
 AUSTIN RESIDENT: \$4.00/participant  
 NON-RESIDENT: 4.50/participant  
 MINIMUM FEE: \$60.00/program  
 LENGTH: 1 hr in/outdoor  
 LOCATION: ANSC

### NOTES:

1 – Available as an outreach program  
 2 – At Pease Park

[MAP TO PEASE PARK](#)

## MENU OF PROGRAMS

Bat Buddies <sup>1</sup>	Meet the Animals <sup>1</sup>
Dino Detectives	Owls <sup>1</sup>
Fossil Hunters <sup>2</sup>	6 Legs, 8 Legs, Many Legs <sup>1</sup>
Frogs and Toads <sup>1</sup>	Star Stories <sup>1</sup>
Habitat Hunt	
Pond's Life	Program Registration Form



### BAT BUDDIES

Did you know that bats use echolocation to navigate, that they are the only mammal that flies, and that 1.5 million bats live in Austin? Have fun exploring characteristics of bats that distinguish them from other mammals. See a live bat up close to observe anatomy and behavior. Understand the importance of safety rules when encountering bats in the wild. Have fun creating a bat and choose a name for it. Play a game to learn about bat survival skills. Discuss where bats fit into the food chain.

TEKS K: 9a, b and 10a; 1: 9a, c, and 10a, d



## DINO DETECTIVES

Dig for fossils like a paleontologist in the "Dino Pit" exhibit and gather clues about the prehistoric beast! Talk about theories of how dinosaurs lived and what happened to them. Sort our prehistoric animal models into groups as dinosaur or not dinosaur, theropod or sauropod, carnivore or herbivore. Practice using tools safely to dig up fossil casts. Examine your discovery to determine where it lived and what it ate, then estimate its size using nonstandard units of measurement.

TEKS K: 7a and 10a; 1: 7a and 10 a

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## FOSSIL HUNTERS

Explore the banks of Shoal Creek in Pease Park and look for evidence of prehistoric marine life. Investigate rocks for observable patterns that indicate Cretaceous fossils. Identify and name familiar Austin fossils. Learn the unusual geological history of Austin. Discuss the careers of a paleontologist and a geologist. Student-paleontologists may collect one fossil or rock to take home. This program meets at the south entrance to Pease Park on Kingsbury Street. Dress for the weather and wear shoes suitable for hiking.

TEKS K: 7a; 1: 7a

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## FROGS AND TOADS

Meet a live frog, toad, and salamander in the classroom and compare their interesting characteristics. Discuss their unusual life cycles that make them amphibians. Discover the importance of the amphibian's sensitive skin and how they differ from reptiles. Play an amphibian survival game and learn about threats to their habitats. Listen to the calls of local frogs and toads; have you heard a Gulf Coast Toad in your backyard?

TEKS K: 9a, b and 10a;

1: 9a, c and 10a, d

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## HABITAT HUNT

Feel like you are miles from the city as you enjoy a hike in the urban Zilker Nature Preserve. Use your senses to listen for wildlife sounds, see clues of animals that live in the preserve, and smell and feel plants that grow there. Use hand lenses and other tools to gather information about natural and man-made changes affecting the preserve. Learn how to be safe while exploring the preserve. Discuss the interdependence of living and non-living things and how important water is to the preserve ecosystem. Dress for the weather and wear shoes appropriate for hiking.

TEKS K: 9a, b and 10a, b, d;

1: 9a, c and 10a, c, d

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## POND'S LIFE

Look under a rock or on a leaf in the pond to see what lives there. Use a net to collect aquatic critters. View collected specimens under a magnifier in the classroom while discussing how they move, breathe and eat. Investigate the interdependence of organisms in the pond ecosystem and how they are part of the food chain. Meet and touch some live animals that live near a pond. Discover the importance of water for all life. Wear shoes that can get wet.

TEKS K: 9a, b and 10a, b; 1: 9a, c and 10a, c, d

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## MEET THE ANIMALS

Touch the soft fur of a live rabbit, the rough scales of a live snake and the feathers of different birds. Watch a turtle crawl across the floor. Observe live mice to compare mothers to their offspring. Explore the similarities and differences among mammals, reptiles and birds. Discover that different furs, feathers and scales may indicate animals' habitats. Discuss adaptations that help animals survive in their ecosystem.

TEKS K: 9a, b and 10a, b; 1: 9a, c and 10a, c, d

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## OWLS

Safely observe a live screech owl in the classroom, and then use binoculars to observe owls in the Birds of Prey sanctuary. Discuss owl characteristics and behavior and where they fit in the food chain. Determine what our resident owls have been eating by looking at owl pellets. Investigate different feathers to understand their purposes. Learn why owls are protected by laws.

TEKS K: 9a, b and 10a, b;            1: 9a, c and 10a, c, d

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## 6 LEGS, 8 LEGS, MANY LEGS

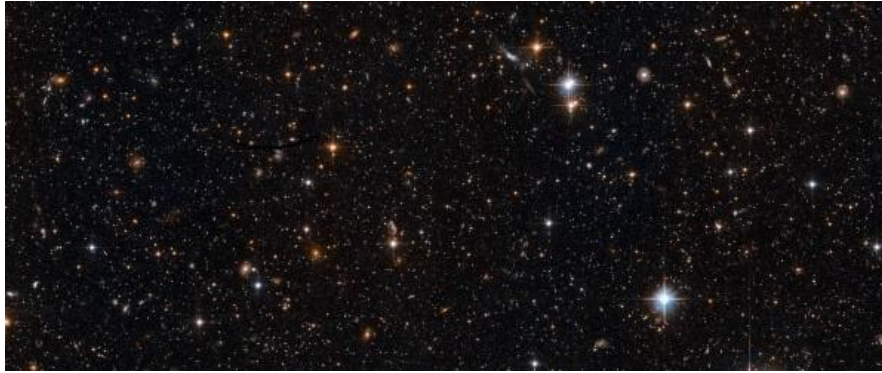
Feel a meal worm crawl across your hand and use a magnifier to count its legs. Is it an insect? Look at the other stages of a meal worm's life cycle. Discuss the life cycles of other insects and their importance in the food web. Explore the different characteristics of insects, spiders and other arthropods. Sort and classify arthropods into different groups. Safely search for live critters in the meadow using nets and collecting jars.

TEKS K: 9a, b and 10a;    1: 9a, c and 10a, d

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## STAR STORIES

Explore star patterns in the night sky inside StarLab, our inflatable planetarium. Identify constellations that you might see at night in your own backyard. Rotate and revolve around a sun model to learn why we have day and night and why birthdays happen only every 365 days. Discover why the moon appears to shine and change shapes. Discuss the different characteristics of the Sun, the Earth and the moon. **This program is limited to two classes or 50 participants per program.**

TEKS K: 5a, b, c and 8b, c; 1: 5a and 6a and 8b, c

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