Interpretive Outreach Programs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Carlyle Lake offers a wide variety of educational programs for kindergarten through high school students. Program reservations must be made at least two weeks in advance. To request a program, contact a member of the interpretive staff at the Carlyle Lake Project Office on weekdays between the hours of 7:30 and 4:00 p.m., at (618) 594-2484

Available programs include:

Goodness Snakes! (All)

Why are we so afraid of snakes? Are they really that bad, or are they a vital part of the area's ecology? Discover their roles in nature and why they are essential. Live snake and other visual aids. 45 minutes.



Natures No No's (ALL)

Snakes, spiders, ticks, bees, and poison ivy. Yuck! These animals and plants are sometimes encountered in nature. Find out how to identify the poisonous plants and animals in your area, how to avoid contact and what first aid measures to take if bitten or exposed. Live snake and other visual aids. 45 minutes

Bats of Illinois (All)

Bats have been feared, and misunderstood for centuries. Learn all about the twelve species of bats that spend at least part of their lives in Illinois, and what we need to do to provide a habitat that will ensure a bats survival. Visual aids and video. 1 hour





Water Safety For Everyone

More than 6,000 people drown in the United States each year. Program will focus on the importance of water safety and park rangers discuss ways to prevent drowning. Games and activities will help students understand the seriousness of this issue. 45 minutes

Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires (Pre-K-3)

Learn all about the importance of fire safety and the story of that famous fire prevention bear Smokey! An Appearance by Smokey Bear and video is included. 45 minutes

Why Do Leaves Change Color? (K-4)

It's fall! The leaves are changing color. This presentation will explain the magical process of how leaves change their color in autumn. Includes leaf rubbing activity. This program is offered October and November. 45 minutes

Reduce-Reuse-Recycle (K-8)

Students will learn what they can do to help the environment and why it is necessary to live by the three R's. Program includes recycled paper making activity. An appearance by Woodsy Owl is available with this program. 45 Minutes

Common Critters of the Carlyle Lake Area (K-8)

Students will learn about some of the common animals of Carlyle Lake along with the many signs that are left behind by them. Includes animal track identification activity. Animal Mounts and other visual aids.

1 hour



Journey North (All)

The monarch butterfly's fall migration back to Mexico begins at the end of August. Discover the miracle of the metamorphosis and the complete yearly lifecycle of the monarch butterfly. Live eggs, larva, and host plant of the monarch will be on hand for up close observation. Movie, slides and storybook. 45 minutes

Trees are Terrific (3-8)

Students learn that animals, people, and the environment itself depends on the invisible work of trees. Students will also take a closer look at trees and see that each tree has distinctive bark and unique leaves. 45 minutes

Programs
Available Only
at Carlyle Lake:

Chipmunk Nature Trail (K-6)

Students take an enjoyable hike while learning about the different trees, plants, and animals that call Carlyle Lake their home. Trail hike 1/2 mile 45 minutes

Visitor Center Tour (All)

Take a tour through the Carlyle Lake Visitor Center, and enjoy an exhibit area, literature and a video on the history behind the lake and the many wonderful things about it. 45 minutes

Tours of the Carlyle Lake Dam (All)

How many gallons of water would it take to fill up Carlyle Lake? Take a tour through the Carlyle Lake Dam to find out the answer to this question, and learn the many other things about the lake, dam, and the operation of the Carlyle Lake Project.

30 minutes

Teachers! If you are studying a specific topic and do not see a presentation listed above, just give us a call, and we will be glad to develop with a specific presentation to fit the needs of your classroom.

