Loevland Open Lands
Environmental Education
What to expect and how to prepare

Transportation to River’s Edge Natural Area in Loveland:

By bus:
Plants & Places: 960 W. 1st St. Main entrance.

On foot:
All programs: 960 W. 1st St. Use designated crosswalks, traffic lights and underpasses.

Facilities & Preparation:
Covered picnic areas and restroom facilities are available. Students should bring sack lunches and wear closed-toed shoes and long pants for the best experience.

Programs include lots of walking and a game or two that involves running. The games are lots of fun and educational, too!

Accessibility: Learning stations, trails, and lunch areas are accessible by chairs and scooters able to navigate packed surfaces and recycled asphalt.

Critter Scene Investigation (Pre K–2)
CSI is a 2.5-hour outdoor program for Pre-Kindergarten to 2nd grade students. Students travel along a nature trail through 6 stations, collecting clues and information to solve a wildlife mystery. CSI programs are held at Namaqua Park. 730 Namaqua Ave. Loveland, CO 80537

Our wonderful volunteers are ready to engage your students in learning about nature and natural areas

Reservations:
Spring season: March – May
Fall season: September – November

Request program dates online at: https://offero.cityofloveland.org

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LOVELAND OPEN LANDS & TRAILS
500 East Third Street, Suite 200
Loveland, CO 80537
www.CityofLoveland.org/OpenLands
The smells of yarrow and sage add to the experience.

Urban Wilderness – Grades 4-5

Urban Wildlife – Living With Nature 30 min
Which animals share our urban habitat? Is there a balance of nature in urban environments? What should you do if you encounter various wild animals?

RENA Rocks! & Watersheds 30 min
Discuss portions of the rock cycle as it pertains to the history of the front range and River’s Edge. Lesson activity illustrates structures of local watersheds from mountain origins to our floodplain towns.

Natural Areas & Open Spaces 30 min
A migration game to illustrate the value of natural areas as migratory corridors, animal habitat, and buffers between the urban and natural. Short discussion on the value of open spaces to humans.

Macro-invertebrate River Lab 45 min
Students examine and identify fresh water invertebrates and relate their presence to the health of the river.

Adaptations (Migrate, Adapt, or Die) 45 min
Learning about how an animal’s physiology fits with their habitat and environment, while handling pelts, skulls, and other aids.

Includes food chain game and several other interactive activities.

Wildlife Around Us – Grades 4-6*

Life Zones 30 min
Students learn about 5 Colorado Life Zones and how habitats are different within them. Includes information on specialist and generalist animals.

Animal Classification 30 min
Using mammals and birds as the primary examples, students learn about basic taxonomy and identifying characteristics.

Changes in Climate, Changes in Critters 30 min
How our changing climate is changing the residents of Colorado; the animals, their territories, their behavior, and how these changes may affect us.

Wildlife Management 45 min
What does it mean to be endangered or threatened? How do managers balance the needs of animals with those of humans?

Adaptations (Migrate, Adapt, or Die) 45 min
Learning about how an animal’s physiology fits with their habitat and environment, while handling pelts, skulls, and other aids.

Includes food chain game and camouflage game.

*Also suitable for older grades as introductory material.