

***Amigo Centre O/EE Program***  
**CURRICULUM LISTING AND DESCRIPTION**

**Our courses have been revised to incorporate Indiana's Academic Standards. Copies of the revised curriculum are available upon request.** After you have received your instructional materials, be sure to read them thoroughly. Become familiar with equipment needs and proper instruction of their use as described in each unit.

**We encourage teachers who will be teaching a course they are not familiar with, to schedule a time to visit prior to the school's visit and be trained by an Amigo Staff person.** This training is **free of charge**.

Equipment for all program options offered by Amigo are supplied by Amigo Centre.

**CONTENT COURSES**

**Field Communities**

Students will explore and compare various animal and plant habitats. They will identify the inter-relationships of things that make up a living community. Students will learn about producers, consumers, and decomposers and see how they interact together in a "web of life" activity. Several other activities will also be incorporated to reinforce the concepts studied.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.4.2, Science 4.4.3, Science 4.4.4, Science 4.4.6*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Reading 5.1.4, Science 5.1.6, Science 5.4.4, Science 5.4.5*

**Geology**

Through hands on exploration and examination of an extensive rock and mineral collection, students will learn to identify igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks and gain understanding of how these rocks were formed.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.3.6, Science 4.3.7, Science 4.3.14*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Reading 5.2.1, Science 5.1.5, Science 5.4.8, Science 5.5.7*

**How Birds Make a Living**

An assimilation activity brings this subject to life as students use tools that assimilate the different kind of beaks birds have. Students learn how adaptations are a key to survival for various species of birds. Students will also observe birds through a one-way glass window. A basic introduction to bird identification is included with this unit. This activity meets in the Nature Center.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.4.2, Science 4.4.3*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 5.4.4, Science 5.4.5, Science 5.4.7*

**Macroinvertebrates and More**

**(NEW in 2003)**

Students will collect specimens from the waters of Perrin Lake, and then spend time observing and identifying these macroinvertebrates. Students will also make calculations regarding the water quality of the lake from what they learn about macroinvertebrates being indicators of water quality.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.1.5, Science 4.4.2*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 5.4.1, Science 5.4.2, Science 5.4.3, Science 5.4.4, Science 5.4.5, Science 5.5.9, Science 5.5.10*

**Marsh Exploration**

Students will explore the 100-acre fresh water marsh on Amigo property. They will learn how a marsh is formed and the importance of preserving our wetlands. Students will gain an understanding of how the marsh is like a sponge, a filter, and is beneficial to all living things.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.1.2, Science 4.3.5*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Math 5.5.5, Reading 5.1.4, Science 5.1.5, Science 5.3.12, Science 5.5.7, Science 5.6.4*

### **Native American Picture Writing**

Students will learn how Native Americans used pictures to communicate between tribes. Using these symbols and signs, students will draw a story of their own. The course will also take a look at the importance of signs and symbols in our culture today.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.4.8*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Reading 5.3.6*

### **Nature Center**

Students will learn the Four Laws of Ecology and how these concepts relate to their lives. They will also observe reptiles, amphibians and birds and gain an understanding of their adaptations for survival. One activity in this course will give students a greater understanding of bilateral and radial symmetry.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.4.2, Science 4.4.3, Science 4.4.6*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 5.4.5, Science 5.4.7, Science 5.5.4, Science 5.6.1*

### **Reptiles and Amphibians**

Students will compare and contrast these two classes of animals, especially focusing on species native to the area around Amigo. Students will closely study a variety of live animals in captivity and learn to identify other reptiles and amphibians they might encounter. This activity meets in the Nature Center.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.4.2, Science 4.4.3, Science 4.4.6*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 5.4.4, Science 5.4.5, Science 5.4.7*

### **“Who Goes There?” - Animal Tracks and Signs**

More than just looking at tracks, this unit helps students to explore and identify habitat needs and clues of animal activity. Students will gain an understanding of adaptations, niches, and animal behavior as they hike through the woods.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.4.3*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 5.1.5, Science 5.4.5*

## SKILL COURSES

### **Canoeing**

After learning safety tips and basic paddling strokes, students will have an opportunity to work together with a canoe partner and paddle the waters of Perrin Lake. The lagoon, next to the boathouse, provides a wonderful area for beginning paddlers, especially on windy days.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.1.8, Science 4.6.2, Lifeskills, Lifelong Guidelines*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Reading 5.7.1, Reading 5.7.2, Lifeskills, Lifelong Guidelines*

### **Archery**

Students engage in an activity requiring both patience and technique. Safety is emphasized as students try a few easy-aim methods to increase their confidence.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.1.8, Science 4.3.12, Science 4.6.2, Lifeskills, Lifelong Guidelines*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 5.1.1, Science 5.2.6, Science 5.3.11, Lifeskills, Lifelong Guidelines*

### **Co-op Course**

Students will work together as a group on a series of initiatives incorporating numerous **C.L.A.S.S** lifelong guidelines and lifeskills. These initiatives help students to grasp the concepts in new ways. Due to liability concerns, this course must be led by an Amigo instructor and requires one additional accompanying adult.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Math 4.4.3, Math 4.7.2, Lifeskills, Lifelong Guidelines*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Math 5.4.2, Math 5.4.4, Math 5.7.2, Lifeskills, Lifelong Guideline*

*6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Math 6.4.3, Math 6.7.1, Math 6.7.3, Lifeskills, Lifelong Guidelines*

### **Orienteering**

Students will learn the basics of using a compass. This knowledge will then be put into use as students navigate through an orienteering course on the soccer field. Students will also learn other indicators of direction and the history of the compass.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.1.8, Science 4.3.9, Science 4.6.2*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Reading 5.2.1, Science 5.2.1, Science 5.2.2, Science 5.2.6*

### **Fishing**

This recreation sport can provide countless hours of enjoyment while also helping students stay connected to the earth as they gain an understanding of the process from the “catch” to “supper”. Students will exercise outdoor etiquette and practice conservation through "catch and release" of all fish caught. Students will learn to identify various species of fish during this course. Note: Amigo will provide all necessary equipment.

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 4.4.3, Science 4.4.6, Lifelong Guidelines, Lifeskills*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Science 5.4.1, Science 5.4.4, Science 5.4.5, Lifeskills, Lifelong Guidelines*

The following are courses that at present we have not created curriculum for, but are being used by one or more schools using their own curriculum: **Creative Writing, Scavenger Hunt, Arts and Crafts Nature Project, Fire Safety, Outdoor Cooking and Disc Golf.**

As you consider what courses to offer, be creative and utilize the resources within your staff. Trusting that together we can provide a unique and memorable experience for your students.