

Amigo Centre O/EE Winter 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.

4th Grade: Science 4.4.2, Science 4.4.3, Science 4.4.4, Science 4.4.6

5th Grade: Reading 5.1.4, Science 5.1.6, Science 5.4.4, Science 5.4.5

Frosted Flakes

An in-depth study of snow and ice focussing on scientific comparisons of snowflake and ice crystal shapes and formation. Students will also create and grow their own unique borax snowflake to enhance their understanding of how snow and ice crystals are formed.

4th Grade: Science 4.1.5, Science 4.2.6, Science 4.2.7

5th Grade: Science 5.1.3, Science 5.1.4, Science 5.3.4, Science 5.3.8

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.

4th Grade: Science 4.3.13, Science 4.4.2, Science 4.4.3

5th Grade: Science 5.4.4, Science 5.4.5, Science 5.4.7

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.

4th Grade: Science 4.1.2, Science 4.3.5

5th 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.

4th Grade: Science 4.4.8

5th 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.

4th Grade: Science 4.4.2, Science 4.4.3, Science 4.4.4, Science 4.4.6

5th 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.

4th Grade: Science 4.4.2, Science 4.4.3, Science 4.4.4, Science 4.4.6

5th 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.

4th Grade: Science 4.4.3

5th Grade: Science 5.1.5, Science 5.4.5

Winter Ecology

Students observe and discuss signs of plant and animal life in the winter season, life cycles of plants and animals in our region, and share their knowledge of what causes the four seasons we experience in Michigan.

4th Grade: Science 4.1.4, Science 4.3.8, Science 4.4.3

5th Grade: Science 5.4.4, Science 5.4.5, Science 5.4.7

Winter Tree ID

A course focussing on identifying various trees by close examination of buds, bark, and twigs rather than leaves and flowers. Students will learn where and how trees get their source of food throughout the year.

4th Grade: Science 4.4.4, Science 4.4.5

5th Grade: Science 5.4.1, Science 5.4.5

SKILL COURSES

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.

4th Grade: Science 4.1.8, Science 4.3.12, Science 4.6.2, Lifeskills, Lifelong Guidelines

5th 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.

4th Grade: Math 4.4.3, Math 4.7.2, Lifeskills, Lifelong Guidelines

5th Grade: Math 5.4.2, Math 5.4.4, Math 5.7.2, Lifeskills, Lifelong Guideline

6th 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.

4th Grade: Science 4.1.8, Science 4.3.9, Science 4.6.2

5th Grade: Reading 5.2.1, Science 5.2.1, Science 5.2.2, Science 5.2.6

Fishing/ Ice Fishing

This recreational sport can provide countless hours of enjoyment. Students will exercise outdoor etiquette and practice conservation through "catch and release" of all fish caught. Fish breed identification is also stressed. Availability of fishing course is based on weather and water / ice conditions.

Note: Amigo will provide all necessary equipment.

4th Grade: Science 4.4.3, Science 4.4.6, Lifelong Guidelines, Lifeskills

5th Grade: Science 5.4.1, Science 5.4.4, Science 5.4.5, Lifelong Guidelines, Lifeskills,

Cross Country Skiing

Students will learn various techniques for cross-country skiing based on ability of students, type of snow, terrain, etc. Availability based on weather, snow conditions.

Note: Amigo has some equipment available.

4th Grade: Science 4.1.8, Science 4.6.2, Lifelong Guidelines, Lifeskills

5th Grade: Science 5.2.7, Science 5.3.11, Lifelong Guidelines, Lifeskills

Winter Survival

Students discuss survival needs of animals and humans. Outside, hands-on experimentation and projects are used to stress these needs.

4th Grade: Science 4.1.6, Science 4.3.12, Science 4.3.13, Science 4.4.3, Science 4.4.4, Lifeskills

5th Grade: Science 5.3.10, Science 5.4.4, Science 5.4.7, Lifeskills

Additional courses are available if taught by the school. These courses include: A Creative Writing assignment, a Scavenger Hunt, an arts and crafts project, or another creative nature oriented course.