BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Environmental Sustainability

Field Trips/School Visits

Contact Green@bcps.k12.md.us with updates, additions & corrections

Provider	Details
Backyard Basecamp/BLISS Meadows https://backyardbasecamp.org/	Backyard Basecamp is a nonprofit organization that is reclaiming 10 acres in NE Baltimore and works to (re)connect Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) to land and nature. Programs include: summer camp, Weeds 2 Woods (an environmental workforce development program), Project Healthy Communities, service learning opportunities, training workshops, and more. Contact info@backyardbasecamp.org for more information.
Baltimore City Recreation & Parks - Cylburn Arboretum https://cylburn.org/educational-programs/	School groups who visit Cylburn can expect to engage in experiential environmental education. Our goal is for students to develop and deepen their relationship with nature by allowing them to immerse themselves in all that the expansive grounds of the arboretum have to offer. Students will be encouraged to carefully make observations and ask questions as they build their knowledge of the natural world. Our hope is to cultivate future stewards of the environment. Request a field trip to Cylburn Arboretum (near Sinai Hospital) for your K-8 group. Cost is \$100 for City Schools groups. You can expect to engage in experiential environmental education. Our goal is for students to develop and deepen their relationship with nature by allowing them to immerse themselves in all that the expansive grounds have to offer. Students are encouraged to carefully make observations and ask questions as they build their knowledge of the natural world. Our hope is to cultivate future stewards of the environment. Choose from these programs: Awaken to Nature Habitats and Biodiversity Pollinators Trees Watersheds Contact Erika Castillo at erika.castillo@cylburn.org

Baltimore City Recreation &
Parks - Carrie Murray Nature
Center

https://www.carriemurraynaturecenter.or g/park-field-trips Field trips to Gwynns Falls Leakin Park. Choose a fun and engaging school field trip that promotes science, natural history, nature education, and emergent approaches.

Park field trips are offered from 9:30 AM-12 PM. Visit the Virtual tab for live chats and free videos about stream valley habitats and animal adaptations.

Trips are free for Baltimore City Public Schools 4th grade classes provided through the National Park Foundation's Open Outdoors for Kids grant.

Baltimore City Recreation & Parks - Outdoor Recreation

https://bcrp.baltimorecity.gov/outdoor-recreation-programs

The Outdoor Rec team leads canoeing, hiking, and biking trips, as well as the popular "Canoe & Scoop" where participants help clean up the shoreline at Middle Branch Park.

Contact <u>OutdoorRecreation@baltimorecity.gov</u> or 443-984-4058 for more information.

Baltimore City Recreation & Parks - Rawlings Conservatory - Little Leaves - for 2nd graders

https://rawlingsconservatory.org/group-visits/

The Rawlings Conservatory is in Druid Hill Park. The Little Leaves curriculum is designed to support and supplement the Maryland State Science Standards for the second grade. Students complete *Little Leaves* with a better understanding of plant life and learn what plants need to survive in different habitats, how to use their senses to observe natural phenomena, and how to visually illustrate their observations through drawing.

Note: space is very limited and priority is given to schools near Druid Hill Park

Contact Alice Hubbard at alhubat@aol.com for more information.

Baltimore Compost Collective

https://baltimorecompostcollective.org/

The Baltimore Compost Collective is a local service that collects food scraps from residences in Baltimore neighborhoods and composts the material at local urban gardens, where it is used to grow fresh produce and build urban food security.

It is also a youth entrepreneurship program that employs local teenagers and trains them in workforce skills, food access programming and community-scale composting. Youth workers are gaining guided, hands-on experience managing a small-scale composting operation and its expansion.

BCC can visit your school: "Learn so we don't have to burn. Starve the incinerator. Feed the soil. Feed the community. Clean air for Baltimore!

baltimorecompostcollective@gmail.com.

Baltimore Harbor Environmental Education Program (Chesapeake Bay Foundation)

https://www.cbf.org/join-us/education-pr ogram/field-programs/one-day/baltimoreharbor-environmental-education-program. html Program capacity: 28 participants (grade 4 and above).

The workboat Snow Goose provides a unique platform from which participants study the dynamic relationship between the Port of Baltimore and the Chesapeake Bay's Patapsco River. Students investigate environmental issues and trends, often within the context of urban ecology. The Baltimore Harbor program is an excellent venue for students to learn about the fragility and the resiliency of ecosystems under the pressure of a modern working river.

Aboard the workboat Snow Goose, students access areas near superfund sites, brownfields, waste-water treatment plants and power plants, as well as a variety of local industries. Water quality investigations are complemented by the sampling of benthic, planktonic, and other aquatic communities.

BioEyes

https://www.bioeyes.org/

Empowering students to become scientists in EVERY classroom, BioEYES is a K-12 science education program which provides classroom-based learning opportunities through the use of live zebrafish. BioEYES is designed to incorporate teacher empowerment and provides professional development seminars and a co-teaching experience with trained science consultants, called outreach educators.

Civic Works – Real Food Farm

https://realfoodfarm.civicworks.com/fag/

We can't wait for you to learn about Real Food Farm! We grow thousands of pounds of produce for sale in Baltimore. Taste seasonally available fresh produce, explore our diverse bio-habitat with native plants and pollinators, learn about issues surrounding food justice in our cities, and develop translatable farming skills through our hands-on agricultural activities.

Visit the Farm

- -Pricing for a 2 hour farm visit/tour starts at \$12 per student with a \$150 minimum. Final price may increase based on additional material, staffing, preparations, or other needs.
- -Our team leads students through demos with on-farm examples and other relevant farm activities to their lesson such as seeding, harvesting, plant ID, exploring biogeochemical cycles, etc.

We can visit your school

- Pricing starts at \$150 for a 1-hour lecture and/or demo for any class size.
- -Demos could include a "plant-a-long," flower dissection, soil testing, strawberry DNA extraction, etc.
- -Each additional iteration of the lecture and/or demo starts at an additional \$30
- -Final price may vary based on additional material, staffing, preparations, or other needs.

<u>How to sign up</u>: <u>Fill out this form</u> to express your interest. RFF will reach out to set up a meeting to discuss their needs further. The school must confirm the visit a minimum of 2 weeks before the event is planned.

Also: Students can participate in Service Learning programs. Each year Civic Works hosts the <u>Ricky Meyers Day of Service</u>.

Contact Kai Rundquist for more information.

CoreShark H2O

https://www.csh2o.org/outreach-educatio n/csh2o-programs/ The primary goals of our Oyster & Environmental Education Programs are to provide quality hands-on experiences to students and to instill a passion for ways students can help within their communities. Our programs offer lessons about these amazing shellfish, the Chesapeake Bay, its watershed and the environment as it relates to our waterways.

CoreShark H2O's Education Coordinator works with you to meet the needs of your audience. The lessons can be tailored with a seasonal theme or a special topic to support your school, class, or community organization.

Lessons are adapted to the appropriate grade level and are available for adult groups as well. They are designed with a hands-on component, so group sizes up to 30 can be accommodated. Each lesson is scheduled to run approximately 45-50 minutes, and this can be adjusted to meet your class duration. Lessons can be presented as an individual lesson or combined for a longer presentation. We come to you.

Is your school Green School certified or working towards certification? As you work toward your "Accomplishments", we may be able to help with that too.

First Fruits Farm

https://www.firstfruitsfarm.org/field-tr ip-q-a First Fruits Farm is a large farm in northern Baltimore County whose mission is "to cultivate the sustainable miracle of food to meet each person's hunger for nourishment, service, and inspiration."

First Fruits Farm provides free field trips, classes, and other events designed to help students of all ages more deeply connect with nutrition, STEM, agriculture, and more. Depending on the amount of time you can spend with us, we'll work with you to develop a plan that meets the needs of your students with hands-on experiences, aligned with what they are learning in the classroom.

Greater Baltimore Wilderness Coalition

https://www.baltimorewilderness.org/

This nonprofit organization can sometimes provide small trees to give away to families and staff who sign up ahead of time. For more information, contact Ashley Traut, atraut@baltimorewilderness.org

Genesee Valley Outdoor Learning Center

https://www.geneseevalley.org/leader ship-teambuilding Located 30 minutes North of Baltimore City, Genesee Valley (5013c) is based on 140 acres of woodlands and farm property, offering engaging and hands-on outdoor experiences for students and adults (3rd grade - older). The focus on team-building, leadership, and character development (SEL) through activities such as problem-solving initiatives, challenge courses and nature exploration (also holding chickens!) helps participants develop communication, cooperation, and confidence in a fun and supportive environment. Each program is specifically designed and tailored based on grade levels, learning needs and objectives to enhance classroom learning through outdoor experiential education. A trip to Genesee Valley is a great way to foster personal growth and core memories!

Program options: Full Day (9-4) \$51/participant, Half Day (3 hours) \$29/participant, Offsite (we come to you, 3 hours), Overnight Camping Contact info@geneseevalley.org (410)343-0101 Scholarship opportunities available!

Irvine Nature Center

https://www.explorenature.org/schoolprograms/

FIELD TRIPS: In a spectacular outdoor setting comprised of 200 acres of woodlands, wetlands and meadows, Irvine offers 9 different half-day programs for school groups that provide students of all ages with inspirational outdoor experiences. With programs led by staff and volunteer naturalists, our program content encourages students to work collaboratively to make observations, collect data, compare and classify organisms, and draw conclusions. We believe that hands-on learning and teamwork while in a natural setting provide opportunities for meaningful and memorable experiences that will last a lifetime.

NATURE IN THE CLASSROOM: Irvine's Nature in the Classroom programs allow students to experience the excitement of nature from the convenience of their own classroom or auditorium. Our naturalists will bring nature to your school or other educational setting, for a one-of-a-kind experience, including an animal encounter with one of Irvine's animal ambassadors.

Contact Laura Ferrara at 443-738-9215 or <u>FerraraL@ExploreNature.org</u> for more information.

Marshy Point Nature Center

https://www.marshypoint.org/programs/school-group-outreach-programs/

As part of the Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks, Marshy Point Nature Center and its staff provide school and group programming with the MPNC Nature Council's support.

Marshy Point is a great choice for school and community groups looking for nature-oriented, hands-on field trips and programs in the Greater Baltimore area. From Pre-K to adult, we tailor each trip to suit your needs, providing diverse learning and outdoor opportunities for all ages, needs, and backgrounds. Program offerings are listed on the MPNC Program Request Form.

Please email <u>marshypt-rp@baltimorecountymd.gov</u> for program request form.

Maryland Dept of Natural Resources (MD DNR) - Patapsco Valley and Soldier's Delight

https://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pag es/snt.aspx

Maryland DNR offers a variety of programs at Patapsco Valley State Park and Soldiers Delight Natural Environmental Area and at your school, for a fee (waivers for Title 1 schools are not available). They include:

- At Patapsco or Soldiers Delight, including Ranger RoundUp, Canoeing, Fishing, Owl Prowl, Walking, and more
- Mobile Visitor Center at your school, including a basic display, an owl pellet dissection, Junior Rangers, Park Pals, BioBlitz, Reptile Wrap-Up, and more
- Virtual programs, including Wings & Things, No So Ninja Turtles, Animal Sounds, and more

Request a Program (see Maryland DNR - Questions to Request a Program SY25

Contact soldiersdelight.statepark@maryland.gov with questions

Masonville Cove (Living Classrooms)

https://www.masonvillecove.org/fieldtrip

The Living Classrooms Foundation offers in-person field trips at its location in South Baltimore (south of Harbor Hospital). Read descriptions of half-day and full-day programs. Topics include: Who Killed Rocky Rockfish?; Exploring the Chesapeake Bay Watershed; Birdy Bonanza; Terrapin Tales; Insect Encounters; and more. And, if you don't see something that you want, you might be able to get a custom program!

Contact Nathanael Houston with questions at nhouston@livingclassrooms.org. To schedule, please submit the form on the website.

Mr Trash Wheel/EcoTours (Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore)

https://www.mrtrashwheel.com/teacher-resources

and

https://www.mrtrashwheel.com/ecotours

Share the love for Mr. Trash Wheel and his relatives with these <u>teacher</u> <u>resources</u>. The wheels are semi-autonomous trash interceptors at the end of a river, stream or other outfall. Far too lazy to chase trash around the ocean, the wheels stay put and wait for the waste to flow to them! Sustainably powered and built to withstand the biggest storms, the wheels blend solar and hydro power to pull hundreds of tons of trash out of the water each year. The teacher resources are grouped into Crafts & Creations; Games; Lesson Kits; Other Activities; Printables; and Videos.

Bring your teaching to life with an <u>EcoTour</u>, a guided walking tours along the Inner Harbor's promenade. Students will get a comprehensive view of the various urban green initiatives led by the Waterfront Partnership's Healthy Harbor Initiative and its partners. Come see how these projects have transformed Baltimore's waterways into a healthier, sustainable

environment. The fee is \$150 per class. FREE FOR 5th GRADE CLASSES, INCLUDING TRANSPORTATION.

For more information, contact Chloe Qualls, Environmental Programs Coordinator, Healthy Harbor Initiative, Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore: chloe@waterfrontpartnership.org

Nature Worx

https://www.natureworx.org/

Nature Worx is an outdoor experiential program that introduces participants to the restorative, contemplative and healing properties of focused, intentional activity in a natural environment. We go outside to go inside!

Participants learn how to develop a relationship with the natural world, gain a fresh perspective on their lives and create a sense of connection to all living things. The Nature Worx program combines elements of mindfulness, meditation, forest therapy and naturalist interpretation. Nature Worx will come to your school or you can meet at a park. Appropriate for all ages, including adults.

Contact Phil Hosmer at phosmer@natureworx.org

NorthBay

https://northbayadventure.org/

The nation's largest outdoor education campus and premier retreat destination. Located in North East, MD, 1 hour North of Baltimore. Since 2005, we have served over 300,000 public school students, 350 schools and 21 districts, who have participated in NorthBay's innovative, outdoor residential education programs. We have also served thousands of guests during weekends and summer retreats.

Our mission is to challenge people through transformative educational and retreat experiences to realize their attitudes and actions have a lasting impact on their lives, communities, and the environment.

Contact <u>contact@northbayadventure.org</u> for more information.

Oregon Ridge Park & Nature Center

https://www.oregonridgenaturecenter.org/childrens-education-at-oregon-ridge-park/

CHILDREN'S FIELD TRIPS – Located in Hunt Valley, Oregon Ridge Park's forest, streams and meadows are nature's classrooms for children from Baltimore City, Baltimore County and other public schools along with private schools, home school groups and summer camps. The Oregon Ridge Nature Center staff and volunteers serve approximately 3,000 students each year. Each scheduled group enjoys a 2-hour 'field trip' to Oregon Ridge that enhances their science curriculum.

For each field trip, a park naturalist introduces the subject chosen for the class with a talk, slideshow and/or live specimens. Trained volunteer trail guides then lead a hike with hands-on activities that have been designed especially for the subject. Educators can choose from the following outdoor experiences; Animals and their Habitats, Creek to Stream to Bay, Native Americans, Insects and their Kin, Maple Sugaring, Rocks Rock!,

	Predator and Prey and Reptiles and Amphibians or they can request a program subject that aligns with a nature related subject they are studying at the time.
Outward Bound https://www.outwardboundchesapeake.or g/programs/schools-groups	Outward Bound is a non-profit educational organization and expedition school that serves people of all ages and backgrounds through active learning expeditions that inspire character development, self-discovery and service both in and out of the classroom. Outward Bound delivers programs using unfamiliar settings as a way for participants across the country to experience adventure and challenge in a way that helps students realize they can do more than they thought possible.
	Customized courses provide curricula developed for struggling teens, groups with specific health, social or educational needs and business and professional organizations.
	Outward Bound offers short visits to its campus in Leakin Park/Gwynns Falls, and multi-day trips in the greater Maryland Area.
	Contact Hanibal Gnahoui at hgnahoui@outwardboundchesapeake.org to discuss trips and pricing.
Party Animalz http://www.partyanimalzfarm.com/	At Party Animalz Farm we offer the best traveling petting zoos in the area. We are located in Brogue PA and have been in the business for over 30 years. Let us put our experience to work for you! We serve South Central Pennsylvania, most of Maryland, and Delaware year round. We offer a mini petting zoo and a large petting zoo, each of which brings a variety of farm animals.
	Contact partyanimalzfarm@aol.com for more information.
Port of Baltimore Environmental Education	The Port of Baltimore Environmental Education Team offers a variety of opportunities for classroom teachers and other community members.
https://www.portofbaltimoreeducation.or g/services	Tours and field trips are available at <u>Poplar Island</u> , <u>Hart-Miller Island</u> , and <u>Masonville</u> . (We hope to again offer programs at <u>Cox Creek</u> in the near future). <u>Masonville Cove</u> is also home to our " <u>Youth Birding Week</u> " summer program.
	Educators are available to visit schools to teach in-class outreach lessons (see our <u>Lesson Library</u>) about the Port's restoration projects and associated environmental issues, including diamondback terrapins, local bird populations, citizen science, career exploration, and more. To request a visit, please click "request a program" <u>here</u> .
	Additionally, the Baltimore Port Alliance hosts an annual <u>Hiring Expo</u> and Teacher Externship.

Recycling - Tour a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)

https://bcwebservices.wufoo.com/forms/request-a-tour-of-baltimore-countys-mrf

Thank you for your interest in a tour of Baltimore County's single stream Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). Please use this form to request a free, 60 to 90 minute tour of the facility in Cockeysville. Tours can be scheduled for 10 to 30 people. A Department of Public Works and Transportation employee will follow up with you directly to finalize the details. We welcome groups of all kinds, including community associations, faith-based organizations and student groups, grades four and up.

Contact William Olfson at wolfson@baltimorecountymd.gov or 410-808-9729 for more information.

NOTE: the email on the wufoo form does not work!

Robinson Nature Center

https://www.howardcountymd.gov/recreation-parks/robinson-nature-center

The James & Anne Robinson Nature Center is a green-designed nature education center situated on 18 acres of forested land. Operated by Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks, the nature center features interactive exhibits, a children's discovery room, the Nature Place outdoor play area, an auditorium, classrooms/ meeting rooms and the NatureSphere, a state-of-the-art digital planetarium.

We offer on-site field trips at the Nature Center, Robinson on the Road programs (brought to your school) and virtual field trips. Each program has a separate request form. Various field trip offerings are detailed at https://www.howardcountymd.gov/recreation-parks/robinson-nature-center#for-instructors

Taste Wise Kids

https://www.tastewisekids.org/ Salina Duncan sduncan@tastewisekids.org We provide parents, guardians & teachers with resources & activities to get kids involved in food. Visit our welcome page to learn more about our activities!

Worms are Wonderful - An Interactive Story Time for Pre-K through 2nd grade. Students will learn all about the benefits of worms through an interactive story time, followed by an exploration of worm compost. Students will investigate a live worm bin and feed the worms, all while learning about the benefits of composting and how to do it. \$250 per 50 minutes, max 30 students; \$200 per additional consecutive same day session.

Every Day is Earth Day - Pre-K through 6th grade. When we care for the earth, we also care for our communities. Three Earth Care activity options will be selected by the school. Activity options include making seed bombs, exploring seeds (students can make a planter to take home or create a seed pack to take home), intro to composting, urban/vertical garden design, planting school gardens, environmental justice themes and more. Programs can take place inside or outdoors. \$800 for four 45 minute sessions with 3 rotation selections. Max 30 students per session.

	Taste Wise Kids offers collaborations in many ways. If your school is looking for a curated activity about sustainability, nutrition, and earth friendly practices, please reach out.
Towson Center for STEM Excellence https://www.towson.edu/fcsm/centers/stem/	Located in downtown Baltimore's vibrant Inner Harbor, the Center for STEM Excellence serves Maryland's K-12 schools through outreach programs supporting STEM education.Programs include: • Digital Learning Resources (free) • Field Trip Experiences (free and paid) for grades 3-12, in person and virtual • Maryland Loaner Lab • Science is Elementary • Teacher Professional Development Contact amcdonald@towson.edu for more information.
Urban farms and gardens (various)	Various urban farms around Baltimore may also be able to host student groups, though capacity often varies by season and year. Locate farms and gardens near you at https://farmalliancebaltimore.org/members/ and reach out to ask about availability.