

# NATURE WALK: DOCENT LED

## LOST LAKE PARK TRAIL (LOST LAKE PARK)

## HIDDEN HOMES TRAIL WALK (RIVER CENTER)

---

**EXPLORE NATURE WITH ONE OF OUR KNOWLEDGABLE NATURE DOCENTS AS YOU LEARN ABOUT THE PLANTS, ANIMALS AND BIRDS THAT CALL OUR AREA HOME**

### Third Grade NGSS DCI Addressed:

[ESS2.A](#) Earth Materials and Systems

[ESS2.D](#) Weather and Climate

[ESS3.B](#) Natural Hazards

[LS2.C](#) Ecosystem dynamics, functioning and resilience

[LS4.C](#) Adaptation

- [3-LS4-2](#)
- [3-LS4-3](#)

[LS4.D](#) Biodiversity and Humans

### Pre-Trip Information (to be done in class prior to trip)

- [Something's Fishy at the River Video](#)

### Objectives:

- Students will learn to use their five senses while observing their surroundings;
- Become more aware about the importance of open space in urban areas
- Learn about some of the flora, fauna and relationships that exist between them along the nature trail
- Identify and discuss habitats of animals that live along the trail
- Discuss some of the ways humans impact our river and surrounding lands both in negative and positive ways

### Introduction:

- What should one be looking for when on a nature hike?
- What is the purpose of a nature hike? (*They allow students to become explorers and discoverers, and give students a chance to see first-hand what they might have been studying in the classroom. They also allow students to see for themselves the beauty and importance of open space in urban areas.*)

### Activity:

- 1) Tell the students they are going to go on an adventure.

- a. Ask them if they have ever been on a nature hike before.
  - b. Ask them what kinds of rules they have to remember while on this hike.  
    SUGGESTIONS: Stay together, stay quiet so that they can hear nature's sounds; walk, don't run; stay on the trail.
  - c. Introduce some the species they might be encountering on their nature hike.
- 2) Ask the students if trash is a natural part of nature.
- a. Do they like seeing trash in nature?
  - b. Designate someone to carry a trash bag for the first part of the trip; switch off every few minutes to give others the opportunity to carry the bag. Tell them they will be on a quest to find "unnatural" items on their nature hike.
- 3) Go for it!
- \*Refer to the "Lost Lake Park Audubon Nature Trail Guide" as a reference for field trips at Lost Lake Park.

### Discussion:

What did students learn on their nature trail?

Did they enjoy seeing trash on the nature trail? Graffiti?

What kinds of animals did they see/hear on the nature trail?

### Post-Trip Activity

- Have students write and draw something they SAW, HEARD, SMELLED and FELT from their nature walk
- Have students write a paragraph about something they learned from their nature walk (W.3.8)
- Have students brainstorm ideas on why nature trails are important and how we can keep them beautiful and healthy ([3-5-ETS1-2](#), [SEP-6](#))