

Partners in Fieldwork

2018-2019

Program Application

For Middle School (6th-8th grade) and
High School (9th-12th) Science Teachers



LINCOLN PARK ZOO.

FOR WILDLIFE. FOR ALL.

Partners in Fieldwork 2018-2019 Program Application



Lincoln Park Zoo's Partners in Fieldwork program engages middle and high school students in year-long research activities that support the work of Lincoln Park Zoo's Urban Wildlife Institute. This application outlines commitments and requirements for teachers and students.

Program Overview

Throughout the course of the program, students will

- conduct authentic science projects, aligned with zoo research, through data collection experiences, data analysis and dissemination.
- connect with nature and urban wildlife in their communities and at Lincoln Park Zoo.
- gain awareness about the diversity of Chicago wildlife.
- be encouraged to explore nature in their communities.
- develop solutions for conservation challenges faced in an urbanizing world.

Throughout the course of the program, teachers will

- gain experience using inquiry in their science classroom.
- incorporate information on conservation and human impacts on the environment into their curriculum.
- increase understanding and confidence in applying the scientific process.

This FREE program incorporates a research model including observation, data collection and analysis, and research dissemination on school grounds, as well as at the zoo. The program will culminate in a special event held at Lincoln Park Zoo in spring of 2019. Middle school and high school events will be held separately.

Due to high demand and limited availability of spots, we want to make sure that teachers who are chosen to participate will be able to fulfill all requirements of the full program. Teachers* must teach a middle school level (6th-8th grade) science course (minimum of three classes/periods must participate) or high school level science course (minimum of two classes/periods must

participate). The program begins in August with a required Teacher Workshop to be held on August 25, 2018. Student involvement with the program will begin with the school year. Please review the program with your school administrator and return this application by May 18, 2018.

*Participating teacher should be the primary science teacher of the participating classes.

Program Components

The program will consist of the following:

Two Professional Development Workshops

Time Commitment: Two full days

Projected Time Frame: Saturday, August 25, 2018, & Saturday, January 19, 2019

During these interactive workshops, the teacher will receive an overview of the program and its components, supplementary information on research possibilities, necessary materials to participate in program components, time to collaborate with fellow participants, and a chance to learn more about the animals and researchers at the zoo.

Attendance at the workshops is required, and teachers will receive a stipend for attending. In the unlikely event that a workshop must be rescheduled, please note that workshops may take place during either school or non-school hours. During school hours, funding for an external substitute will be provided. During non-school hours, a stipend will be provided.

The zoo will also provide CPDUs, parking, a light breakfast, and lunch for the day.

Two Field Trips to Conduct Field Work

Time Commitment: Two one-day field trips for each participating class; teachers may need to attend on multiple days to accommodate multiple class sections.

Projected Time Frame: (1) October-November and (2) April-May

All participating middle school students will visit the zoo

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on two separate occasions in order to conduct research. Each visit will give students a chance to collect data for their final research project using the zoo’s iPads and data sheets. The educator workshops and classroom visits will prepare participating teachers for each visit.

All participating high school students will visit the zoo once and a local natural area once to conduct research. Each visit will give students an opportunity to conduct biodiversity surveys utilizing various research methods.

Participating schools will receive buses for each field trip and additional funds to cover an external substitute for two days per field trip.

Teachers will select specific days for their field trips that work with their schedule. If a teacher has more than three classes, they will need to schedule multiple days for their field trip to accommodate all of their students, and the participating teacher must attend all days of the field trip.

A one-week notice will be required for any schedule changes or cancellations. Due to the limited dates available for field trips, there may not be time to reschedule additional trips that are cancelled after the deadline. Therefore, if a teacher needs to reschedule after the deadline, the visit may be subject to cancellation.

Ongoing Student Learning and Research on School Grounds

Time Commitment: At least two-four hours of class time per month per class

Projected Time Frame: September-May, ongoing

Teachers will use Lincoln Park Zoo resources and curriculum to engage students in learning about and conducting authentic science research. Students will conduct ongoing research and analysis at school using these tools. Two to four hours of class time per month are required to focus on research, analysis and presentation preparation. Individual data collection outside of school hours is encouraged but not required.

Teachers will receive practical support and necessary materials for leading research and analysis during the professional development sessions and through the online portal. Teachers will also receive support in aligning this research with existing science curriculum.

Culminating Event

Time Commitment: For middle school, one full school day for the participating teacher and selected students. For high school, one evening for participating teacher and selected students.

Projected Time Frame: May

We will celebrate participating students’ success with a culminating event in spring of 2019. There will be separate events for middle school and for high school. All participating students will complete a final research project to present to their peers and classmates. Each participating teacher will then select a percentage of their students to represent their school at the event. The program provides one bus to bring the teacher and students to the zoo; participating middle schools also receive funds to cover an external substitute as their event is during the school day. The event will conclude with a catered reception. The zoo will provide middle school teachers and students with the poster boards needed to complete this component. For high school teachers and students, a poster will be created digitally and sent to the zoo educator; posters will then be printed out for the event.

These culminating events are opportunities for students to share their discoveries with each other and with zoo staff.

How to Apply

If you would like to participate with your classes, please complete the program application and return to us no later than May 18, 2018. Applications are accepted on a rolling-basis.

The applicant’s school must be within the city of Chicago. During the selection process, preference is given to those from schools that are part of Chicago Public Schools.

If you have any questions, please contact us at (312) 742-2051 or pif@lpzoo.org.

Diversity at Lincoln Park Zoo

Lincoln Park Zoo is committed to an environment that is inclusive and welcoming. We celebrate the diverse qualities, perspectives, values and experiences of all people. For Wildlife. For All.

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Part I: School Information

School Name CPS Network

School Address

Neighborhood

School Phone School Fax

Hours, per day, each student receives science instruction

Grade Levels to Participate (circle one or multiple) 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Number of Classes to Participate (minimum 3 for 6th-8th and 2 for 9th-12th)

High School Only: Subject(s) Taught

Part II: Teacher Information

Teacher's Name

CPS Email Address

Alternate Email Address

Cell/Home Phone Phone Number You Can Be Reached During Summer

Are you the primary science teacher of participating classes?

Yes No

How many years have you been teaching science?

Have you received science endorsements?

Yes No

Are you highly qualified in science?

Yes No

What is your background in science research?

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Part III: Commitment to Program

By initialing/signing below you have reviewed the program components and time commitment and agree to participate in the Partners in Fieldwork Program for the 2018-2019 school year.

- Two educator teacher workshops; Saturday, August 25, 2018 and Saturday, January 19, 2019
- Four (HS) of five (MS) classroom visits from a zoo educator
- Two field trips to Lincoln Park Zoo or Natural Area
- Ongoing learning and research on school grounds
- Participation in culminating event

Teacher Signature _____

Date _____

YES, as the school administrator, _____
has my support to participate in the program. I have reviewed the program components and time commitment and will provide the needed support for my staff and students to participate in all aspects of the program. I understand that as part of this program, I am allowing data collection equipment, including but not limited to a Field Camera and Bat Monitor, to be set-up on school grounds.

School Administrator Printed Name _____

Date _____

School Administrator Signature _____

Part IV: Statement of Interest

As we can only accommodate a small number of teachers, we are interested in partnering with teachers who are as excited to work with us as we are to work with them. Please attach a brief written statement (maximum of 500 words) letting us know what you find most interesting about the Partners in Fieldwork program and how you believe your students would benefit from participation.

Part V: Submit Materials

Please mail/email/fax completed application form and statement of interest to:

Student Programs Coordinator
Learning Department
Lincoln Park Zoo
2001 N. Clark St.
Chicago, IL 60614

Ph: (312) 742-2051
Fax: (312) 742-2040
Email: pif@lpzoo.org