

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK 2023

Connecting Children with Nature

Resources in Delaware to extend the Children's Book Week theme and further connect children and families with nature throughout the year.

Please note: These community resources are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood. The information provided below comes directly from each organization's website.

Nature-Related Field Trips and/or In-House Visitors

NEW CASTLE COUNTY	
Brandywine Zoo - Wilmington www.brandywinezoo.org Features: Animals from the tropical and temperate areas of North and South America, Asia, and Africa.	Winterthur Garden - Wilmington www.winterthur.org Features: Meadows, woodlands, and waterways, 60-acre garden including the Enchanted Woods, offers on-site, classroom, or virtual learning opportunities.
3 Palms Zoo & Education Center - Townsend www.3palmszoo.org Features: Delaware's largest zoo, housing the state's only alligator exhibit, eastern coyote, & silver foxes.	Ashland Nature Center - Hockessin www.delawarenaturesociety.org/centers/dupont-environmental-education-center Features: Delaware Nature Society's headquarters, meadows, marshes, and creeks, trails, educational programs, and nature discovery field trips.
DuPont Environmental Education Center - Wilmington www.delawarenaturesociety.org/centers/dupont-environmental-education-center Features: Freshwater tidal marsh refuge, Visitor Center, a 10-acre ornamental garden, and trail loops.	Delaware Museum of Nature & Science - Wilmington www.delmns.org Features: Diverse nature and science exhibits that highlight natural history and present-day nature.

NEW CASTLE COUNTY (CONT'D)

Coverdale Farm - Greenville

www.delawarenaturesociety.org/centers/coverdale-farm-preserve

Features: Natural and working land, regenerative agriculture and farming methods, on-site market, hayrides, trails, and an outdoor classroom.

Mt. Cuba Center - Hockessin

www.mtcubacenter.org

Features: Features: Conservation and preservation of native plants and habitats, nature trails, classes, and other learning experiences.

Delaware Center for Horticulture - Wilmington

www.thedch.org

Features: Educational/demonstrative garden offering garden workshops and healthy living programs.

Iron Hill Science Center – Newark

www.ironhillsciencecenter.org

Features: Walking trails, historic African American school house, exhibits on insects, fossils, geology, and plants. Holds on site field trips and “museum visits YOU!”

KENT COUNTY

Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge - Smyrna

www.fws.gov/refuge/bombay-hook

Features: One of the largest tidal salt marsh preservations in the mid-Atlantic. Visitor center, wildlife drive, walking trails, observation towers, and educational programs.

302 Aquaponics - Dover

www.302aquaponics.com

Features: Delaware’s largest commercial aquaponics greenhouse. Cutting edge farming methods to produce fish and herbs and vegetables through an interconnected water system.

Delaware Agricultural Museum and Village - Dover

www.agriculturalmuseum.org

Features: Agricultural education and preservation of cultural heritage. Agricultural exhibits and a quaint historic village.

Big Joe’s Honey - Wyoming

www.facebook.com/bigjoeshoney

Features: Local apiary (beekeeping) that aims to promote and sustain Delaware’s precious bee population, while also making handcrafted honey products. *No on-site field trips; please call to schedule classroom visits.



KENT COUNTY (CONT'D)

Fifer Orchards - Camden-Wyoming

www.fiferorchards.com

Features: An expansive orchard that grows a variety of fruits and vegetables - many of which are sold in local markets and used in Delaware restaurants! Farm store and kitchen, U-Pick experiences, and seasonal events.

Delaware AeroSpace Education Foundation – Smyrna

www.dasef.org

Features: The science of earth and space linked to the education of the community with a wide offering of topics to explore on-site or in your program.

Killens Pond State Park – Felton

www.destateparks.com/pondsrivers/killenspond

Features: Walking trails, pond and water activities, nature center with interactive educational opportunities, and seasonal water park.



SUSSEX COUNTY

Barnhill Preserve - Frankford

www.barnhillpreserve.com/barn-hill-preserve-delaware-2

Features: Wildlife conservation organization with interactive animal programs. Educational nature and animal encounters along with a mobile zoo option.

Delaware Botanic Garden - Dagsboro

www.delawaregardens.org

Features: Educational and sustainable public botanic garden offering interactive programs such as walking tours, education classes, and landscape art.

Cape Henlopen State Park - Lewes

www.destateparks.com/beaches/capehenlopen

Features: Historic state park comprised of beach and bayside nature and woodland trails. Seaside Nature Center with touch tank and marine life, as well as interactive educational programs.

DuPont Nature Center - Milford

<https://dnrec.alpha.delaware.gov/fish-wildlife/education-outreach/duPont-nature-center>

Features: Science-based educational and interpretive facility with interactive exhibits focused on the Delaware Bay.



SUSSEX COUNTY (CONT'D)

<p>James Farm Ecological Preserve – Ocean View</p> <p>www.inlandbays.org/projects-and-issues/all/james-farm-preserve/</p> <p>Features: Wildland preservation including a beach, walking trails, and various marshes. Educational opportunities offered.</p>	<p>Abbott's Mill Nature Center - Milford</p> <p>www.delawarenaturesociety.org/centers/abbotts-mill-nature-center</p> <p>Features: Meadows, trails, creeks, and nature center. Provides educational experiences through both on-site and classroom visitation.</p>
<p>Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge – Milton</p> <p>www.fws.gov/refuge/prime-hook/visit-us</p> <p>Features: Natural habitats, wildlife, walking trails, and is renowned for birdwatching. Visitor center on site.</p>	<p>Trap Pond State Park – Laurel</p> <p>www.destateparks.com/trappond</p> <p>Features: Walking trails, pond and water activities, magnificent Baldcypress trees, and the Baldcypress Nature Center.</p>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

<p>Delaware Farm Bureau</p> <p>www.defb.org</p> <p>Mobile agricultural lab (primarily serves ages 5-12).</p>	<p>The Nature Conservancy in Delaware</p> <p>www.nature.org/delaware</p> <p>Youth engagement effort: nature lab.</p>
<p>Delaware Nature Society</p> <p>www.delawarenaturesociety.org</p> <p>Options for specialized education programs.</p>	<p>Delaware State Parks</p> <p>www.destateparks.com</p> <p>Hub for all of the wonderful state parks in Delaware! There are even more than what is listed in this document.</p>

