



Virtual Academy Lending Kits

Cleveland Metroparks Mobile Outreach Unit can provide educators with free lending kits for their preschool classroom through Eco Explorers powered by PNC Grow Up Great. These kits are specifically designed to enhance their nature-based videos and lesson plans that align with Ohio's Early Learning Content Standards.

No membership required to borrow - lending kits!

Program Lending Kits:

- **Animal Homes & Habitats-** Students will learn about different kinds of habitats, who lives in them, and how habitats provide animals what they need to survive. Lending kit items include: Habitat boxes, habitat magnetic puzzle boards, animal home bingo, habitat twister, and need vs. want relay race.
- **Investigating Insects-** Students will learn the characteristics of insects and why they are an important part of the ecosystem. Lending kit items include: Real bug kit, magnifiers, plastic insects, nets, fly eyeglasses, life cycle figurines, bug viewers, plastic containers, two-way bug viewers, and pictures of insect body parts.
- **Animal Adaptations-** Students will learn that animals have physical features and behaviors that influence their survival. Lending kit items include: Potato Head, cups, animal skulls, models of human teeth, pipettes, clothespins, tweezers, bird food, magnifiers, animal pictures, tarp, and "Can you see me?" game.
- **Plants and their Parts-** Students will learn the needs of plants, their parts and be introduced to the life cycle of a plant. Lending kit items include: Plant pictures, seed examples, artificial plant showing roots, life cycle of a bean plant plastic models, giant magnetic plant life cycle, DIY plastic flower garden build kit, plastic fruits and vegetables bag, "From Seed to Plant" book, leaf stencils, leaf and flower rubbing plates.
- **Weather in the Seasons-** Students will learn what weather is and how it changes throughout the year. Students will learn about simple tools for exploring weather within and outside of their classroom. Lending kit items include: Weather and season pictures, thermometer, anemometer, rain gauge, weather recording chart, weather movement cube and signs, wireless weather station, classroom set of prism viewers, "All About Weather" story book, seasonal matching kit, cloud viewing chart, Weather Wise series of books.

Pick-up location and hours:

- Mobile Outreach, 6100 W. Canal Road, Valley View, OH 44125
- Monday - Friday: 9am – 4pm
- Saturday: call for hours

To learn more about the free lending kits and to see if you qualify to reserve one, contact Angelec Hillsman, Outreach Manager at anh@clevelandmetroparks.com or 216-341-1707 ext. 7215/216-213-2872.