

Thornton W. Burgess Society
Green Briar Nature Center

**SCIENCE ENRICHMENT
PROGRAMS**



**“Nature study is the *Golden Key* to the
vast storehouse of knowledge.”**

Thornton W. Burgess

GET TO KNOW US

Green Briar Nature Center serves audiences of all ages through exhibits, educational programs and recreational activities.



Green Briar’s lovely campus offers many opportunities to experience the natural world: the Putnam Education Building containing live animals and classrooms; an award-winning wildflower garden; shoreline docks for observing life on and in the pond; and an interpretive nature trail linked to the Town-owned Briar Patch Conservation Land.

The Briar Patch and the Smiling Pool Pond are settings found within the over 170 nature books written by naturalist/author and Sandwich native Thornton W. Burgess (1874-1965). The Thornton W. Burgess Society was founded in 1976 to continue his work “to inspire reverence for wildlife and concern for the natural environment.”

Our teacher/naturalists bring science-based programs with live animals to PreK-6 classrooms throughout the Upper Cape Region and Southeastern Massachusetts. Content is updated as needed to align with current Science Standards. Programs are offered in school, here at Green Briar or in a Sandwich salt marsh or tidal pool.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS - LIFE SCIENCE

ADAPTATIONS - ANIMAL SENSES

Grades PreK - 6

Students explore physical and behavioral adaptations which help animals live and thrive in their environment.

A hands-on station approach allows students the opportunity to experiment and experience how abilities in sight, sound, smell, taste and touch differ among species. Live animals include an amphibian, insect, mammal and reptile.



ANIMAL CLASSIFICATION

Grades PreK - 6

Students explore how animals are classified using physical similarities and differences.

A hands-on station approach to the physical characteristics and life cycles of Amphibians, Birds, Insects, Mammals and Reptiles using feathers, fur, skin, skulls and bones, life cycle replicas and mounted specimens. Live animals include a representative of each of the 5 classes listed above.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS - LIFE SCIENCE

BIRDS, BIRDS, BIRDS

Grades PreK - 5

An introduction to what may become a lifelong interest in the feathered.

Students move through stations to explore feather structure, coloration and shape; feet, bone and beaks; nest construction; egg shape, coloration and patterns. A "Feeding Station" offers hands-on tool use to simulate bird's feeding. A live bird may also be available.



EGGS TO LEGS

Grades PreK - 5

Discover life cycles and physical characteristics of animals which emerge from eggs and grow legs.

Students move through stations which include life cycle models, animal artifacts, vocalizations and live animals representing Amphibians, Reptiles, Insects and Birds.



"Nature study is a basic element in education."

Thornton W. Burgess

SCHOOL PROGRAMS - LIFE SCIENCE

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Grades PreK - 6

Students explore reasons animals and plants may become endangered.

All hands-on materials including elephant ivory, walrus tusk jewelry, sea turtle and python skins, shoes, belts and boots made from animals were obtained through the U.S. Fisheries and Wildlife Cargo for Survival Program.

Meet live state-listed animals.



INCREDIBLE INSECTS

Grades PreK - 6

Students explore insect adaptations, families, and life cycles. Other topics include senses, body symmetry, defensive mimicry, camouflage, wing shape, identifying male and female and antenna structures.

Live insects include Darkling Beetles, Crickets and Madagascan Hissing Cockroaches.



"No magic can compare with watching a caterpillar spin its cocoon and later emerge an exquisite moth."

Thornton W. Burgess

SCHOOL PROGRAMS - LIFE SCIENCE

MAMMAL EXPLORATION

Grades Pre K - 6

How are Mammals unique?

Students examine fur pelts, skulls, feet and scat replicas from at least 5 different mammal species. A skull station allows for an examination of how teeth number and structure differs between carnivores and herbivores.

Live animals may include a rabbit or guinea pig.



TIDAL POOLS IN YOUR CLASSROOM

Grades Pre K - 6

Incredible salt water creatures crawl and swim through mini tide pools created right in the classroom.

Students observe and handle a variety of live creatures and seaweed collected from a local tidal pool. We try to collect a wide variety of specimens and return them directly after your program. See pg. 8 for additional fee for this program.

Offered: September - October, Late May - June.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS - HISTORY/ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS and EARTH SCIENCE

MEET "Thornton W. Burgess"

Grades 2 - 5



Complete with costume and props, actor David. B. Hobbs brings to life Burgess and his times in this lively and meticulous interpretation.

Mr. Hobbs has great skill in engaging students and exciting in them the joy of bringing words to life.

Students learn to develop a story as "Mr. Burgess" types it out on his circa 1912 typewriter.

"Interest in living things is inherent and interest is the primary essential in education." **Thornton W. Burgess**

ROCKS AND MINERALS

Grades 3 - 6



A hands-on stations approach to rocks and minerals. Stations include samples of Metamorphic, Igneous and Sedimentary rocks, a vast collection of boxed mineral samples and fossils of ancient plants and animals.

A mineral station includes use of Moh's hardness test, streak plate and crystal shape exploration.

SEASONAL PROGRAMS AT GREEN BRIAR

POND LIFE

Grades Pre K-6

Students sample pond water to discover amazing plants and animals, search bog ditches for frogs to capture and release and hike over to a vernal pool.

This program introduces students to the adaptations animals and plants possess that allow them to live in these watery habitats. Offered September through early November and April through June.

Classroom adaptable.



SIGNS OF THE SEASONS

Grades Pre K-4

Students explore along pond edge, garden and wooded paths for signs of animal activity and changes in plant life. They explore inside the Nature Center and meet live animals.

Fall and Winter focus: how animals prepare for cold weather; migration, hibernation or being active.

Spring focus: awakening nature, plant, amphibian and bird life cycles.



NATURALIST-LED FIELD STUDIES

TIDAL POOL or SALT MARSH FIELD LESSONS:

Grades Pre K-6

Students have a wet and wild yet respectful time exploring plants and animals right in a tide pool or salt marsh. Materials provided include collection trays, viewers and nets.

Schedule on low tide days late spring and early fall.



PROGRAM FEES

IN SCHOOL PROGRAM - \$100.00 each 45 minute to 1-hour program.

EXCEPTIONS:

TIDAL POOLS IN THE CLASSROOM: \$140.00 per classroom.

Additional fee covers time spent collecting and returning specimens.

MEET MR. BURGESS: \$150.00 per classroom with actor David Hobbs

SEASONAL PROGRAM AT GREEN BRIAR: \$90.00 each 1-hour program.

Additional time may be available at a pro-rated fee.

We can accommodate up to 4 classrooms at one time.

There is space for eating lunch or snack here on the property.

NATURALIST-LED TIDAL POOL or SALT MARSH FIELD LESSONS:

\$100.00 per hour per classroom or up to 25 students. Note: Sandwich DNR requires a permit for the Tidal Pools. Permit fee is \$25. You may apply directly to Sandwich Dept. of Natural Resources.

Chaperone Ratio is 1 adult per 10 students. There is no fee for adults.

Mileage FEE: Schools beyond a 20-mile radius of Sandwich are charged 40 cents/mile.

Contact the Education Director by phone 508-888-6870 ext. 13,
fax 508-888-1919 or email: mary.beers@thorntonburgess.org

SCOUT PROGRAMS

Girl Scout Programs

Daisy Petals: Clover, Rosie, Tula

Brownie Try-its: Brownie Girl Scout Ways, Bugs, Hiker, Home Scientist, Senses

Junior Badges: Animal Habitats, Detective, Flowers, Junior Girl Scout Ways

FETCH Science Patch: Brownies and Juniors

Cub Scout Programs

Bear: Achievement #5

Wolf: Elective 13 Birds
Elective 18 (portion below)
Map and Compass
Poisonous Plants

Webelos: Forester, Geologist, Naturalist

OVERNIGHTS AT THE NATURE CENTER

(6:00pm Friday evening to 9:00am Saturday morning)
Schedule an overnight program at the Nature Center from September through June. Troops complete a badge or patch, have a campfire to make s'mores, take a night hike and have breakfast in the historic Jam Kitchen before a closing ceremony.

Cost for SCOUT Programs

Badge Programs: 1.5 hrs \$7/scout or sibling (\$50 min.)

FETCH Patch: 2-hrs \$10/scout or sibling. (\$65 min.)

Overnights: \$330 for up to 15 scouts.

Up to 4 chaperones free. \$22 each additional scout or adult.

SCIENCE CURRICULUM KITS

Honey Bee Kit

Kit contains old time beekeeper outfit and smoker, life cycle models, pollination explanation and other hands-on materials to enhance a unit on honey bees.



Mammal Kit

Kit contains furs, skulls, scat replicas, feet/track replicas and animal signs to support a classroom examination of the Class Mammal.



SCIENCE CURRICULUM KITS

Plant Kit (Not pictured)

Kit explores plants with a focus on classification. Hands-on materials include actual preserved and mounted specimen display of various members of the Plant Kingdom, commercial crop seeds, plastic examples of flower structures, plant presses, field guides and literature books.

Reptile and Amphibian Kit

Kit highlights Massachusetts species and provides hands-on material including turtle shells, skeleton of frog, turtle and snake and calls of frogs and toads.



Insect Kit (New for Fall of 2013)

The newest addition to our kit family includes collections of in-plastic-preserved insects including Insect Pests and Beneficial Insects, Life Cycle of a Cabbage Butterfly and Life Cycle of a Dragonfly. Topics include metamorphosis, body structure and senses.

