

3381 Hunting Country Rd. Tryon, NC 28782



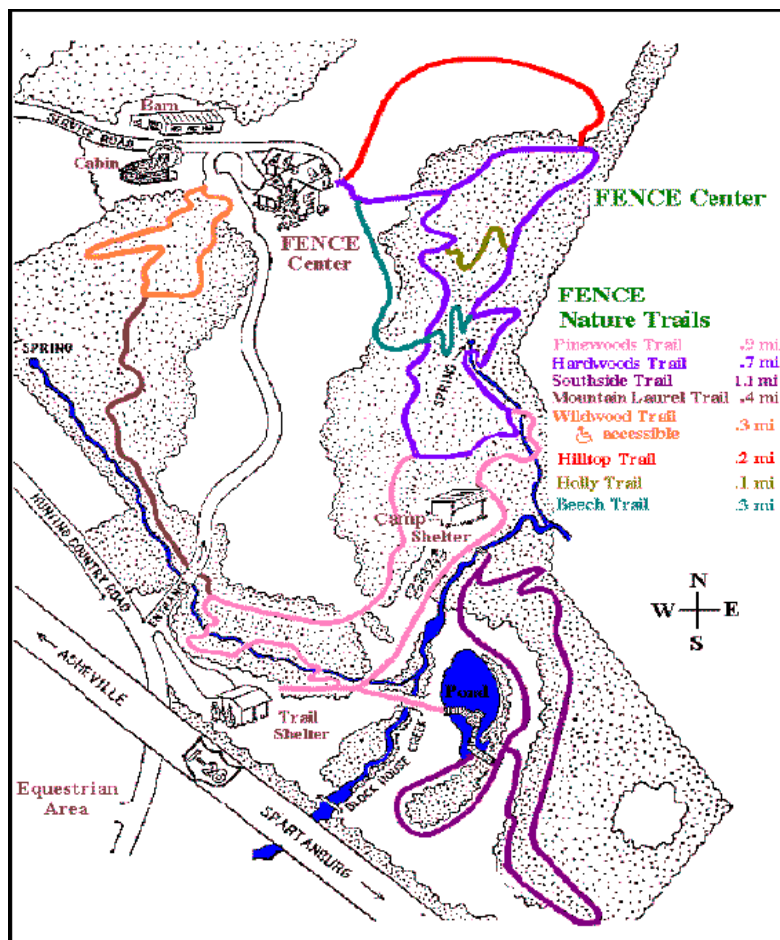
FOOTHILLS EQUESTRIAN NATURE CENTER

Middle School Nature & Science Program Catalog

Foothills Equestrian Nature Center, Inc.
3381 Hunting Country Road
Tryon, NC 28782
(828) 859-9021
www.fence.org
natureeducation@fence.org



*Made possible by a generous grant from the Z. Smith
Reynolds Foundation, www.zsr.org.*



Finding Your Way to FENCE

Directions:

From I-26, east or west:

Take S.C. Exit #1 from I-26, toward Landrum, S.C. Go 1.5 miles, then turn right onto Bomar Road (look for the Land Mart on the corner). Go one short block and turn right onto Prince Road. After 1.7 miles, turn left onto Hunting Country Road, just before the I-26 bridge. Go .6 mile to the FENCE entrance on the right.

From Greenville or Greer on Highway 14:

Cross the railroad tracks in downtown Landrum, S.C. After passing the First Baptist Church on your right, look for the Post Office. Bear left just after the Post Office onto Prince Road. At 1.7 miles, turn left onto Hunting Country Road. Go 1 mile to FENCE entrance on your right.

From Tryon on Route 176:

Travel south on 176 to the South Carolina state line. Bear left onto Ridge Road (at Mimosa Carpet on your left). Cross railroad tracks and bear left onto Hunting Country Road. Continue 3.4 miles to the FENCE entrance on your left.

From Columbus on Highway 108:

Go south on Walker Street from downtown Columbus. Travel two blocks to four-way stop and turn right onto Peniel Road. Stay on Peniel Road past Tryon Estates and Morgan Chapel Village, then bear right at fork onto Golden Road. Continue 1.6 miles to stop sign at River Road, which is unpaved. Turn right, then immediately left over a steel bridge onto Morgan Chapel Road. Follow Morgan Chapel Road .7 miles to end, then turn left onto Hunting Country Road. Continue .5 miles to FENCE entrance on your left.

ABOUT FENCE ...

Foothills Equestrian Nature Center is a non-profit organization established in 1984 to help preserve Polk County's rich environmental and equestrian heritage. FENCE provides facilities for a variety of equestrian activities and conducts year-round nature education programs for all ages. A volunteer board of directors and a small paid staff oversees operations. FENCE is funded primarily by tax-deductible contributions from individuals and groups who share our goals for education, recreation, and preservation.



Photo by: Carlie Tucker

TO SCHEDULE A PROGRAM FOR YOUR GROUP . . .

FENCE nature programs may be scheduled for Monday-Friday (Weekends are also available). Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. A minimum of two (2) weeks notice is required.

BEFORE YOU CALL . . .

Select a program topic from this catalog. Choose a date (and alternates).

PHONE: (828) 859-9021

FENCE OFFICE HOURS: 8-5 Monday – Friday

\$

FEES . . .

Field Trips	Free of charge
Project FENCE (Outreach Programs)	Free of charge
Group Camping at FENCE	\$3.00 per person
Self-Guided Visits*	Free of charge

FENCE property and nature trails are open daily to individuals and groups at no charge. Large groups should call ahead to avoid possible conflicts with scheduled programs. The Nature Classrooms are open to visitors during regular office hours.

NATURE PROGRAMS AT FENCE . . .

It's no secret that the quality of our lives is directly connected to the quality of our environment. FENCE nature programs are designed to:

1. Increase awareness and appreciation of the natural world,
2. Promote understanding and respect for the environment, and
3. Teach conservation and wise use of nature's resources on which we all depend for life and livelihood.

PROGRAMS FOR SCHOOL CLASSES

FIELD TRIPS TO FENCE

Field trips are usually scheduled weekday mornings and last 2-3 hours. All field trips include lots of time for guided exploration along the nature trails, and most include an hour in the Nature Classroom to visit with resident critters, view exhibits, and receive further instruction. Field trip topics are coordinated with science curriculum objectives for area schools.

Group Size – FENCE Staff and facilities can handle up to 100 students per field trip. Groups of 30 or more are usually divided in half, taking turns at trail walks and Nature Classroom instruction.

Lunches – Most classes bring lunches and eat on the grass at the FENCE Center.

For Students with Special Needs – FENCE welcomes students in special education classes or mainstreamed students with special needs. The Nature Classroom, restrooms, and the 1/3-mile Wildwood Trail are all wheelchair accessible, and FENCE staff is experienced in working with special education classes. Call us to discuss your students' interests and abilities.



What teachers say about FENCE . . .

“Well organized-great experiments” *Tryon Elementary*

“It was educational, fun, hands on and interesting!” *Spartanburg Day*

“It was well-managed & well-done. Children were actively involved and enjoyed learning. Thanks!” *Boiling Springs Elementary School*

What the children say . . .

Your fossils and all were amazing. I had so much fun. *Thanks, Ashley*

Thank you so much for coming. I loved making a fossil. That was cool finding all the bones. *Lindsey*

Thank you for letting us make fossils. I liked it. I hope you come again. *Love, Stephanie*



Photo by: Carlie Tucker

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS & FAMILIES

Saturday Hiking Series

Every Saturday March – June & September – December
FENCE hosts free family hikes to area locations.

Nature & Science Day Camps

Summer explorations into Mother Nature's wonders in the woods, fields, and waters of FENCE.

Promotional Programs & Talks

As a service to area civic and community groups, FENCE staff offers informative presentations on the history and purposes of FENCE, environmental education, and other nature-related topics. Your place or ours.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT FENCE

FENCE recruits volunteers to assist with many of its educational programs and activities. If you have a little free time and want to expand your knowledge of the natural world, consider volunteering at FENCE. For more information call us at 828-859-9021.

Project F.E.N.C.E. (*Friends Enjoying Nature Chemistry and the Environment*)

FENCE can also bring nature to your school. Most outreach programs last about 1 hour.

6th GRADE (NC & SC)

ROCK CYCLE

Explore the interactions of metamorphic, sedimentary, and igneous rock. Discover that rocks are continually changing from one kind to another in a process called the rock cycle.

BLACK HOLES IN SPACE

Take a journey through space and discover why black holes are among us. Make a collapsing model star and create a model black hole and observe what happens.

DECOMPERS AND WHAT IS THE ROLE

Scavengers, worms, bacteria, and fungi – Most people say, "Gross!!" But let's see how important they really are.

7th GRADE (NC & SC)

FORCE AND MOTION

Students discover that force & motion are the two most important concepts in science. Watch as they build a roller coaster that really works!

WHAT ARE YOU MADE UP OF?

Learn how the color of hair or skin depends on protein. Why are you the only one with your fingerprint?

8th GRADE (NC & SC)

BUOYANCY

Discover how a balloon floats on water and why a rock sinks to the bottom. Learn about Archimedes principle

FYI Teachers!

All programs meet North and South Carolina curriculum guidelines. Science programming offered by FENCE strives to meet the highest standards set forth by you, *the teacher*.

FIELD TRIPS

6th GRADE

NORTH CAROLINA GEOLOGY

Work in teams to examine typical North Carolina rocks and practice classifying them. Then use these specimens to interpret major geologic events that have shaped our state.

THE SKY ABOVE US

Discover through a filtered telescope the spots on the sun, stars during the day light hours, and planets are visible at all times, not just at night.

SOIL TESTING

Without soil plants would not grow, therefore a lot of what we depend on for food, and wood to build shelter would not exist. Come discover the different types of soil and the plants that grow within.

7th GRADE

SIGNS OF NATURE

Explore the Nature Center and discover signs that animals leave behind. Use observation, measurements, field guides and other strategies to identify unknown animals by their tracks, scat or other signs.

THE SUPERORGANISM

Investigate the intriguing inner-workings of an ant colony where thousands of individual insects function as a single living organism to sustain the life of the colony. Students will learn the about this unique concept of the “Superorganism” as they participate in species collection, identification, and construction of a living colony. Just like the ants, the class will accomplish an otherwise impossible task through teamwork.

8th GRADE

BIOMIMICRY: LEARNING HOW NATURE DOES IT

Have you ever wondered how nature makes its own recycling system or the perfect glue? Your class will learn and marvel at nature’s solutions to its own problems. Get involved in an emerging scientific field called Biomimicry: learning from and mimicking nature! During this field trip nature will be our guide as we look for creative solutions to present-day sustainability problems.

PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts (all ages)

Leaders may choose a guided nature walk and visit with Nature Classroom critters or a program tailored to meet requirements for nature-oriented badges. Call to discuss your preferences.

4-H Clubs

Clubs may visit FENCE for walks along the trails or leaders may request a talk by a FENCE staff at a regular club meeting. Individual 4-Hers can also get help on nature and wildlife projects.

Church Groups

Schedule a nature program for the young people of your church either at FENCE or at your regular meeting place. Weekdays or Saturdays are available.

Overnight Camping

FENCE provides a primitive camping area for organized youth groups accompanied by adult leaders. Advance registration is required. The fee is \$3.00 per person per day. Call for details.



Photo by: Carlie Tucker