



the Marion Natural History Museum's



FOSTERING
INNOVATION
NATURE &
DISCOVERY

FIND

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS



Watch your child's imagination and understanding of the world flourish in our F.I.N.D. after school program!

Students in grades 1-6 delve into the captivating realms of science, nature, and engineering guided by the expertise of local specialists. From the mysterious lives of marine creatures to innovations in robotics and rocket science, each session is a journey of discovery.

Exceptionally fun and always interesting, the Museum's **F.I.N.D.** program aims to **Foster Innovation, Nature & Discovery** in our students. By forging a deep and enduring connection between kids and the remarkable natural world around them, we all help to build a better future.

Spaces are coveted and fill up quickly, so register today!

MARIONMUSEUM.ORG



Marion Natural History
Museum

Celebrating Over 150 Years of Discovery

Winter-Spring Programs

Feb 14 | Grades 3 & Up

Owl Diet Detective: Uncover the Mysteries of Owl Diets!

Join us for an exciting exploration into the world of owls and their unique eating habits! Unlike other birds, owls swallow their prey whole because they lack teeth for chewing. Our Owl Pellet Dissection program provides a fascinating insight into these nocturnal predators.

What you'll discover:

- **Owl Dining Secrets:** Learn how owls consume mice, voles, small birds, and more.
- **Pellet Examination:** Delve into regurgitated pellets, consisting of bones, teeth, fur, and feathers.
- **Scientific Investigation:** By dissecting these pellets, we unveil the diverse diet of owls and the frequency of different prey.

Safety & hygiene:

Each pellet is dry heat sterilized. Gloves and dissection tools are provided to ensure a safe and hygienic experience.

An investigative workshop...

...that is not just a lesson in biology, but also a window into the ecological role of owls in our environment. Get ready to become a junior ornithologist and uncover the mysteries hidden within owl pellets!

Feb 28 | Insightful Experiences for All

Terrapin Guardians: A Conservation Journey

Embark on an enlightening journey with our "Terrapin Guardians" program, led by the committed Deb Ewing. Explore the essential efforts to protect the Diamondback Terrapin, a species facing significant threats.

What you'll learn:

- **Conservation in Action:** Understand the impactful work done by Deb Ewing and the New England Coastal Wildlife Alliance (NECWA) in safeguarding these terrapins.
- **Insights into the Turtle Garden:** Hear from Deb about the creation and impact of the "turtle garden" in Marion, a crucial habitat for terrapin conservation.
- **Field Research Insights:** Gain knowledge about ongoing population studies, nest locations, and the deployment of protective gear against predators.
- **Meet the Protectors:** Interact with the passionate individuals dedicated to the conservation of Diamondback Terrapins.

Protecting the future.

Learn about the importance of these animals and the innovative methods used to protect them. This program is an exceptional opportunity to understand the challenges of wildlife conservation and to meet those leading this vital effort.

March 13 | Perfect for Young Astronomers in Grades 1-6

Cosmic Explorations: Astronomy 101

Join us for a stellar adventure in the Universe! Embark on an exciting space...



Theodore C. Cederholm

PROGRAM FUND

odyssey with “Cosmic Explorations: Astronomy 101,” led by amateur astronomer Peter Marshall.

What's in store:

- **Universe Unveiled:** Venture through the immense universe, exploring the distances to planets, stars, nebulae, and galaxies.
- **Celestial Wonders:** Be captivated by the beauty and mysteries of celestial bodies.
- **Astronomical Imagery:** Enjoy Peter Marshall's collection of stunning astronomical images.
- **Alien Detectives:** Engage in the fun challenge of scanning the stars for signs of extraterrestrial life!

Galactic discoveries await!

This program is a thrilling opportunity for budding astronomers to delve into the wonders of the cosmos. Participants will leave with a newfound fascination for our vast universe and its endless beauty.

March 27 | Grades 1-6

Nest Builders & Egg Explorers: Discover the Art of Avian Architecture

Join us for a fascinating exploration of bird nests and eggs at the museum! This hands-on program delves into our unique collection, offering a close-up view of these natural wonders.

What you'll experience:

- **Nest Examination:** Investigate real bird nests from our collection and understand the intricacies of their construction.
- **Creative Nest Building:** Using a variety of natural materials, try your hand at constructing your own bird nests.

- **Egg Discovery:** Explore the diversity of bird eggs, examining their designs, colors, and sizes.
- **Understanding Adaptation:** Learn why these features are vital for birds' survival and how they adapt to their environments.

A nest of knowledge!

This program is perfect for young naturalists eager to learn about bird behavior and biology. Get ready to be an egg expert and a nest architect!

April 10 | Grades 1-6

Wetland Wonders: Discovering Amphibian Habitats: A Hands-On Journey Through Nature

Did you know that the small pools you find in the woods, the ones that usually dry up by late summer, start the whole forest food chain?! Dive into the fascinating world of wetland amphibians and their vital role in the forest ecosystem with our interactive program.

What we'll surface:

- **Habitat Exploration:** Uncover the secrets of local wetland habitats and their importance to forest wildlife and our own environment.
- **Interactive Experiments:** Engage in hands-on activities involving water, soils, and observing the small creatures that are crucial to our forests.
- **Ecosystem Education:** Learn about the delicate balance of these ecosystems and the amphibians that thrive within them.

Dress to make a mess!

Be ready to get a bit messy on this fun and educational nature adventure!

Tuition

Many thanks to the Theodore C. Cederholm Fund which helps make participation accessible & affordable!

Members: \$8/program | **Non-Members:** \$10/program.

- **Exception:** “Rocket Science” is \$25 to help cover materials provided.

Special Offer! Register for all 9 programs (including “Rocket Science”) and receive a discounted rate, regardless of attendance.

Members: \$80 (9-program series) | **Non-Members:** \$95 (9-program series)



April 24 | Grades 1-6

Botanical Chronicles: Herbarium 101 ~ Making a Plant Press



Join us on a botanical journey with “Botanical Chronicles: Herbarium 101.” Discover the fascinating world of herbaria, where preserved plant specimens become a window to the past and a treasure for the future.

What you'll be impressed by:

- **Herbarium Significance:** Explore how herbaria preserve a historical record of change in vegetation over time, offering invaluable insights for science.
- **Plant Press Creation:** Craft your own plant press to start a personal botanical collection.
- **Specimen Collection:** We'll venture outdoors to find and select various plants for your herbarium.
- **Preservation Techniques:** Learn techniques to prepare and press plants, capturing their details beautifully.

A gateway to botanical history!

Perfect for aspiring botanists and nature lovers, this program offers hands-on experience in plant preservation. Create your own herbarium and contribute to the chronicles of botanical history!

May 8 | Grades 1-6

Rocket Science! Ignite Your Imagination with Rocketry

Prepare for an exhilarating experience with “ROCKET SCIENCE!” Led by rocketry enthusiast Mike Cronin, this program offers a hands-on introduction to the principles of propulsion and lift.

What kind of blast to anticipate:

- **Build and Launch Your Rocket:** Each child receives a rocket kit with a motor for a personal building, decorating and launching experience.
- **Interactive Learning:** Soar into the exciting world of rocketry, and get a

- glimpse into the science behind rocket propulsion.
- **Exclusive Opportunity:** Availability is limited to 12 children, ensuring an immersive and attentive setting.
- **Parental Involvement:** We welcome parent volunteers to assist in rocket assembly.

Important notes:

- The program is limited to children ages 6 and older, on a first-come, first-served basis.
- **Cost:** \$25 per child, covering the rocket kit and motor.

Embark on a rocket adventure!

This is a unique chance for young space enthusiasts to engage in the thrilling world of rockets. Secure your spot quickly and get ready for a journey to the skies!

May 22 | Grades 1-6

Avian Adventure: A Voyage to Bird Island

Set off on a sought-after journey to Bird Island, renowned for its vibrant bird life. This program, a favorite among after school science and nature enthusiasts, offers an exceptional opportunity to observe diverse bird species in their natural habitat.

What to expect on this popular trip:

- **Feathered Friends:** Encounter the seasonal arrival of Common terns, the endangered Roseate tern, as well as Oyster catchers and possibly Canada geese.
- **Critical Habitat:** Discover why Bird Island is a rare, vital and safe nesting site for these birds.
- **Boat Trip Adventure:** We'll travel by boat, courtesy of the Marion Harbormaster, to this significant location. Life jackets are required.

Important notes:

- **Safety Note:** Please bring a life jacket for the boat trip. If you're unable to provide a life jacket, let us know, and we'll assist.
- **Gathering Point:** The adventure begins and ends at the Marion Harbormaster's office, Island Wharf.

Join our popular birdwatching expedition!

A naturalist's dream perfect for birdwatching enthusiasts and nature lovers! Get ready for an afternoon filled with discovery and natural beauty on Bird Island!

May 29 | Grades 1-6

Ram Island Expedition: Discovering Unique Ecosystems

Set off on a journey to Ram Island, a gem within Sippican Harbor known for its diverse and unique ecosystems. Thanks to the generosity of Michael and Hannah Moore, we have a special opportunity to explore this fascinating island.

What you'll experience:

- **Diverse Ecosystems:** Investigate the island's salt marshes, rocky intertidal shoreline, and mud flats (tide permitting).

- **Birdwatching Bliss:** Observe Osprey nests and get up close with these majestic birds.
- **Adventure Details:** This will be a longer program than usual. Please plan to pick up your children at the Harbormaster's Office at 5:00 PM.
- **Safety and Fun:** Life jackets are required for this adventure. Expect the children to get muddy and wet!

Important notes:

- **Life Jacket Reminder:** If you're unable to provide a life jacket, let us know, and we'll assist.
- **Limited Space:** The program is capped at 15 participants.
- **Children Only:** Sorry, parents, this is a program for children only.

An afternoon of exploration!

Join us for an unforgettable afternoon filled with discovery and learning on Ram Island. Spaces are limited, so sign up soon for this rare adventure.



Your membership
& contributions
make a
difference!



While tuition covers the basics, [memberships](#) and [donations](#) help us continue offering these enriching experiences. Please consider becoming a member or making a donation when you submit your program registration.

Thank you!



Marion Natural History
Museum

Celebrating Over 150 Years of Discovery



REGISTER ONLINE

MARIONMUSEUM.ORG

Open Wednesday 10am-4pm &
Friday 12-2pm or by appointment
8 Spring St., Marion | 508-748-2098

Registration

Please register at marionmuseum.org or use the form below:



REGISTER ONLINE

Please register my child(ren) for the following program(s):

PROGRAM COST: \$8 members | \$10 non-members | Unless otherwise noted

- ☐ Feb 14 | **Owl Diet Detective:** Uncover the Mysteries of Owl Diets!
- ☐ Feb 28 | **Terrapin Guardians:** A Conservation Journey
- ☐ Mar 13 | **Cosmic Explorations:** Astronomy 101
- ☐ Mar 27 | **Nest Builders & Egg Explorers**
- ☐ Apr 10 | **Wetland Wonders:** Discovering Amphibian Habitats
- ☐ Apr 24 | **Botanical Chronicles:** Herbarium 101 ~ Making a Plant Press
- ☐ May 8 | **Rocket Science!** Ignite Your Imagination with Rocketry | \$25
- ☐ May 22 | **Avian Adventure:** A Voyage to Bird Island
- ☐ May 29 | **Ram Island Expedition:** Discovering Unique Ecosystems

☐ **BUNDLE** | All 9 Programs (regardless of attendance) **Member:** \$80 | **Non-Member:** \$95

Please note: After school registration forms (with payment!) are to be mailed or dropped off to the Marion Natural History Museum, 8 Spring Street, 2nd Floor, P.O. Box 644, Marion, MA 02738. Please do not bring the forms to the school or library, thank you! Registration is not complete without payment. Refund and registration policies are on our website. Questions? Contact Elizabeth Leidhold via e-mail at director@marionmuseum.org.

Your First & Last Name

Your Child(ren)'s First & Last Names

☐ Member ☐ Non-member ☐ Add Museum Family Membership \$60

Check # Total

Full Address

Telephone E-mail

Release to pick up your child(ren) from Sippican School and walk them to the Museum program location:

I, [Your Full Name]
.....hereby give permission to a representative of the Marion Natural History Museum, which may include the Executive Director or Program Assistant, to pick up my child(ren) listed above from Sippican School and walk them to the after-school program at the Museum or Harbormaster's Office to attend the above programs. I understand that after-program pick-up is at 4:30 pm unless otherwise noted above.

Emergency contact number if different from above

Signature:

Museum photo/media release:

I grant the Marion Natural History Society and after school program teachers the right to use, reproduce, and/or distribute photographs, films, video tapes of my child(ren) listed above for use in any materials they may create.

☐ I have read and agree with the museum's terms and conditions, which can be found at marionmuseum.org/terms-conditions.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: