

Day Classes

Turbid Waters: The intertidal zone is home to many species of plants and animals. Through biological, physical, and chemical analysis, students will observe and discover how human and natural factors influence the health of the intertidal zone.

Merely Plankton: Students will become part of an in depth study about both phytoplankton and zooplankton through hands on activities. Students will collect, observe, and identify living plankton in our microscope laboratory while learning the importance they play in an ocean ecosystem.

Muck, Snails & Rails: Marshes tend to be associated with one thing: MUD! These amazing places, however, are more than just mud. They are thriving ecosystems with thousands of species that inhabit them. Students will examine the marshlands here at Driftwood. We will explore the animal and plant species and discover why these locations are so important to pollution control. **Important Note: YOU WILL GET MUDDY! There are two choices, Dry Marsh and Muddy Marsh. Dry Marsh Class is mud on hands face and feet only. Muddy Marsh is completely muddy! THIS IS A VERY MUDDY CLASS AND CANNOT BE TAKEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH CUMBERLAND ISLAND.**

Transit Trawl - Costs \$13 extra Per Person: Throw out the net mates! Let's see what we can haul in and study, as we head out on a pontoon boat and look at interesting organisms. Led by a boat captain and his crew, students will learn about trawling nets, trawl boats, and investigate the organisms that we catch. We will also look for marine mammals that sometimes like to visit the Frederica River. There is an additional fee per student for this class.

Shark Dissection-Cost extra \$5 per students This class is so popular, we made it into its own program! Underneath the murky waters of Southeast Georgia live a large number of shark species. Join us as we uncover the mysteries and myths behind these elusive creatures. In this class students will dissect a dogfish shark, learn about the six senses of sharks, and how they compare to humans and other animals. There is an additional nominal fee for this class, call for pricing.

Ocean Motion: Explore the world of marine vertebrates and invertebrates in our lab. Students will be able to handle such animals as crabs, sea anemones, shrimp and molluscs in our touch tank. An in depth study of these animals and their adaptations will be supplemented by a group fish dissection.

Cassina: Cassina is a cultural journey back in time to discover what it was like to be a Timucuan Native American. Make rope, use their tools and weapons, live in a Timucuan style camp, and enjoy tea as we compare the Timucuan culture to our own.

Gator Tales: By holding snakes, touching alligators, and exploring our turtle enclosures, students will learn about these modern organisms with amazing adaptations. We will identify different species through the discovery process. Discussions and handling of these reptiles will lead students to identify and understand Georgia's indigenous species.

Feather Physics: Students will examine the general principles behind the physics of flight. We will discuss the forms of aerial locomotion, and the animals that use them. Students will be immersed in experimentation, discussion, and observation to understand these flight principles.

Bird Brains: Students will learn what makes a bird a bird. We will look at a bird's structure and determine how different species are adapted for different environments. Students will become expert ornithologists as we head out to the field with binoculars to locate different species of birds on St. Simons Island.

Trackers: Have you ever wondered what type of animals live around your home? How can you find out? In "Trackers," students will investigate Driftwood's backyard to learn how to identify animals through close observation of the signs they leave in the forest. Through several activities, students will hone their observation skills and perhaps come face to face with some of our local species.

Buddy Squad: (for field groups of 10 or more students) Everyone needs a buddy. During Buddy Squad students will work together with classmates to accomplish a variety of team building activities. Throughout these challenges students should gain skills necessary to work in social settings and be able to relate these concepts in their own lives.

High Ropes Challenge Course: Costs Extra Per Person (Call for Price): Learning how to work as a team player requires focusing on communication and listening skills that strengthen trust and self-confidence. Peak Pursuits, Inc. provides exciting and fun opportunities for problem solving and leadership development. A new aerial team course requires participants to work together as a team, while they are 30 feet in the air. If teams succeed, they get to celebrate their team building with a ride down the zip line. If you are interested in more information, you can visit Peak Pursuit's website at www.peakpursuits1.com. State Standards similar to Buddy Squad. There are no pre and post activities for this class.

If you want to go to the beach, you must choose 2 of 3 of the following.

1. Seining: Students will learn how to use a 30-foot seine net to sample the ocean's rich abundance of life. Several fish species, crabs, and shrimp are commonly caught, as well as squid, jellyfish, and the elusive sea cucumber. We discuss adaptations and behaviors of creatures that we catch. **Be prepared to get wet and have fun!**

2. Barrier Island Dynamics: Study beach geology, barrier island dynamics, and tides right where it all happens: the beach! Students will gain a better appreciation for the plants and animals that call the coast their home.

3. The Living Beach: In this class students will explore the species diversity of the Georgia Coast. Students will learn about the plant and animal species that inhabit Eat Beach, and participate in games and activities.

Beach Classes: You will need to provide your own transportation to the beach. Thank you!

Evening Programs

Got Ink? Squid are known as one of the most intelligent and intriguing invertebrates in the marine world. By doing their own dissection, and participating in a teacher led discussion, students will be taken on a journey of discovery while learning what makes this mollusc unique.

Evening Beach Exploration: Humans are most comfortable during the day, but join us as we take you out of your comfort zone, and explore our nearby trails at night! Students will use all five senses to examine what it is like have to survive at night. Several nocturnal activities will get participants rethinking the abilities that creatures must have in order to thrive in dark places. This is a seasonal activity.

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Fire Circle: Tell stories, sing songs and reflect on your experiences at Driftwood. This activity is done as a large group.

Movin 'n' Groovin: Students will enjoy free form dancing to kid friendly popular music. Our instructors will also lead students in line dances such as the electric slide.

Brain Twister: Just a few years ago, NASA discovered a new planet just like Earth and they want students to create a Lander that will survive the drop down to the planets surface. Using limited government funds, students will buy their supplies, then build and test their Lander!!

Spartina Show: What do push-ups, scaring monsters, and answering trivia questions all have in common? They're all part of our new evening program: The Spartina Show! The Spartina Show is a mix of trivia, comedy, imagination and so much more. There are 5 different categories in a Jeopardy like setting, teams of students will imagine and create their way through different challenges. With difficulty levels rated as "Mild, Medium, Hot, and Inferno," the challenges are as "spicy" as the difficulty levels!

Island Cinema: After a long day of walking, learning and exploring the coast, kick back and relax as Driftwood presents **Island Cinema!** Bring sleeping bags, pillows and your favorite snack while watching a movie on Driftwoods Monster size movie screen and sound system. You will have your socks knocked off your feet! This a great option after a long field trip to Cumberland Island or Okefenokee Swamp. Driftwood has a very limited supply of movies to choose from so we recommend bring your own.

Recreation Period: **This class is supervised by Teachers and Chaperones, NOT our instructors.** This is a free time period where students can use the basketball, volleyball, and tennis courts, as well as the soccer field. Equipment will be provided. This class can also be a day program if you would like.

Field Trips

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge Day Trip- \$20 extra per person: Climb to the top of an observation tower and overlook hundreds of acres of this National Wildlife Refuge where alligators and endangered sand hill cranes are a common sight. Students will learn about the hardships of swamp life at the Chesser homestead and study many rare and endangered plants and animals that live along the edges of a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long boardwalk. And, get up close and personal with some of the 13,000 alligators that make their home here on a boat ride through the Suwannee Canal.

Okefenokee Canoe Day Trip- \$27 extra per person Paddle down the Suwannee Canal enjoying beautiful scenery and a relaxed atmosphere. Along the way, students will study the flora and fauna located in the tannic acid water ecosystem of Okefenokee Swamp. No prior experience is necessary.

Cumberland Island National Seashore Day Trip - \$24 extra Per Student/ \$28 extra Per Adult: Visit this beautiful, undeveloped barrier island that is accessible only by a ferryboat. The 4-mile hike wanders through maritime forest, mansion ruins from the Carnegie family, and along the beach. Students will go seining and study the beach

environment as described in the **Living Beach, Barrier Island Dynamics** and **Seining** classes. **We require 7 months notice by the teacher or no assurances can be given.**

Jekyll Island Day Trip - \$10 per person Come and explore Jekyll Island State park! Jekyll is just a short drive away accessible by causeway. We will spend the day hiking on the beach, strolling through the marsh and catching local animal life in our seine nets. Students will also learn about erosion and how they change the islands up and down the coast. We will also explore Driftwood beach or what the locals call Bone Yard beach! The same material is covered on Jekyll as it is on Cumberland Island. Students will go seining and study the beach environment as described in the **Living Beach, Barrier Island Dynamics** and **Seining** classes.

**All field trips require transportation by the school to the place of interest.