



Visitor Center open Tuesday – Sunday. Closed Mondays  
Check our website for seasonal hours  
Trails open dawn to dusk daily  
600 S. Walnut St Boise Idaho, 83712



**to protect, preserve,  
and perpetuate and  
manage Idaho's wildlife  
resources**



**Programs  
2025-26**

**The MK Nature Center is a 4.6-acre wildlife habitat with waterfalls, streams, ponds, fish viewing windows, gardens, and a visitor's center.**

## **Booking Details**

**2026 bookings open January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

- Programs offered on Tuesday-Friday 10:00am & 12:30pm, unless otherwise arranged.
- Most programs can be adapted to PreK-adult audiences.
- Maximum number of people per 1.5 hour program is 50 (including chaperones, unless otherwise arranged).
- Groups under 10 people will be charged for 10 people.
- Suggested chaperone ratio of 1 adult for every 10 students.
- Scheduling first come, first served, no more than 5 months in advance.
- We accept checks, debit, and cash, but not credit cards. Invoices can be arranged.

**For scheduling, contact Lori Wilson  
(208) 287-2889 - [Lori.Wilson@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:Lori.Wilson@idfg.idaho.gov)**



## Self-guided Visits

Classes may explore the nature center on their own. *Groups of 10 or more must schedule their self-guided visit to ensure a high-quality experience for everyone and help us track our visitation. FREE!* Donations accepted.

Contact: [Lori.Wilson@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:Lori.Wilson@idfg.idaho.gov)

## Scavenger Hunts and Team Building

Groups wishing to focus their students' experience at the nature center can print grade-level scavenger hunts from our [website](#), or we can print them for you for \$.50/copy.

Adult team-building activities are available upon booking.

Contact: [Lori.Wilson@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:Lori.Wilson@idfg.idaho.gov)

## Recorded Programs Online

Four of our most popular programs have been converted to movie files for your enjoyment. These presentations are designed for elementary-aged students.

<https://idfg.idaho.gov/blog/2020/04/four-mknc-lessons-available-online>

## Wildlife Trunks

Wildlife trunks are resource kits containing supplementary materials related to certain topics and/or animals. You will find lesson plans, suggested activities and materials for educating elementary and secondary students about Idaho's wildlife and natural resources. Individuals, teachers, and organizations in the Treasure Valley may check out the trunk for a week at a time. Pick-up and return are required at 600 S Walnut Street, Boise. The following trunks are available: bats, bears, elk, owls, eagles, songbirds, wolves and many more.

Email [Lori.Wilson@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:Lori.Wilson@idfg.idaho.gov) for a complete list and to check out a trunk.



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## Stream Walk Program-Tour the Nature Center

This is the most popular nature center program - the perfect introduction to **habitat, adaptations, niche, food webs, and lifecycles** focusing on animals of Idaho. With the use of pelts, skulls, and animal mounts, a wildlife educator gives students an introductory lesson. Outside, students look underwater and through the forest to learn about wildlife habitat in Idaho.

**PreK-Adult. 1.5 hours. \$2.00/student \$2.00/parent chaperones. Teachers/School Staff free.**

## Hoo lives in Idaho?

Owls are amazing hunters. Some owls call the nature center their home! Take a look at owl skulls, wings, and feet, and learn about how owls are adapted to hunt at night. Dissect owl pellets to see exactly what they ate.

**1-8<sup>th</sup> grade. 1.5 hours. \$2.50/person.**

## Anadro-WHAT?

This in-depth program covers the life cycle of anadromous fishes and discusses the causes of the decline of these amazing fish. A great lesson on aquatic ecology and life cycles.

**1-12<sup>th</sup> grade. 1.5 hour. \$2.50/person.**

## Scat and Tracks

Become a wildlife detective! Learn how to identify wildlife by what they leave behind: tracks, scat, and much more! Test your tracking skills on a wildlife walk through the nature center. Make a plaster track to take home.

**1-6<sup>th</sup> grade. 1.5 hours. \$2.50/person.**

## Nature's Engineers-Beavers!

Look for evidence of beaver activity at the nature center. Learn about beaver adaptations and why they are important to aquatic systems. Build a beaver dam!

**PreK-6<sup>th</sup> grade. 1.5 hours. \$2.50/person.**

## Wildlife Scientist

Learn about different kinds of scientists, what they do, and how they do it. Become a scientist and use the scientific method to answer a question.

**K-6<sup>th</sup> grade. 1.5 hours. \$2.50/person.**

## Wild Canines or Felines

Idaho is home to three species of *canines* and three species of *felines*. Choose one or the other (cats or dogs) to learn about their similarities and differences.

**K-12<sup>th</sup> grade. 1.5 hours. \$2.50/person.**

## "Dinosaur" Fish of Idaho

Discover the secrets of the deep by diving into the life of a white sturgeon. These ancient creatures swam the waters during the time of the dinosaurs, and they still swim in our waters today! See live white sturgeon in the pond and learn how they have lived on the earth for so long.

**1-12<sup>th</sup>. 1.5 hours. \$2.50/person.**

## Bears of Idaho

Meet the black bear and the grizzly bear, two of Idaho's residents. How are they different and how are they the same? Learn how bears live their amazing lives in Idaho.

**K-6<sup>th</sup> grade. 1.5 hours. \$2.50/person.**

## Class in the Creek

Get in the Boise River! Provided boots and nets will help you collect aquatic insects of all kinds. Learn about why these macroinvertebrates are important in an aquatic food chain. *Water levels and seasonal temperatures dictate the availability of this program.*

**4<sup>th</sup> grade-adult. 1.5 hours. \$2.50/person.**

## Adaptation Artistry

Learn about local birds and all the amazing survival features they have. Find animals at the nature center and discover what adaptations Artistically create your own animal with its own set of adaptations to survive in its unique habitat.

**K-6<sup>th</sup> grade. 1.5--2 hours. \$2.50/person.**