

## **First Wednesday Home School Program** ***2010-2011 Schedule***

Elachee Nature Science Center, the southeast's first nature center or museum to be accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), is excited to offer another year of the First Wednesday Program series for home school students for the 2010-2011 school year.

Beginning August 4, join us again for these popular hands-on, educational and exciting programs scheduled on the first Wednesday afternoon of each month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. The cost for the entire 10 program series is \$75 per student and \$35 per participating parent. Families may also register on a semester basis at a rate of \$50 per student and \$25 per parent. This series is open to children in grades pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Pre-registration with payment is required before your student may participate in the program.

***Join us for a FREE First Wednesday Preview Day on Wednesday, July 28, from 11:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m.*** Tour the facility, meet some of the Elachee staff, speak face to face with the Education Director and Program Manager and enjoy a short program presentation. You may register your child on Preview Day too!

### **Fall Semester 2010**

#### ***August 4 – Weather Alert***

Learn to identify and use a variety of tools used to predict the weather, including our *Weather Hawk* system. The water cycle, air pressure systems and humidity levels are some of the topics to be discussed.

#### ***September 1 – Lake Lanier Aquatic Study***

Hop aboard the *Chota Princess II* catamaran as we explore and analyze Lake Sidney Lanier, Georgia's most important reservoir, through a number of experiments and demonstrations. This program will be at Aqualand Marina in Flowery Branch, GA.

#### ***October 6 – Fall Bird Migration***

Students will explore the world of these unique and colorful creatures in a hands-on discussion of interesting bird characteristics and bird ecology. The class is combined with a guided bird walk, binoculars and field guides to create a very enjoyable program.

#### ***November 3 – Tremendous Trees***

On the trail students will have the opportunity to closely observe a variety of trees in their natural habitat and state similarities and differences. Students will learn how scientists classify trees as they use a dichotomous key to identify tree species and will learn about the various parts of a tree.

#### ***December 1 – Wild GA Math***

Explore the characteristics of native Georgian plants, animals and habitats through mathematical problem solving in the classroom and along the trails.

## **Spring Semester 2010**

### **January 5 – *Seeing Stars***

Study stars, planets, constellations, seasons, the moon and our solar system during the day inside our portable planetarium, *Starlab* and through a series of outdoor activities.

### **February 2 – *Groundhog Day!***

Celebrate Groundhog Day through a variety of activities involving shadows and various plant and animal weather predictors.

### **March 2 – *We All Live Downstream***

Take a tour of a nearby water treatment facility and learn all about watersheds through hands-on experiments and games.

### **April 6 - *Spring Wildflowers at Elachee***

Identify some of the unique plants and beautiful wildflowers of the Chicopee Woods and see why plants are so important to us and the natural world.

### **May 4 – *Frog Watch at Chicopee***

Learn how to identify frogs at our Chicopee Aquatic Center by call and physical characteristics while frogging in our bioswale and along the edge of Chicopee Lake. We will also discuss the importance of amphibians as bioindicators.