2019-2020 School Programs

STEAM-Based Environmental Education Classes
for Pre-Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle and High School Students

770-535-1976 • www.elachee.org/school-programs

Elachee is the first and only SACS/AdvancED accredited Nature Center in the southeastern U.S.

Educating for Today...Preserving for Tomorrow
Elachee Nature Science Center promotes environmental understanding through education and conservation.

Hands-on Learning Outdoors

Elachee Nature Science Center, the only SACS/AdvancED-accredited nature center in the southeastern U.S., is pleased to present this innovative and exciting STEAM-based environmental curriculum.

Each class correlates with the Georgia Standards for Excellence (GSE) and the Gwinnett County Public Schools’ Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS).

Grade-Specific Field Trip Programs at Elachee

Engage your students in memorable and relevant nature encounters. Grade-specific curriculum offers real-world opportunities to explore, discover and learn.

Find classes conveniently grouped by topic and grade level in this program guide and online at www.elachee.org/school-programs.

Field trips take place at Elachee Nature Science Center or at Elachee’s Chicopee Lake Aquatic Studies Center, in the 1,440-acre Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve that is also one of Georgia’s largest protected green spaces. Some programs take place at the Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center floating classroom at River Forks Park.

You may also schedule an Elachee in Your Classroom Outreach Program and our seasoned instructors will bring the Elachee experience to your school.

5 Reasons to Choose an Elachee Field Trip

1. Your students participate in classroom and interpretive outdoor activities.
2. Select the Elachee program you want, when you want it.
3. Elachee instructors are with your students from arrival to departure.
4. The Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve is an incomparable outdoor classroom with numerous science concepts on full display.
5. Elachee offers extensive, standards-based PreK–Grade 12 curricula to complement your lessons.

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Elachee Nature Science Center
FIELD TRIPS for PreK, Kindergarten and 1st Grade

**TOPIC: ANIMALS**

**Wheel of Animals**
Learn remarkable facts about unique Georgia animals and explore their needs while on a discovery-filled hike in the Chicopee Woods.
GSE – S1L1; SKS – S1-D

**A Sense of Wonder**
Discover how animals use their senses on this exploratory hike in Chicopee Woods.
GSE – SKL1, SKL2, SKP1; AKS – SK A, B, C, D

**TOPIC: ASTRONOMY**

**Seeing Stars: Kindergarten**
Introduce young students to the sun, moon, day and night with an exciting session in Elachee’s portable planetarium Starlab, combined with hands-on astronomy activities.
GSE – SKE1; AKS – SK-B

**TOPIC: PLANTS**

**Green and Growing**
Chicopee Woods is the ideal place to study the needs, parts, life cycles and many uses of plants.
GSE – SKL1, SKL2, S1L1; AKS – SK-D, S1-D
Elachee Nature Science Center

FIELD TRIPS for Grades 2 and 3

**TOPIC: ANIMALS**

**Dry Scales and Slimy Skin**
Compare/contrast the characteristics and life cycles of reptiles and amphibians. GSE – S2L1, S3L1; AKS – S2-D, S3-D

**Life Cycles**
Explore the life cycles of frogs, honeybees, butterflies and other animals in the classroom and along the trails of the Chicopee Woods, and see how a variety of woodland plants go through seasonal changes. GSE – S2L1, S3L1; AKS – S2-D, S3-D

**TOPIC: AQUATIC STUDIES**

**Lake Lanier Aquatic Study**
During this Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center (LLALC) program, students will analyze and explore Georgia’s most important lake from the deck of the Chata Princess II floating classroom. See page 9. GSE – S2L1, S2E2, S3L1, S3L2; AKS – S2-B, D, S3-D

**TOPIC: ASTRONOMY**

**Seeing Stars: 2nd Grade**
Study the size and brightness of stars, constellations, the seasons, moon phases and more in Starlab, Elachee’s portable planetarium. GSE – S2E1, S2E2; AKS S2-B

**TOPIC: HABITATS**

**Habitat is Home**
Delve into Georgia’s major habitats and the characteristics of the plants and animals that live in each. GSE – S2L1, S3L1, S3L2; AKS – S2-D, S3-D

**Pond Life**
2-hour and 3-hour program options available
Use nets to collect a variety of aquatic animals at Chicopee Lake, then hike the trails to identify features that allow animals and plants to live in or around this habitat. See page 9. GSE – S2L1, S3L1, S3L2; AKS – S2-D, S3-D

**TOPIC: INTERDISCIPLINARY**

**Lessons from the Cherokee**
Explore the culture, contributions and history of North Georgia’s most influential Native American tribe. GSE – SS2H2, 2G1, 2G2

**TOPIC: PLANTS**

**Green and Growing**
Study the needs, parts, life cycles and many uses of plants found in the Chicopee Woods. GSE – S2L1, S3L1; AKS – S2-D, S3-D

**TOPIC: OTHER**

**Elachee Rocks!**
Enjoy a jam-packed, hands-on investigation of the rocks and minerals of Georgia. GSE – S3E1, S3E2; AKS – S3-B
Elachee Nature Science Center

FIELD TRIPS for Grades 4 and 5

**TOPIC: ANIMALS**

**Exploring the Animal Kingdom**
Classify vertebrate animals through activities in the classroom and along the trails of the Chicopee Woods.

GSE - SS1.L1; AKS - SS-D

**TOPIC: AQUATIC STUDIES**

**Lake Lanier Aquatic Study**
During this Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center (LLALC) program, students will analyze and explore Georgia’s most important lake from the deck of the Chota Princess II floating classroom. See page 9.

GSE - S4L1, SS4L, SS5P1, SS5E1; AKS - S4-D, SS-B, C, D

**We All Live Downstream**
Students will experience this dynamic 2-part program combining a community watershed exploration at your school with our popular Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center (LLALC) program. See page 9.

GSE - S4L1, SS4L, SS5P1, SS5E1; AKS - S4-D, SS-B, C, D

**TOPIC: ASTRONOMY**

**Seeing Stars: 4th Grade**
Study the physical attributes of planets and stars, the earth, solar system and moon phases in Starlab, Elachee’s portable planetarium.

GSE - S4E1, S4E2; AKS - S4-B

**TOPIC: HABITATS**

**Eat or Be Eaten NEW!**
Examine the behaviors and adaptations of animals and plants that play essential roles of producers, consumers and decomposers in an ecosystem. See how energy flows though the Chicopee Woods by discovering real-world food chains and webs.

GSE - S4L1, AKS - S4-D

**Pond Life** 2-hour and 3-hour program options available
Ideal for groups of 60 or less, students use nets to sample, identify and classify a variety of Chicopee Lake’s aquatic animals, then hike to see how changes in this environment have affected the habitat’s energy flows, food webs and the roles and adaptations of this community’s organisms.

See page 9. GSE - S4E3, S4L1, S5E1, S5L1, SS5P1; AKS - S4-D, SS-B, D

**Stream Life** 2-hour and 3-hour program options available
Ideal for groups of 60 or less, students catch and classify aquatic vertebrate and invertebrate animals, then conduct chemical tests to evaluate the streams of the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve.

GSE - S4E3, S4L1, S5E1, S5L1, SS5P1; AKS - S4-D, SS-B, D

**TOPIC: OTHER**

**Weather Alert**
Learn how meteorologists predict the daily weather. Delve into the water cycle, air pressure systems, humidity, weather instruments and more.

GSE - S4E2, S4E3, S4E4; AKS - S4-B

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**What Teachers are Saying...**

“Today was incredible. Elachee gifted our (students) with an active, amazing experience. Our instructors were incredible and so kid-friendly. (They made) learning real and tangible for our third graders.”

– Chicopee Woods Elementary School, Hall County Schools

“I have been to Elachee many times over the years and its is absolutely the BEST field trip opportunity in the metro area!”

– Sugarloaf Methodist Weekday Preschool

“Another great trip to Elachee! Your staff was amazing. The program was amazing! We absolutely cannot wait to come back!”

– Briarlake Elementary School, DeKalb County Schools

“Please know that the Elachee experience was beyond amazing! My students were afforded a rare opportunity to explore the world beyond classroom walls; they are better scholars and individuals because of this opportunity. One exclaimed, ‘this is the best day of my life!’ He meant every word.”

– Freedom Middle School, DeKalb County Schools

“The children loved the trip today! They all had a great time and could not stop talking about it. Thanks to your wonderful staff for everything as well!”

– Old Peachtree Montessori School

“As always with our Elachee programming, everything was exemplary!”

– McEver Elementary School, Hall County Schools

“The students loved this program. I was thrilled they had the experience of learning outside the classroom, to smell the dirt and water, and to get a little messy! Thank you for what you do and how you do it. Your passion shines through!”

– Shiloh Point Elementary School, Forsyth County Schools

“Always the best information and Elachee instructors sharing their excitement about ecology. Students LOVED it! They are still talking about their field trip, and I’m happy to see them applying the information they gleaned.”

– Johns Creek High School, Fulton County Schools
Elachee Nature Science Center

FIELD TRIPS for MIDDLE SCHOOL Grades 6, 7 and 8

TOPIC: AQUATIC STUDIES

Lake Lanier Aquatic Study
During this Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center (LLALC) program, students will analyze and explore Georgia’s most important lake from the deck of the Chota Princess II floating classroom. See page 9.
GSE – S6E3, S6E6, S7L4; AKS – S6-C, G, S7-B, F

We All Live Downstream
Students will experience this dynamic 2-part program combining a community watershed exploration at your school with our popular Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center (LLALC) program. See page 9.
GSE – S6E3, S6E6, S7L4; AKS – S6-C, G, S7-B, F

TOPIC: ASTRONOMY

Astronomy for Middle Schoolers
Determine relative position of planets, the solar system, solar and lunar eclipses, phases of the moon and more in Starlab, Elachee’s portable planetarium.
GSE – S6E1, S6E2; AKS – S6-B

TOPIC: PLANTS

Tree-mendous Trees
Learn to use a dichotomous key to identify a variety of trees of the Chicopee Woods. GSE – S7L1, S7L4; AKS – S7-B, F

TOPIC: OTHER

All About Energy
Hands-on explorations, solar ovens, calorie counting and other irresistible activities help students understand and compare the different forms of energy. GSE – S8P2; AKS – S8-A

Energy Options
Students will become acquainted with sources of energy, energy conservation and technology. They will safely view the sun through a solar telescope, see solar-powered machines at work and tour Elachee’s E-House. GSE – S6E6; AKS – S6-G

Elachee Rocks!
Study plate tectonics, the rock cycle, rock formations, fossils, erosion, deposition and more. GSE – S6E3; AKS – S6-E

Weather Alert
In this unique learning experience, students will explore wind systems, weather patterns, the unequal heating of land and water, and barometric pressure. NOTE: Outreach Program Only
GSE – S6E4; AKS – S6-D

Telescopes to Go!
Our expert astronomers will bring up to eight (8) telescopes to your school for a memorable celestial tour of the evening sky.
GSE – S6E1, S6E2; AKS – S6-B

Habitats and Adaptations
Study the behavioral and structural ways plants and animals interact with their habitats.
GSE – S7L4; AKS – S7-B, F

Stream Life
2-hour and 3-hour program options available
Ideal for groups of 60 or less, students catch and classify aquatic invertebrate and vertebrate animals, then conduct chemical tests in order to evaluate the streams of Chicopee Woods.
GSE – S7L1, S7L4; AKS – S7-B, F
Elachee Nature Science Center

FIELD TRIPS for HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

**TOPIC: AQUATIC STUDIES**

Lake Lanier Aquatic Study
During this Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center (LLALC) program, students will analyze and explore Georgia’s most important lake from the deck of the Chota Princess II floating classroom. See page 9.

GSE – SEVI 5, AKS – ENVI-B

Lake Lanier Aquatic Study: Water Quality Index
30-student maximum
Ideal for an AP Biology or Environmental Science class. During this Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center (LLALC) program, students conduct nine (9) different tests aboard the Chota Princess II floating classroom to determine the overall water quality of Lake Lanier. Tests include dissolved oxygen, fecal coliform, pH, temperature change, biochemical oxygen demand, total phosphates, nitrates, turbidity and total solids. See page 9.

GSE – SEVI 5, AKS – ENVI-B

**TOPIC: ASTRONOMY**

Telescopes to Go!
Our expert astronomers will bring up to eight (8) telescopes to your school to conduct an unforgettable celestial tour of the evening sky.

GSE – SES1a – AKS – AST-B

**TOPIC: HABITATS**

Stream Life 2-hour and 3-hour program options available
Ideal for groups of 60 or less, students catch and classify aquatic invertebrate and vertebrate animals, then conduct chemical tests in order to evaluate the streams of Chicopee Woods.

GSE – SEVI 5, AKS – ENVI-B
Elachee in Your Classroom

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Invite us! Elachee’s talented and travel-tested instructors will bring Georgia’s most extensive and exciting environmental education curriculum to you!

Transform your media center, gymnasium, classroom or an outdoor classroom with one of the popular Elachee in Your Classroom Outreach Programs.

Outreach Programs
Teachers Most Often Request

- All About Energy
- Astronomy for Middle Schoolers
- Eat or Be Eaten
- Elachee Rocks!
- Green and Growing
- Habitats and Adaptations
- Habitat is Home
- Seeing Stars with STARLAB
  Elachee’s Portable Planetarium (Kindergarten, 2nd and 4th Grades)
- Telescopes to Go!
- Tree-mendous Trees
- Weather Alert
- We All Live Downstream

Looking for different topic?
Call 770-535-1976 and we will work with you to design a grade-specific, custom outreach program.

Book Your Field Trip

1. Choose a grade-specific topic.
2. Pick the best program format.
3. Request your preferred date and time.
   - Visit elachee.org/school-programs to submit a scheduling request or call 770-535-1976.
   - Elachee’s Registrar will follow-up to finalize your program reservation.
Aquatic Studies Programs

A number of Elachee's innovative STEAM-based environmental education field trip programs have an aquatic studies component. For select classes, we extend your field trip experience to alternate locations.

**IMPORTANT:** Elachee will provide driving directions to bus drop-off location(s) for the Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center or Chicopee Lake program sites during the field trip registration confirmation process.

Elachee’s Chicopee Woods Aquatic Studies Center at Chicopee Lake

Chicopee Lake is a secluded spot ideal for smaller group programs at Elachee. This outdoor classroom features a large pavilion and spacious dock, and has ample restrooms.

Located along the Lake Loop hiking trail in the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve, students will have immediate access to some of the most beautiful and diverse parts of this natural landscape.

We will work with you to customize a grade-specific water study or evening telescope program. Or, you may choose an Elachee field trip program topic. Call 770-535-1976 for more details about Chicopee Lake custom programming.

**Sampling of field trips ideally suited for this setting:**
- A Sense of Wonder
- Eat or Be Eaten
- Exploring the Animal Kingdom
- Green and Growing
- Habitats and Adaptations
- Life Cycles
- Pond Life
- Stream Life
- Tree-mendous Trees

Chicopee Lake Program Location

Situated across the 1,440-acre Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve from Elachee Nature Science Center, access to the Chicopee Woods Aquatic Studies Center requires a 2.5 mile hike from the Visitor Center through the Nature Preserve or a 10-minute drive around its perimeter.

If driving to Chicopee Lake, the address is: 2100 Calvary Church Road, Gainesville, GA 30507.

Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center Program at River Forks Park

**Program Partnership**

The Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center (LLALC) Program is sponsored by Elachee Nature Science Center in partnership with Chattahoochee Riverkeeper and Hall County Parks and Leisure Services. *Title One schools are eligible for financial aid consideration for the LLALC program courtesy of Elachee’s program partner Chattahoochee Riverkeeper. Call Elachee for details, 770-535-1976.*

**About the LLALC Program**

Students climb aboard the LLALC *Chota Princess II* floating classroom for an interactive exploration of the history, ecology and challenges facing Lake Sidney Lanier, Georgia’s most important reservoir.

During this cruise on Lake Lanier, students will sample plankton, collect lake sediments, measure turbidity, and determine pH and dissolved oxygen levels. Then on shore, Elachee instructors engage students in complementary watershed activities including topographical map studies, storm water runoff demonstrations and water treatment plant simulations.

Extra program options include a tour of the nearby Flat Creek Water Reclamation Facility, or combine a study of your community’s watershed at your school along with a *Chota Princess II* cruise, when scheduling Elachee’s *We All Live Downstream* program.

**Lake Lanier Program Location**

The LLALC Chota Princess II floating classroom is docked at River Forks Park. If driving to River Forks Park, the address is: 3500 Keith Bridge Road, Gainesville, GA 30504, and the Guard House number is 770-531-3952.
HOME SCHOOL Annual Program Series

Elachee offers two dynamic, grade-appropriate annual Home School program series presented in small group settings.

First Wednesday Program Series
Elementary: Kindergarten–5th Grade, Ages 5 to 11 Years

Jr. Master Naturalist Program Series
Middle and High School: Grades 6–12, Ages 12 to 18 Years

Classes combine indoor and outdoor exploration with programming that covers many math and science standards. Students enjoy unique experiences that delve into ecological relationships, water study, astronomy, biology, physics and more! Sessions utilize the incredible resources of Elachee Nature Science Center and nearby Lake Sidney Lanier. These 10-session, monthly STEAM-based environmental instructional series span two semesters during the school year, taking place August through May.

Enroll at elachee.org/school-programs/home-school-programs or call 770-535-1976 for details.

2019-2020 Home School Program Series Topics

FALL 2019 SEMESTER
Aug. 7 ... Bats of North Georgia
Sep. 4 ... Chicopee Woods Fish
Oct. 2 ... Naturalized vs. Native Species of Plants & Animals (Jaro and Micronesian Spiders)
Nov. 6 ... Fall Birding Count
Dec. 4 ... Rocks & Minerals on the Geology Trail

SPRING 2020 SEMESTER
Jan. 8 ... Tree Trail Trekking
Feb. 5 ... Owl Prowling
Mar. 4 ... Spring Wildflower Mapping
Apr. 1 ... A Tale of Two Tortoises – Box Turtles and Gopher Tortoises of Georgia
May 6 ... Stream Ecology

FIELD TRIPS for Home School Groups

Field trips to Elachee Nature Science Center in the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve are a ‘must do’ for any home study program, home school association or school system’s online school. Take advantage of our STEAM-based environmental curriculum by choosing among Elachee’s diverse grade-specific field trip options found in this program guide or online, elachee.org/school-programs.
2019-2020 SCHOOL PROGRAMS
Formats and Fees  VALID JUNE 1, 2019 THROUGH MAY 31, 2020
Available for School, Home School or Small Group Field Trips

Call 770-535-1976 or visit elachee.org/school-programs to submit a scheduling request.
An Elachee representative will follow up to finalize your reservation.

2-HOUR PROGRAM

**Teachers’ MOST Popular Choice!**
RATES: $12 Per Student, $5 Per Adult
Requires a $250 Minimum
Enjoy a classroom presentation and hike in the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve. Or, choose an all-outdoor program.

3-HOUR PROGRAM

**Ideal for More Intensive Topic Exploration**
RATES: $16 Per Student, $5 Per Adult
Requires a $320 Minimum
Enjoy an extended classroom presentation and hike in the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve. Other options include an outdoor program or a combination of two (2) classroom presentations and a hike.

4-HOUR PROGRAM

**Best of Both Worlds, 2 Programs in 1**
RATES: $18 Per Student, $5 Per Adult
Requires a $360 Minimum
Students benefit from combining two separate 2-hour programs that include classroom presentations and hikes in the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve.

1-HOUR PROGRAM

**Great After School or Summer Outing**
RATES: $8 Per Student, $5 Per Adult
Requires a $100 Minimum
Stretch your group’s legs and minds with an interpretive hike in the Chicopee Woods Nature Preserve or classroom program.

ELACHEE IN YOUR CLASSROOM

**A Field Trip on Your School Grounds!**
DAY RATES: $150 Per 1-Hour Program
EVENING RATES: $200 Per 1-Hour Program
Each requires a two (2) Program Minimum, plus $0.65 per round trip mile.
Elachee’s talented, travel-tested instructors bring Georgia’s most extensive and experiential environmental education curriculum to you.

LAKE LANIER AQUATIC STUDIES

**Field Trip on Lake Sidney Lanier**
Analyze and explore Georgia’s most important lake from the deck of the Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center (LLALC) floating classroom, Chota Princess II.

**2-Hour LLALC Program**
RATES: $16 Per Student, $5 Per Adult
Requires a $320 Minimum

**3-Hour LLALC Program**
RATES: $20 Per Student, $5 Per Adult
Requires a $400 Minimum

**Custom Program/Aquatic Studies Combo**
Elachee combines a custom-designed Outreach Program with a 3-hour Lake Lanier Aquatic Learning Center (LLALC) program and cruise aboard the floating classroom, Chota Princess II.

3-Hour We All Live Downstream Program
RATES: $22 Per Student, $5 Per Adult
Requires a $400 Minimum

OVERNIGHT AT ELACHEE

**Sleep Over & Studies for Elementary Ages**
RATES: $55 per participant (student or adult)
Requires a $750 Minimum
Note: $5 per student for each extra hour of instruction over 5 hours.
For groups of 15 up to 30, this is an action packed, custom-designed 5-hour program with the added bonus of sleeping at Elachee! Breakfast and a snack are included.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Please call 770-535-1976 with questions.

Weather
All programs take place rain or shine. Elachee plans alternative curriculum in the event of inclement weather.

Reschedule/Cancel
You may reschedule your program or cancel up to four (4) weeks before your originally confirmed date without penalty.

Late Cancellation Fee
Elachee will charge 50 percent of the scheduled program fee for cancellations without at least a four-week notice.

PARENT CHAPERONES

Important Note for Teachers to Share
Parent Chaperones and Fees
Elachee allows a maximum of three (3) parent chaperones per class to attend a field trip. Each chaperone will pay a $5 program fee.

Per Vehicle Parking Fee
For field trips to the Elachee Campus (the Nature Center or the Aquatic Studies Center at Chicopee Lake), all vehicles other than school buses are subject to the Chicopee Woods Conservation Area parking fee of $5 per vehicle, or $10 for 15-passenger vans and buses.

Best Time to Schedule an Elachee Field Trip
Elachee’s interactive curriculum is available year-round! We book field trips on a first-come basis. Receive a 10-percent discount on student program fees when you schedule a daytime program at Elachee Nature Science Center in August, September, January or February.