

# Middle Fork Bottoms



## Park Educator Guide

### Field Trips and Outreach Programs

Tennessee State Parks offer field trips, school programs, and overnight learning experiences for school groups. In this guide, find the program options for this park.

Middle Fork Bottoms is a young Tennessee State Park which opened in August of 2024. We are in the process of constructing many amenities and facilities, so please bear with us as we update our offerings. You can expect to see a greater capacity for field trips in the future, as well as more program offerings.

#### Park Experiences for School Groups

- School Programs     Field Trips     Overnight Learning     Virtual

#### Start Here

##### 1. Review park program offerings

- On the park's For Educator web page
  - [Click here](#)
- In the guide below

##### 2. Request a program using the digital program request form

- Tennessee State Parks Website
  - [Click here](#)
- Using the QR code below

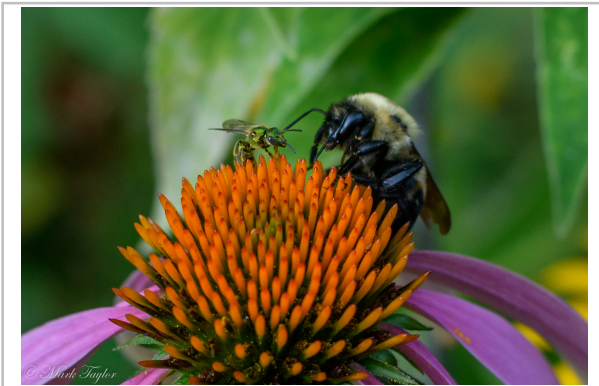
#### Financial Support

Funding may be available to remove transportation barriers and/or cover program fees. Apply for financial support using the digital program request form.



# Programs

## Pollinator Pursuit



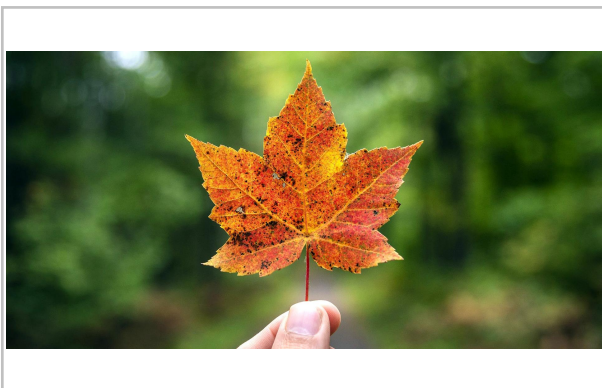
Offered at:  Park  School  Virtually

This lesson teaches students about the vital role of bees in pollination, emphasizing Tennessee's 300+ native species. Students compare native and non-native bees, explore resource competition, and learn how pollination supports ecosystems and food systems in a fun and competitive game. Ideal for 4th grade classes.

Academic Standards: 4.LS2.3

25 students    50 minutes    \$0 /student

## Eco-Tower Challenge



Offered at:  Park  School  Virtually

In this lesson, students will explore how natural structures, such as trees, can inspire human designs through the engineering design process. By observing how tree components work together to create stability and function, students will learn how engineers often look to nature to solve structural challenges. Ideal for 5th grade.

Academic Standards: 5.ETS.1

25 students    45-60 minutes    \$0 /student

## Ecosystem Engineers



Offered at:  Park  School  Virtually

Utilizing student-made stream models, students will evaluate and record the impact of moisture absorbing roots, beaver-made dams, and other natural and man-made processes on water flow to answer the essential question of 'How do living things change the world around them?' Ideal for 4th and 5th grade.

Academic Standards: 4.ESS.2.3 and 4.ESS3.2

25 students    60-75 minutes    \$0 /student

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **How far in advance should I request a program?**

At least 1 month.

## **Can I request more than one program?**

Yes! Just ensure that adequate time is scheduled and accounted for between programs.

## **Is there a maximum number of students for a program or field trip?**

School visits - 30 students per program, can be multiple classes per day

Field trips - 1 Chaperon or Teacher per 10 students

## **What is the expectation for teachers?**

Follow safety instructions from rangers. Communicate any delays as needed.

## **What is the expectation for chaperons?**

Follow safety instructions from teachers and rangers. Do not leave children unsupervised.

## **How do I pay program fees?**

Currently all programs offered at Middle Fork Bottoms are free!

## **How are cancellations handled?**

Please email the ranger who scheduled your program.

## **Are restrooms available?**

Expected to be open by 2026.

## **Is there a place to eat lunch?**

Currently, only picnicking.

## **Where do buses park?**

Gravel parking lots accessible from Sanders Bluff Rd

## **How do I request an accessibility accommodation?**

Please email the ranger who scheduled your program.