



Cleveland Metroparks®

FIND YOUR PATH

Virtual Learning Initiative and Program Updates

Mary Rouse

Director of Outdoor Experiences

May 20, 2021

Outdoor Experiences Division

Mission: Connecting people with nature, outdoor recreation opportunities and the cultural history of northeast Ohio

■ Team

- 5 nature centers
- Outdoor Recreation
- Youth Outdoors
- Mobile Outreach
- Nature Preschools



■ 2019 Impact

- 7689 programs
- 214K participants
- 300K+ nature center visitors



2020 – In the Beginning....

- **March 13:** Nature Centers close, in-person programming ceases
- **March 17:** Virtual Classroom commences
 - 3x/day, 5 days/week
 - Zoo, Outdoor Experiences, Outdoor Recreation programs
 - 220 live video sessions (archived for future use)
 - 6 million impressions
 - 400K engagements
 - March-September 2020



**TRAILSIDE REPAIRS:
FIXING A FLAT TIRE**

September 30, 2020



LAKE ERIE AT WENDY PARK

September 29, 2020



**EXPLORING THE
CHEMISTRY OF FALL**

September 24, 2020



**EXPLORING NATURE IN
THE FALL**

September 23, 2020



Today's Virtual Classroom features Ohio's state native fruit, the pawpaw! Join us to learn about this cultural staple in Ohio's history.

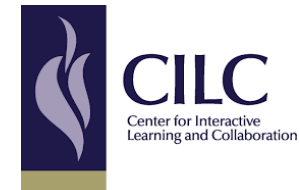
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The Shift to Virtual Learning

Partnerships

Entire Cleveland Metroparks team!!!

- Funding
 - Cleveland Cliffs, Inc.
 - Judith Wolfe and Robin Richmond Charitable Fund
 - Ohio Parks and Recreation Association
 - RPM International Inc.
- Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD)
- Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration (CILC)
 - Weekly newsletter reaches over 35K in 100 countries
 - Our program participants: 13 states and 2 countries



The Virtual Learning Studio and Equipment

- Equipment for live, remote programs
 - iPhone
 - Wireless microphone
 - Gimbal
- Studio for recording and synchronous programs
 - Camera
 - Computer/software
 - Lighting
 - Microphone
 - Green screen
 - Document camera
 - Video editing and production



Virtual Academy

PreK-8th Grade programs aligned with Ohio's Learning Standards in Science and Social Studies

- 1-5 programs/grade level (n=23)
- Asynchronous
 - Pre-recorded video(s)
 - Lesson plan for teacher
 - Enrichment activities
- Synchronous
 - Interactive
 - March -April 2021: 36 programs, 3019 students



PRESCHOOL



KINDERGARTEN



1ST GRADE



2ND GRADE



3RD GRADE



4TH GRADE



Virtual Academy: Earth's Natural Resources - Video A - Earth's Natural Resources

Unlisted
23 views · Feb 25, 2021

Like Comment Share Save

CLE4Sci

The mission of the Cleveland Learning Experience for Science Collaborative (CLE4SCI) is to support science learning and engagement for ALL Cleveland Metropolitan School District students through experiential programming that extends the district curriculum beyond the classroom.

- Grades 6-8 (n=7316 students)
- Earth and Space Science Learning Standards
- Continue offerings as virtual or in-person for 2021-22 and beyond



MINERALS AND ROCKS

Minerals and rocks are important in our daily lives.



STORMWATER AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Students will learn that systems cycle matter and energy in observable and predictable patterns.



FOSSIL RECORD

Students will learn that the number, growth and survival of organisms and populations depend on...

Eco Explorers – Mobile Outreach Unit

Early childhood environmental education outreach program funded by PNC Grow Up Great

- Five learning units
- Asynchronous: video and lesson plan
- Classroom lending kit



Virtual Academy: Eco Explorers - Video C - Animal Adaptations

Unlisted

35 views • Feb 17, 2021

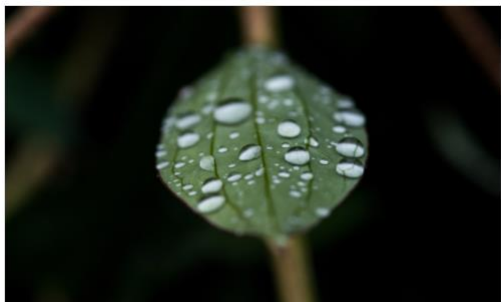
Like 0 Comment 0 Share Save ...



Virtual Public Programs

Synchronous, interactive programs for a wide audience of lifelong learners, families and other groups

- School of the Wilds
- Outdoor Recreation – Skills and Thrills
- Special one-offs (history, virtual tours, events in nature)
- December 2020-April 2021: 44 programs, 1546 participants



FLORA & FAUNA OF CLEVELAND METROPARKS

Explore the natural history of many familiar and unfamiliar species of Cleveland Metroparks.



MAPLE SUGARING 101

Watch a virtual program revealing the process of transforming tree sap into tasty syrup.



SKILLS AND THRILLS - PADDLING THE ALLEGHENY RIVER & LAKE ERIE WATER TRAIL

Virtual Learning Program Evaluations

January-April 2021*

- Attending this program was a good use of my time:
 - 95% completely/mostly agree
- The instructor was knowledgeable about the subject:
 - 99% completely/mostly agree
- I feel more competent/knowledgeable about this topic after attending the program
 - 94% completely/mostly agree
- I plan on attending more programs at Cleveland Metroparks
 - 98% completely/mostly agree

*n=117



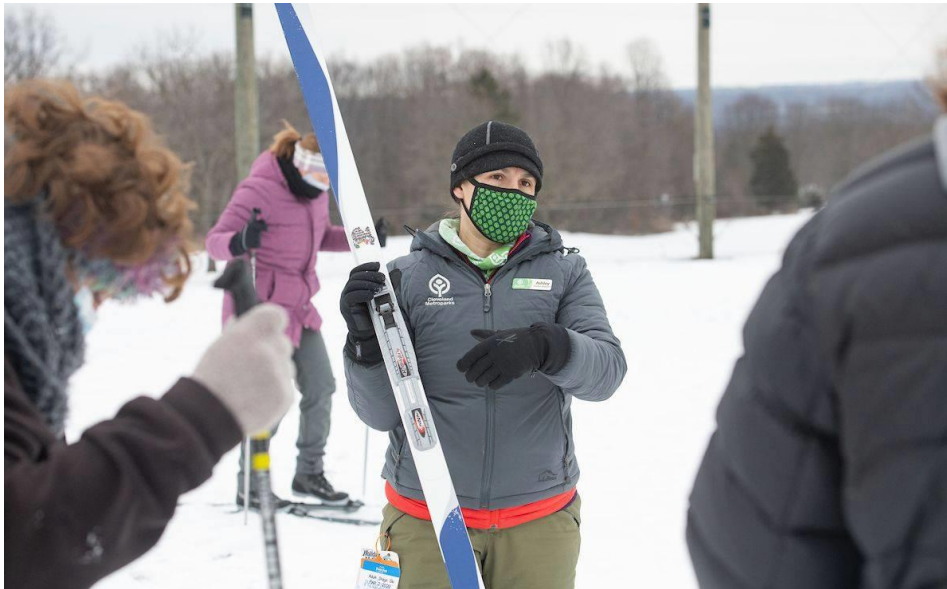
In-person Public Programs Return

- Covid-safe protocols: group size limit, advance registration, masks, symptom check
- October 2020-March 2021: 1111 programs, 6434 participants
- Outdoor Recreation: Try-it, families, diverse audience
- Youth Outdoors: learning pods



What We Learned...

- Larger, wider, more diverse audiences
- Furthers accessibility reach
- New ways to serve our community based on their wants/needs
- Technology in education and interpretation, interactive approaches provides valuable archive/re-use of content



What Stays with Us....

The Silver Linings

- Virtual learning options for school and public programs
- Multi-modal programming (in-person and virtual)
- New partnerships
- Program/event planning, development and implementation process



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Cleveland Metroparks offers diverse, hands-on education opportunities for all!



VIRTUAL LEARNING

Welcome to Cleveland Metroparks Virtual Learning!



EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Discover more ways to connect with Cleveland Metroparks and nature!

Questions???

