



One touch of nature makes the whole world kin.
~William Shakespeare

We invite you to join us here at the Lookout Mountain Nature Center and at all of our Open Space parks to connect, explore and find the best that resides in you. Join us for a program to discover ways that you, your family and friends can get in touch with nature.

Registration is required for all programs unless noted. *Registration opens one month prior to the date of the program.* Program details are listed on the webpage for each program.

Register for a Program: Visit lmnc.jeffco.us and click the orange “Register” button or call 720-497-7600.

Programs for your group: Find our list of options on our web site, lmnc.jeffco.us, or call the education hot-line at 720-497-7601.

Winter Program Schedule 2011-2012

December

Sunday, December 11 **Kids Only! An Afternoon with Nature**

11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Lookout Mountain Nature Center

Need to do some last minute shopping? Kids will have a better time spending the afternoon at Lookout Mountain Nature Center than hitting the mall. Drop your kids off for stories, crafts and a nature hike. Kids need to bring a lunch and warm clothes, as they will spend some time outside. Ages 6-10.

Sunday, December 18 **Winter Stories 1**

2 p.m. Lookout Mountain Nature Center

Take a walk to explore the winter landscape, and then come inside to hear a story about Rocky Mountain wildlife, Native Americans and/or Pioneers. Ages 6-adult.

Thursday, December 22 **Winter Solstice Celebration**

6:30 p.m. Lookout Mountain Nature Center

Welcome the first day of winter with a naturalist-guided hike through the forest while you learn about Winter Solstice traditions. Then enjoy a cracklin' campfire and caroling as we burn a Yule log. Please bundle up, wear sturdy hiking boots and bring mugs for hot chocolate. All ages.

Thursday, December 29 **Beginner's Guide to the Night Sky**

7 p.m. Pine Valley Ranch Park

Learn the basics of night sky navigation, how to tell the difference between a planet and a star, where to find planets, and much more. Weather permitting, peer through historic and modern telescopes. Ages 10-adult.

Registration for all programs opens one month prior to the program date unless otherwise noted.

January

Saturday, January 7 **Pine Lake Ice Skate**

4 - 8 p.m. Pine Valley Ranch Park

Bundle up, bring your skates, and head down to Pine Lake for an old fashioned ice skate on the lake. There will be a cracklin' fire in the warming hut and hot chocolate. Lake conditions and weather permitting. Skates are not provided. All ages.

Friday, January 13 **Jr. Astronomers: Deep Space Objects**

7 p.m. Lookout Mountain Nature Center

Kids are invited to join us for an interactive program about star clusters, nebulae, galaxies, extrasolar planets, and more. Be prepared for indoor and outdoor activities. Weather permitting, peer through telescopes. Ages 6-10 with an adult.

Sunday, January 22 **Winter Stories 2**

2 p.m. Lookout Mountain Nature Center

Take a walk to explore the winter landscape, and then come inside to hear a story about Rocky Mountain wildlife, Native Americans, and/or Pioneers. Ages 6-adult.

Thursday, January 26 **Neptune Returns**

7 p.m. Lookout Mountain Nature Center

Join NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador Mike Hotka for this special presentation about the historic discovery of the planet Neptune. This discussion will examine the European astronomical mindset of the time and the incredible, independent work of two mathematicians that lead to the ultimate discovery of Neptune. This is a fascinating story of ignorance and triumph that will leave you with a wonderful tale of exploration. Ages 10-adult.

Special Presentation

Saturday, January 28 **G.O. Club: Winter Wonderland**

1 p.m. Lair o' the Bear Park

Bundle up and head outside to celebrate winter. The Get Outdoors and Explore Club programs are unstructured, playful nature excursions that feature activities for parents to help their children connect with the natural world. The program will conclude with a toasty campfire at the education shelter. Bring your own hot beverages. All ages.

February

Friday, February 3 **Coyote's Howl**

7 p.m. Crown Hill Park

Now is the time of year when coyotes are selecting mates and setting up territories. Join this naturalist-guided walk as we listen and search for signs of these adaptable, clever canines. Find out what you need to do to keep yourself and your loved ones safe. All ages.

Sunday, February 5 **Pine Lake Ice Skate**

4:30 - 8:30 p.m. Pine Valley Ranch Park

Bundle up, bring your skates, and head down to Pine Lake for an old fashioned ice skate on the lake. There will be a cracklin' fire in the warming hut and hot chocolate. Lake conditions and weather permitting. Skates are not provided. All ages.

Saturday, February 11 **Winter Jr. Rangers**

10 a.m. Lookout Mountain Nature Center

Join Naturalists and Jefferson County Park Rangers for this outdoor wintry adventure. Bundle up for the one mile hike through the preserve while you learn about winter weather, cold weather adaptations, safety, and much more. Program best suited for children ages 6-12, however all are welcome.

Special Programs for Kids

Toddler Times:

Saturday, February 18 **Winter Sketchbook Nature Journaling**

10 a.m. Lookout Mountain Nature Center
Strengthen your personal connection to the natural world by keeping a sketchbook nature journal. We will start the program with some basic drawing practice and then head out on the trails to record our winter observations. Different journaling exercises are presented each quarter, so repeat participation is welcome. All experience levels are encouraged to attend. Please bring your own sketchbook. All other supplies provided. Ages 13-adult.

Sunday, February 19 **Winter Stories 3**

2 p.m. Lookout Mountain Nature Center
Take a walk to explore the winter landscape, and then come inside to hear a story about Rocky Mountain wildlife, Native Americans, and/or Pioneers. Ages 6-adult.

Saturday, February 25 **Bright Stars of Winter**

6 p.m. Pine Valley Ranch Park
Enjoy the dark, sparkling winter skies at the historic William Baehr Observatory. Astronomy team members will present an interactive program about stars and constellations. Ages 10+ only.

These 45 minute programs are specifically designed for children ages 2-5 with an adult. No older children, please. Programs are held at 10:15 and 11:15 a.m. at Lookout Mountain Nature Center. These programs are very popular, so reserve your space early.



December 1, 3 and 15 **Nature's Gifts**

10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Lookout Mountain Nature Center

Hey all you young naturalists. Have fun making nature-related holiday crafts for your loved ones. No registration required. Activities designed for children ages 2-8 with an adult.

**This special program takes the place of our normally scheduled Toddler Times.*



January 5, 7 and 19 **Winter Ducks**

Dabbler or Diver? Find out more and which ducks can be seen in the Front Range during winter months.



February 2, 4 and 16 **Sleepy Black Bears**

Discover how bears prepare for their winter sleep and stay snug in their dens during the cold winter months.

Junior Naturalists:

These two-hour programs are specifically designed for children ages 6-10 with an adult.

Saturday, December 17 **Jr. Naturalists: Remarkable Headgear**

10 a.m. Lookout Mountain Nature Center
Why do some creatures carry fantastic displays on their heads? Join this naturalist-guided outdoor excursion to find out.

Saturday, January 21 **Jr. Naturalists: Life Under the Snow**

1 p.m. Lookout Mountain Nature Center
The space beneath a blanket of snow provides a secure habitat for many animals during the winter. Discover more about this hidden world as you go on a wintry hike outdoors, experiment with snow and take part in indoor activities at the nature center.

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Special Winter Events

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