**SCHOOL IN THE PARK 2019**

Thank you for volunteering to instruct a station for School in the Park this year. The program will be held from May 13th to May 16th in Bird Park.

* The morning session runs from 8:00 am to noon. The afternoon session runs from 11:15 am to 3:00 pm. Set up time varies by station and instructor experience. Equipment will need to be packed up at the end of the day.
* When you arrive, please proceed to your station for set up and text the coordinator of the day to let us know you have arrived and if you need anything. Phone numbers for the coordinator of the day will be distributed with the final volunteer schedule.
* The high school volunteers will meet you at your station and be part of your team for the entire session. Each station will have 1-2 high school volunteers. They have been instructed to be prepared to teach at least one of the activities. You get to decide which activities they will teach. Please review with them your plan before the arrival of the 3rd grade student and encourage them to engage with the 3rd graders.
* During each morning and afternoon session, the elementary students will rotate through all five habitats with approximately 5 minutes between. The high school students will guide the elementary students to their next station and then return to their assigned station.
* Parent chaperons will be given some guidelines on what to expect and be reminded to silence cell phones during the welcome prior to groups being sent to habitats. Parent chaperons should able to attend to student needs including bathroom breaks and minor injuries. First aid supplies will be available at the pavilion.
* The site coordinator for School in the Park will provide guidance in the event of harsh weather or other problems. You will be given a cell number for the coordinator and radio upon arrival. We will only cancel for lightening so please dress for the weather. Mud happens.
* All instructors will receive an instructor packet for their habitat by e-mail. Please make note of any suggestions or corrections for the instructor packets and e-mail your corrections to lebonature.sip@gmail.com.

**THANK YOU!!**

**Sarah (412) 680-3186 and Angie (412) 860-2630**

**Guidelines for Working with 3rd Graders**

1. **Thirds graders are pretty concrete in their learning, so our activities are hands-on, learn by doing.**
2. **Each activity involves all the children in the group.**
3. **Each activity demonstrates or leads to discovery of the basic concepts involved in the habitat. For example, the camouflage game in the field edge helps children see the importance of color and shape in the environment.**
4. **You may not have time for all the activities available to you. That’s ok.**
5. **At the end of each activity, if time permits, gather the children to discuss what they learned. This ties together the concepts and quiets the kids for the walk to the next habitat.**
6. **There will always be an exhausting kid. Take a deep breath, be kind, firm and patient.**
7. **Encourage the kids to make their own discoveries.**
8. **Use as many senses as possible.**
9. **Use the park as your resource, encourage them to explore within preset boundaries.**
10. **When they find exciting animals or plants, they should show the group but they may not take anything home with them. Teach them about “leave no trace” principles.**
11. **HAVE FUN!**