



The Chico Creek Nature Center is offering \$10 off of any school program booked for the month of February, 2012.

Regular pricing:

30 minutes - \$45

45 minutes - \$55

60 minutes - \$70

90 minutes - \$95

For more information please visit:

[bidwellpark.org, kids>environmental education](http://bidwellpark.org/kids>environmental%20education)

Or call: 530-891-4671



MEET THE ANIMALS (30 or 60 min.)

In this program, students will meet and touch some of our most popular reptiles, birds, amphibians and mammals. Naturalists will discuss physical characteristics, adaptations, natural habitats and histories of these ambassadors of the wild.

ANIMAL DISCOVERY HIKE (60 or 90 min.)

Students become nature detectives and search for clues of animal activity in the park such as scat, nests, bones, feathers, and examine skulls and owl pellets.

BIRDS OF BIDWELL PARK (60 or 90min.)

Examine specimens and discuss bird adaptations, then hike in the park and use binoculars to look for species in their natural habitats.

RAPTORS (60 min.)

This program explores the special adaptations and needs of these fascinating birds of prey. Students will get a close up view of our live raptors and taxidermy specimens.



GEOLOGY HIKE (90 min.)

Students will hike in Upper Bidwell Park and learn how to read its fascinating geologic history. Students will be introduced to basic concepts such as rock types, land formations, weathering, and erosion.



HABITAT HIKE (90 min.)

Using beautiful Upper Bidwell Park as a setting, students will discover and explore unique plant and animal habitats.

MAIDU SHELTER HIKE (90 min.)

Naturalists will lead a hike to a Maidu rock shelter and discuss the Maidu, their customs, how they were influenced by the environment, and the ways they used the natural resources of Bidwell Park to survive.

WETLANDS DISCOVERY (90 min.)

The wetlands of Teichert Ponds are one of Chico's best kept secrets. During this hike, students will explore this valuable habitat, which supports migratory waterfowl and beavers.

SKULL ID LAB (45 min.)

Using our collection of skulls and replicas, identify skulls by looking at eye placement and tooth shape.



SCAT ID LAB- the scoop on poop (45 min.)

In our new lab, we'll learn about the digestive system and uses of scat in nature. Looking at real scat and rubber models, we'll learn how to identify who's been in the forest.

LIFE IN A PUDDLE (60 min.)

After a brief presentation on pond microlife, we'll take samples of pond water and look at them under the microscope to see what's living in the water.

GROUNDWATER LAB (45 min.)

The groundwater model demonstration and aquifer in a cup activity address an invisible part of the water cycle and show how we get our drinking water and how to protect it.

EROSION LAB (45 min.)

We'll use a sand stream table to learn how streams shape the landscape with sandbars, undercuts, deltas, and more, and go out into the Park to see the results of this sculpting.

BOOKING FOR SPRING:

AQUATIC INVESTIGATIONS (April-May) (90 min.)

In this hands-on exploration of Big Chico Creek, students will learn about the riparian and aquatic habitats of Bidwell Park, and catch and release specimens after looking at them under magnifiers and classifying them.

WILDFLOWER IDENTIFICATION (March-May) (60 min.)

Students will learn the parts of the flower and basic flower keying technique. We'll see flower structures under the microscope projected on the big screen. Then we'll go into the field with our magnifying loupes (each student will have one) and identify the blooms.



TREE LEAF IDENTIFICATION LAB/WALK (Spring-Fall) (60 min.)

In the lab, we'll look at leaf specimens, talk about the differences in leaf kinds (deciduous and evergreen) and shapes and make our own mini leaf guides, then go for a walk to use our identification skills.