



Book Time at Brooker Creek: *Stellaluna*

Thursday, October 25, 2007 10:30 am – 11:15 am
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff

This program is designed to introduce pre-school children to the wonders of the natural world. Every second and fourth Thursday of the month, children are treated to a variety of stories and hands-on activities that connect them to their environment. This week presents *Stellaluna* by Janell Cannon. *Stellaluna* is the story of a young bat that finds herself in a bird’s nest and is forced to behave like a bird. She eventually shows her bird siblings about life as a bat, which prompts them to investigate the differences between birds and bats. Pre-registration is required for this program. Spaces are limited so register early! Admission: Free. **Recommended ages: 3 – 5.**

The Great Naturalists Reading Series - *Travels of William Bartram*

Friday, October 26, 2007 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff
The East Lake Community Library and the Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center co-host this exciting series each month. With a moving and wonderful narrative, William Bartram’s book, *Travels of William Bartram*, is a classic work of American anthropology, geography and natural history. As the accomplished naturalist and talented artist traveled, he wrote exact and vivid descriptions of flora and fauna in their natural habitats, and accurately recorded the activities of Native American Indians he encountered. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Admission: Free. **Recommended for adults.**

Elementary Everglades Teachers’ Workshop

Saturday, October 27, 2007 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
The Florida Aquarium
Learning about the Everglades, the ebb and flow of its water and the web of life it supports, can be a powerful experience for students and adults. In this workshop, discover hands-on science and language arts activities to bring the ecological concepts of the Everglades to your classroom. Receive a \$50 stipend, along with the “Journey of Wayne Drop” curriculum kit, which follows the character of Wayne Drop as he travels from the Kissimmee River and Lake Okeechobee through the Everglades to the Florida Straits. Admission: Free. To register, fax or mail the Teacher Registration Form, available on-line (www.flaquarium.org), or call (813) 273-4015 for more information. Register early, as class space is limited. Admission: Free. **Recommended for 4th- 5th grade teachers.**

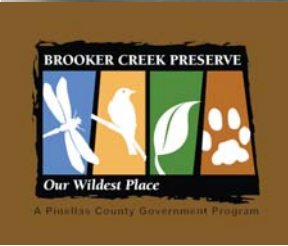
Open Classroom – Discovering Nature with Your Child

Sunday, October 28, 2007 11:00 am – 3:00 pm
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff
Who lives in that skin? What is the difference between a carnivore and an herbivore? Whose tracks are those? Stop by our classroom to participate in a variety of self-guided nature games and activities that will answer these questions and many more. Admission: Free. **Recommended for families with children of all ages.**

Creepy Critters and “Boo Time” Stories

Wednesday, October 31, 2007 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff
Bring the whole family to learn about Halloween favorites like owls, spiders and bats. Then join us for a short evening hike along the boardwalk to look and listen for common creatures of the night. We will end the evening with a fun “boo time” story. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Closed-toe, comfortable shoes, long pants, and insect repellent are recommended. Admission: Free. **Recommended for families with children 5 years old or older.**

**BROOKER CREEK PRESERVE
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER**



UPCOMING EVENTS OCTOBER 2007

Family Night Hikes


Wednesday, October 3, 2007 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Wednesday, October 17, 2007 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff
Glowing eyes, strange sounds and unusual smells are all experienced as you awaken your senses during this night hike. Join us for a walk to experience the Preserve after dark as we look and listen for the creatures of the night. Learn about the unique adaptations of nocturnal animals as we explore the Education Center Trail. Sturdy closed-toe shoes are a must, and a flashlight is optional. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Admission: Free. **Recommended for families with children age 10 and up.**

Guided Hikes


Saturday, October 6, 2007 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Saturday, October 13, 2007 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Saturday, October 20, 2007 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Saturday, October 27, 2007 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff
Take a walk through time each Saturday morning on a guided hike along the Education Center Trail. Join us for this 0.75 mile walk as we look at how the land has changed over time and discuss the ecological footprints left by those changes. Sturdy closed-toe shoes are a must, and water and a hat are recommended. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Admission: Free. **All ages welcome - children younger than 6 may find this hike challenging.**

Florida Style Gardening Series:

Pinellas County Growing Conditions, Soils and Fertilizers
Wednesday, October 3, 2007 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Florida-Friendly Landscaping and Plant Installation and Establishment
Wednesday, October 10, 2007 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Florida-Friendly Landscape Management - Best Management Practices and Pruning
Wednesday, October 17, 2007 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Least Toxic Methods of Handling Landscape Pests - Integrated Pest Management
Wednesday, October 24, 2007 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Vegetable and Herb Gardening and Composting
Wednesday, November 7, 2007 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Pinellas County IFAS Extension Staff
Want to learn the secrets to successful gardening in Pinellas County? Have you been confused by the sandy soil, growing conditions and the proper time to plant flowers, vegetables and herbs? We may have the



For other County events visit
www.pinellascounty.org/events



Center funding provided by
Penny for Pinellas dollars.

Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center

3940 Keystone Rd. Tarpon Springs, FL 34688 • Phone: (727) 453-6800 • Fax: (727) 453-6801

Hours: Wed 9:00 am - 8:30 pm, Thurs - Sun 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Closed Holidays

Members of the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve, Inc. receive a discount on admission fees.

www.pinellascounty.org/environment



answer for you. Pinellas County Extension is offering a five-session gardening course that will meet on Wednesday evenings at the Brooker Creek Preserve Center Environmental Education Center in Tarpon Springs. The tuition is \$60 for the series, which covers the cost of notebooks and materials. Class size is limited to 50 participants, and will be filled on a first-paid basis. Please call (727) 582-2673 for more information or to register. **Recommended for adults.**

Lawn and Garden Help Desk

Thursday, October 4, 2007 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Cindy Peacock, Pinellas County IFAS Extension

Do you have a mysterious plant in your garden that you just can’t identify? Would you like to know more about landscaping with native plants? Cindy Peacock, a Pinellas County IFAS Extension horticulture agent, will be available to help you at no charge throughout the day. Stop by the Center’s Resource Center to ask questions about landscaping and gardening, diagnose a plant problem, identify insects and even drop off your soil test sample. This service is free to the public. **Recommended for adults.**

Vegetable Gardening in Florida

Thursday, October 4, 2007 10:00 am – 11:00 am
Cindy Peacock – Pinellas County IFAS Extension

October is really Florida's spring when it comes to vegetable gardening. Join Cindy Peacock from Pinellas County’s IFAS Extension to learn about preparing the soil, what fertilizers to use, and which vegetables are best to plant for our area. Information about what insects might be a problem and how to handle them is also part of this program. Admission: Free. **Recommended for adults.**

Fall Migration Bird Hikes

Thursday, October 4, 2007 8:00 am – 9:30 am
Thursday, October 11, 2007 8:00 am – 9:30 am
Thursday, October 18, 2007 8:00 am – 9:30 am
Thursday, October 25, 2007 8:00 am – 9:30 am
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff

Join us every Thursday morning in October for a bird hike on the Preserve. We will search for migratory birds as these feathered marathon flyers travel toward the tropics. Bring your own binoculars or borrow a pair of ours. Closed-toe, comfortable shoes are a must, and water and a hat are recommended for this hike. Pre-registration is required. Admission: Free. **Recommended ages: 10 and up.**

Fall for Florida Native Plants - Native Plant Sale

Saturday, October 6, 2007 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Pinellas County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

A variety of native plants that can add beauty and attract wildlife to your landscape will be available at this fall plant sale. Attend workshops throughout the day on healthy landscapes, landscaping with natives, and butterfly gardening. Be sure to check out our special kids’ activities. Then stop by the sale to spice up your fall landscaping with native plants. Please call the Center for more information and a schedule of the day’s activities. Admission: Free. **Recommended for all ages.**

Early Morning Nature Walk

Sunday, October 7, 2007 7:30 am – 9:00 am
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff

Morning is a magical time in nature. From the dew-laden spider webs and grasses to the songs of waking birds, nature comes alive in the morning. Join us for an early morning peek at Brooker Creek Preserve. Sturdy closed-toe shoes are a must, and water and a hat are recommended. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Admission: Free. **All ages welcome – children younger than 6 may find this hike challenging.**

Cypress Swamp Café – Environmentally Friendly Cleaning Products

Wednesday, October 10, 2007 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff

Join us for this series of presentations and discussions to explore ways you can live a more sustainable lifestyle. Each evening will include organic refreshments and shade-grown coffee as well as a presentation or discussion. Do you worry about the safety of your household cleaning products? Join us to learn how to accomplish most of your house cleaning with products that are not harmful to you or the environment. Pre-registration is required. Admission: Free. **Recommended for adults.**

Book Time at Brooker Creek: *The Lady and the Spider*

Thursday, October 11, 2007 10:30 am – 11:15 am
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff

This program is designed to introduce pre-school children to the wonders of the natural world. Every second and fourth Thursday of the month, children are treated to a variety of stories and hands-on activities that connect them to their environment. Join us for *The Lady and the Spider* by Faith McNulty. A spider makes a home in a head of lettuce. We follow her daily routine until the unsuspecting gardener harvests the lettuce in this charming tale about the value of all living things. Children meet a live spider after the story, and learn more about spiders as we walk to discover where they live. Pre-registration is required for this program. Spaces are limited so register early! Admission: Free. **Recommended ages: 3 - 5.**

Brooker Creek Preserve - Recollections Shared

Saturday, October 13, 2007 10:30 am – 12 pm
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center and Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve, Inc.

Learn about the fascinating and colorful history of what’s now Brooker Creek Preserve and the surrounding area over coffee and refreshments as long-time residents bring it to life by sharing some of their amazing stories and photographs. Find out about the Center’s oral history project aimed at showcasing and preserving individual memories of the area. Please contact the Center if you have memories, photographs or artifacts you would like to share. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Admission: Free. **Recommended ages: 10 and up.**

Sunday Morning Bird Walk

Sunday, October 14, 2007 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff

Join us for an early morning bird walk along the Preserve’s trails. We will learn to identify common birds of the Preserve by sight, behavior and sound. Bring your own binoculars or borrow a pair of ours. Sturdy closed-toe shoes and water are a must. A hat, sunscreen and insect repellent are recommended. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Admission: Free. **Recommended ages: 10 and up.**

Skinks and Other Lizards: Scaly Tales of the Reptiles Around Us

Saturday, October 20, 2007, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff

They are one of the most common reptiles around and they are found in every yard in Florida. But how well do you know them? Why do they do push-ups? What is the orange-red flap on the lizard’s neck all about? Join us for a multi-sensory program to learn more about skinks and other lizards. Meet a few live creatures and take a short hike around the Center to practice your newly-learned identification skills. Pre-registration is required. Admission: Free. **Recommended for families with children age 6 and up.**

Young Naturalist Walk

Sunday, October 21, 2007 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center Staff

Children are fascinated by the smallest of outdoor wonders. Join us for a short walk along the Preserve’s trails to discover the nature of Brooker Creek Preserve. We will use all of our senses to bring out the naturalist in children of every age. Sturdy closed-toe shoes are necessary, while water and a hat are recommended. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Admission: Free. **Recommended for families with children of all ages.**