

# Prairie Loft Field Trips

Our mission is to teach agriculture appreciation, outdoor education, cultural connections, and the wise use of natural resources.



## Why Prairie Loft?

Prairie Loft offers inclusive activities to help people make new and deeper connections to culture, land, ideas, and each other. Customizable learning themes encourage agricultural and environmental literacy.

Explore the mud kitchen, stump jump, outdoor & indoor classrooms, fields, pasture, & woods. Experiential lessons include free choice time, outdoor exploration, creative art, stories, lots of ah-ha moments, and fun!

Field trips generally include free choice activities followed by lessons with a mix of exploration, scientific inquiry, and creativity. Expect fun-filled active outdoor learning! Longer field trip programs are available, please ask.

**Cost: 90-minute field trip for 10–25 students**  
**\$4 per student (minimum of \$40 for groups smaller than 10)**  
**No charge for teachers and parent helpers.**

Go to our website [www.prairieloft.org](http://www.prairieloft.org) to book your field trip with us.



**“I feel like our kids learned more science concepts in the hour and half, than they did from our science books.”- Elementary Teacher**



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[www.prairieloft.org](http://www.prairieloft.org)



# Field Trip Themes

## Great for all Ages!

### Fall on the Farm

Explore the changing leaves, animal habits, and harvest time during the months of autumn. Look for animal signs, collect colorful leaves, or explore the farm fields.

### Small World

Who and what lives under our feet? Study a few square feet of ground and use the scientific method to draw conclusions about relationships between plants and animals in this tiny world. Discover a new world!



### Farm, Food, Fun

We'll read stories, explore the fields and gardens, and learn about the path that food takes from the farm to the table.

### Spring on the Farm

Plants and animals are warming up again! Take a scavenger hunt hike to discover the many ways spring emerges at Prairie Loft. We might even pretend to be a spring rainstorm and an emerging seed!

### Who Lives Here?

Discover the many places on a farm that provide habitats for wild animals. We'll be nature detectives, finding clues to discover what animals live where in the fields and pasture.

### Plant Party

We'll dissect the parts of the plants and learn what they need to grow. We will discuss what parts of the plants we eat every day. May include a plant part taste test!

### Water is Life

Learn about the water cycle and the ways in which water sustains life on earth. Includes interactive lessons, a discovery hike, and water relay activities. Best during warm seasons.



### Where is Prairie Loft?

We are on the west edge of Hastings at 4705 DLD Rd. Our instructors will be ready to greet your group at your scheduled arrival time, but not before.

### What to Wear

Please wear closed-toe shoes. We will be outside, rain or shine. Dress for the weather, and leave your nicest clothes at home!

NEW!

# State Standard Supported Themes

## 1st Grade- Camouflage

Explore how plants and animals use mimicry to adapt to their surroundings. Play a game where the prey try to outsmart the predators and identify the different ways camouflage can be used.

(Supports standard SC.1.6.2.A)

## 3rd Grade- Survival in Different Habitats

What is a habitat? How do animals decide where to make their homes? Explore different areas of prairie loft to find out which organisms could survive in each habitat!

(Supports standard SC.3.7.2.C)

## 5th Grade- Energy through the Food Web

Where does energy go after decomposers release it? Scout the Prairie Loft site to track an organism's source of energy through the food web.

(Supports standard SC.5.8.2.C)

## 2nd Grade- Pollen and Seeds

Let's go on a hike to find some pollinators. Then, we will discover how they move the pollen and create our own seed-dispersing animals! (Supports standard SC.2.7.2.B)

## 4th Grade- Adaptations

Look for animal signs to discover who lives where and how physical adaptations aid in their survival. Play a game to determine which bird beak is best suited for different food sources!

(Supports standard SC.4.6.3.B)

## 6th Grade- Environmental Impact on an Organism's Growth

Compare the growth of the same organism by exploring different areas of Prairie Loft to hypothesize which environmental factors are the most helpful and the most hurtful to their growth. (Supports standard SC.6.9.3.B)



"The kids do a variety of hands on activities while learning about nature/our community at the same time! What could be better!"- School Principal