

# *Kiawah Nature Program Environmental Studies*

## WE WANT TO VISIT YOUR CLASSROOM

While we hope you can arrange a fun and educational field trip to Kiawah Island (see other side for class listing), we also provide the opportunity to bring these classes to your school because we know it can be difficult to arrange a field trip away from your classroom.

Our naturalists have strong science backgrounds and can work with you to customize the themes and topics of the program to harmonize with subjects covered in your classroom and state science standards. If you have questions or would like to customize a program for your class, please call the Nature Program at 843.768.6001.

**Reptile Round-Up** – Leave your fears at the door as you and your group get an up-close-and-personal view of some of Kiawah’s wildlife. As you encounter snakes, turtles and alligators, your Naturalist will teach you all about reptile adaptations and explain the role of these amazing creatures within their environment. A hands-on interaction with live animals will leave your students with a new found appreciation for Lowcountry wildlife.

*Available for any grade level.*

**Beach Life**- Investigate the creatures of the beach and the sea and how they are affected by the tide. Naturalists will address the biology and interesting adaptations of the critters of the beach and ocean, and talk about the importance of beach intertidal ecosystems, including how they differ from the salt marsh. Snails, crabs and other tideland creatures will be on display, along with interpretive dialogue about each specific species.

*Available for any grade level.*

**To Be or Not To Be, Bugs**- Bugs make up over 80% of the Earth’s living organisms and yet, we so often shy away from them. In this program, naturalists will bring specimen of bugs from our local habitats and beyond. Students will learn about the adaptations different species of bugs have developed in order to exist with our ever changing environment and get to interact with a few living specimen. From the big preying mantids to the small ants, you never know what new and exciting things you can discover.

*Available for any grade level.*

**Who Am I?** - Let your students play the role of the detective in this class. Naturalists will bring skulls, skins and other notable animal parts to your classroom and guide your students through an inquiry based lesson to help them determine and categorize where those parts come from. The focus of this program can range from categorizing simple animal groups (mammals, reptiles, etc.) to the more advanced groupings of herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores. No matter what you decide to focus on, know that your students will love playing the role of Wildlife Detective.

*Available for any grade level.*

***Classroom Program: \$150 for a single 1 hour long program (maximum 30 students, \$4 for each additional student)  
\$75 for each additional hour long program.***



Nature Program • Kiawah Island • SC • 29455

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## FIELD TRIP COURSE OFFERING

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*Available for any grade level. ~100 students maximum*

**Beach Ecology**- Investigate the creatures of the beach and the sea as they become exposed by the tide. Naturalists will address the biology and interesting adaptations of the critters your students encounter, and talk about the importance of beach intertidal ecosystems, including how they differ from the salt marsh. Fish, crabs and other tideland creatures will be on display, along with interpretive dialogue about each specific species. *\*Program includes a seining session which involves pulling a seine net through the water to see what we catch. This is weather dependent.*

*Available for any grade level. ~100 students maximum*

**Pondlife Exploration** - Explore the creatures living in and around Kiawah’s brackish water ponds. Using a bioscope, your students will observe macro-invertebrate life not normally visible to the human eye. In addition, we will cover topics such as pond ecology and succession, plant biology and the *inquiry* question of how pollution affects pond environments. Using the pond as an example, we will discuss how physical traits define habitats, how plants adapt to those traits, and how pond animals fit into the picture.

*Available for any grade level. ~30 students maximum*

**Marsh Ecology**- The salt marsh is home to thousands of different organisms, with each species uniquely adapted. Students will use scientific tools to examine fresh finds from the salt marsh. Determining each animal’s phyla, we will discuss how specific traits define each group. We’ll get a closer look at some of the animals and discover how each one uses their senses to interact with their environment. The salt marsh is a unique environment that changes several times daily. Learn the answer to the *inquiry* questions of what causes these changes and what the salt marsh looks like during these changes.

*Available for any grade level. ~50 students maximum*

**Going Native** –Step back in time and experience Kiawah as the Native Americans once did. In this program, Naturalists will help you discover the local environment using techniques of the Native Americans while learning their culture and traditions as well as Kiawah Island History. First you will enjoy a hike and explore native species of plant and animal as a Naturalist explains the biotic and abiotic factors that make up a barrier island and its habitats. Next you will examine plants and artifacts to determine how they may have once been used by the Native Americans and conclude with a project using natural materials from the island.

*Available for any grade level. ~30 students maximum*

**On-Island Field Trip: \$4/student/program with a \$60 minimum. Teachers are complimentary as well as chaperones with a 1/10 ratio.**

