



## Fernbrook Farms Environmental Education Center 2024 Fall Upper Level Homeschool Semester

### ***“The Night World”***

Ages 12-14 Years Old (students must be 12 years old by the start of classes)

**Class Sessions:** Tuesdays 9:30am-11:30am, Tuesdays 1:00pm-3:00pm, Thursdays 9:30am-11:30am, OR Thursdays 1:00pm-3:00pm  
Wednesdays 9:30am-3 pm OR Fridays 9:30 am-3pm

Typically, we learn about what happens at Fernbrook Farms during the day. This semester, the Upper Level Homeschool students will be learning about the world at night. There will be an optional, supplemental class held at night; the date(s) for this are TBD.

#### ***U-night-ing The Class***

***Week of September 17<sup>th</sup>***

We will be discussing teambuilding and how we will use that concept throughout the semester. We will also discuss class expectations, a brief overview of what topics we will be learning about these 9 weeks, and how important it is to be united as a class.

#### ***Humans and the Night***

***Week of September 24<sup>th</sup>***

The class will be discussing how humans have adapted to the night and darkness. We will be discussing ancient Lenape stories and how these stories helped the native peoples get through their fear of the night.

#### ***The Moon in Our Sky***

***Week of October 1<sup>st</sup>***

In this class, we will discuss the night sky above us. Lenape tales tell us a story of the moon. We will go over the phases of the moon and how ancient cultures used the moon's phases to plan farming and other things.

#### ***Constellations and Night Navigation***

***Week of October 8<sup>th</sup>***

We will look at some constellations and learn the stories of a few of them. We will talk about how these constellations, other stars, and the moon were used in night navigation.

#### ***What do Plants and Fungi do at Night?***

***Week of October 15<sup>th</sup>***

Have you ever wondered about what plants and fungi do while most of the world sleeps? Some fungi have even adapted to glow in the dark! In this class we will be identifying mushrooms and discussing what plants and fungi do when the sun is not in the sky.

#### ***Creepy Crawly Arthropods***

***Week of October 22<sup>nd</sup>***

Mosquitoes and spiders and centipedes, oh my! For this class we will be talking about nocturnal arthropods. We will discuss how night assists in their hunting strategies or why it is safer for them to come out at night.

#### ***Night Birds***

***Week of October 29<sup>th</sup>***

Who could we possibly be learning about in this class? Owls of course! However, there are many other birds that come out at night. We'll chat about how and where to find these night birds, why they prefer the night over the day, and what they've done to adapt to the dark. We will be learning to ID different birds just by their calls.

#### ***Night Chorus***

***Week of November 5<sup>th</sup>***

This week the students will be learning about the amphibians and reptiles that are out and about at night. We will discuss a salamander migration that happens at night.

#### ***Night Roving Mammals***

***Week of November 12<sup>th</sup>***

We have many mammals here in NJ and at Fernbrook that are nocturnal. We will go over some of them and what traits that they have that help them adjust to being active in the dark.

