



Field Trip Pre-Visit Guide

Thank you for choosing Blackacre State Nature Preserve for your field study experience! Please read over our "Pre-Visit Guide" for answers to questions you may have about the day of your field experience. If you have additional questions, please call us at (502)266-9802 or email our Education Coordinator, Sherry Coons at Blackacreschool@gmail.com

Driving directions

Our address is 3200 Tucker Station Road Louisville KY 40299. Take I-64, exiting onto Gene Snyder South, to the first exit, Taylorsville Road. Turn right and go 0.7 mile to Tucker Station Road. Then, turn right and go 0.3 mile to the gravel drive on your left with sign-Blackacre State Nature Preserve. Buses should follow the gravel drive straight down to parking area. **Buses are not allowed past the designated parking area!*

Bus procedure and parking

Bus and visitor vehicles, except those for the disabled, are not allowed past the front parking lot. Buses can pull in, drop off students and turn around in the designated drop off area. For students, the walk into Blackacre effectively separates the homestead from the rushed atmosphere of the morning, making for a pleasant introduction to the day. One educator will meet the classes at the bus drop off and give a brief outdoor orientation. Be sure to confirm the time the buses will pick up students for departure.

Chaperones

We ask that schools provide at least 1 teacher or chaperone for every 10 students attending. Teacher and other adults are expected to participate actively and be a role model during all sessions. Please assist educators in behavior management and in making connections to your classroom learning. **Please request in advance that all chaperones refrain from using cell phones during student instructional times.*

Payments

Once your numbers have been confirmed, we ask that you bring a check on the day of your visit and give it to the Education Coordinator. Please address your check to Blackacre Conservancy, Inc.

Arrival

Please do your best to arrive on time for our day together. All groups will be dropped off at parking lot and will walk to Nature Center for an orientation. A wheelbarrow is located in the parking lot to assist with carrying lunches or drinks.



Schedule

Please have your students divided into three groups upon arrival. They will rotate through 3 educational activities led by Blackacre staff. All programs will begin at our Nature Center.

Time	Groups		
9:45-10:15	Orientation at the Nature Center		
10:20-11:20	1	2	3
11:25-12:25	3	1	2
12:25-1:00	Lunch and Recycling		
1:00-2:00	2	3	1
2:00-2:15	Wrap-up and head to bus		

Food, drinks and recycling

Students bring their own lunch and drinks, especially water on hot days. Students will eat lunch at our outdoor picnic tables after the second rotation of lessons, typically between 12:30-1:00.

A Blackacre educator will assist students with clean up and recycling of lunch materials.

**Please bring wheelbarrow from parking lot so that groups can take their lunch garbage up to the dumpster at the end of the day.*

Dress for the Weather

Your day will include time exploring outside, no matter what the weather. Please review the forecast for the day of the field trip and talk to your students about dressing accordingly. The best advice is to dress in layers, wear socks and closed-toed shoes. In the case of rain, be sure students have some type of rain gear, and clothes that can get dirty and shoes that can get muddy. If the weather is hot, students can bring water bottles and bug spray.

Eat a Good Breakfast!

Be sure that students eat a good breakfast! Their day will be filled with outdoor activity requiring lots of energy. Students may be eating later than their usual lunchtime because our lunch time is scheduled after the second lesson.

Things that itch or bite

Please be aware that both ticks and poison ivy are present at Blackacre. Students may use bug spray and we encourage a tick check on the bus ride home or that evening. Students are safe from poison ivy if they stay on trails and follow directions of leaders.