The Wild Center offers on-site student-centered programs in which students explore topics such as earth systems, natural history, biology, and engineering. Hands-on activities and up-close experiences with Adirondack life engages students; leaving lasting memories. Programs are designed for students of all ages, and support New York State educational standards.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

LIVE ANIMAL EXPERIENCE
All Ages                          Program Length - 30 minutes
*Animals subject to change based on seasonal availability.
Students meet an Adirondack animal ambassador and experience them up-close while engaging in deep observation and conversations to uncover the hidden stories of our wild neighbors.

YOUNG SCIENTISTS: SENSORY EXPLORATION
Pre-K – 2nd grade               Program Length - 30-45 minutes
A naturalist guides young scientists on an exploration adventure. Students hone their observation skills and stimulate their 5 senses through engaging hands-on activities.

HANDS ON WITH ADIRONDACK MAMMALS
1st – 5th grade                      Program Length - 30-45 minutes
Students collaborate with classmates as they ask questions and explore adaptations of Adirondack mammals. Students get hands-on with natural artifacts while facilitators employ Visual Thinking Strategies – a cutting-edge student centered learning technique.

ENGINEERING ON THE TRAIL: EROSION
3rd – 5th grade                     Program Length - 30-45 minutes
Students become engineers as they collaborate to design and build model wilderness structures that can withstand the dynamic powers of erosion when put to the test.
TROUT STREAM: FISHERY BIOLOGY
6th – 8th grade  Program Length – 30-45 minutes
Students become fishery biologists as they dive into the world of brook trout, an important indicator species. Students work together to sample water from our exhibits and apply what they learn to evaluate real water chemistry data from the region to determine habitat suitability.

CLIMATE CHANGE: IMPACTS & SOLUTIONS
6th grade – college  Program Length – 45-60 minutes
Students are introduced to the science of climate change, drive exploration of its impacts, and discuss solutions to these issues through visualizing global data sets on NOAA’s Science on a Sphere.

GREEN TECHNOLOGY WALK
9th grade – adult  Program Length – 45 minutes
Sustainability is very important to us at The Wild Center. From our inception to the present, we seek to include innovative building techniques and “green” practices to best support our mission. Students explore environmental design in action, as they are guided through our state-of-the-art LEED Certified building and campus to find out what makes us “green”.

Guided Canoe Experience (June-October)
All Ages 5+  Program Length – 2 hours
Best for smaller groups between 15-20 who are looking for a more immersive and active experience during their visit. Each trip is led by a NYS Licensed Guide and Wild Center Naturalist. Explore different marsh habitats and catch a glimpse of native wildlife as you wind around the Raquette River’s Oxbow. Paddles and lifejackets are provided. Each canoe can accommodate 3 adults or 2 adults and 2 children. Note: Canoe trips are sold by boat for $30/boat. We can accommodate a total of 5 boats per trip.