



# Acadia Paw Press

## No Child Left Inside

A national movement is building to reconnect children and nature. Many cities and states have launched or are planning campaigns to get kids outdoors.

Here in Maine, Acadia National Park hosted a “No Child Left Inside” workshop with 50 participants this past May. A follow-up meeting will take place at the September NEEEA Conference in Smithfield. Governor Baldacci is challenging all government agencies and outdoor organizations in Maine to find ways to get young people outside more. Next spring he will hold a “Blaine House Conference on Youth and the Natural World.”

Downeast communities and schools are fortunate to have so many great outdoor resources nearby, including Acadia National Park. Thank you for taking advantage of this by bringing your class to the park on your own or for a ranger program. To find out what is happening around the country regarding this compelling issue, visit the Children & Nature Network at [www.cnaturenet.org](http://www.cnaturenet.org).



## L.L.Bean Kids in Acadia Scholarships Awarded

Seven Maine schools received partial tuition scholarships for students to participate in the Schoodic Education Adventure (SEA) residential program this fall. Scholarships are based upon financial need and school demographics, curriculum goals, and fundraising efforts. This is the second year of a five-year grant from L.L.Bean, Inc. The grant also funds teacher workshops and SEA teaching assistants. The winning schools for 2007 are:

D. R. Gaul Middle School (Union) – 95 students  
 Dr. Lewis Libby School (Milford) – 40 students  
 Ella Lewis School (Steuben) – 15 students  
 J.A. Leonard Middle School (Old Town) – 55 students  
 Peninsula School (Winter Harbor) – 18 students  
 Surry Elementary School (Surry) – 12 students  
 Trenton Elementary (Trenton) – 18 students

There is still some scholarship money available for 2007. If you are interested in an application for this fall or 2008, please contact Cynthia Ocel, Acadia’s education coordinator, at 288-8822.

## National Park Service Websites

### [www.nps.gov/acad](http://www.nps.gov/acad)

The official website of Acadia National Park. Includes information on park resources, trip planning, and more.

### [www.nps.gov/acad/forteachers](http://www.nps.gov/acad/forteachers)

The home of Acadia National Park's education program. Offers links to teacher, parent, and student resources; the Junior Ranger program; online activities for kids; and more.

### [www.nps.gov/learn](http://www.nps.gov/learn)

Serves all teachers and learners with national park curriculum-based learning tools, teaching resources, online activities, and Junior Ranger programs.

### [www.efieldtrips.org](http://www.efieldtrips.org)

Includes interactive virtual national park visits, trip journal worksheets, "ask an expert," and live web chats.



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Acadia National Park encompasses more than 47,000 acres of granite-domed mountains, woodlands, lakes and ponds, and ocean shoreline, creating striking scenery and diverse habitats. This diverse environment combines with a rich cultural history to create unparalleled scientific, educational, and recreational opportunities in a spectacular setting.

**Education Office**  
**Acadia National Park**  
P.O. Box 177  
Bar Harbor, ME 04609

**Phone**  
Cynthia Ocel 207-288-8822  
Kate Petrie 207-288-8823  
207-288-1312  
Donna Healy 207-288-8824

**Fax**  
207-288-8831

**E-mail**  
[acad\\_education\\_office@nps.gov](mailto:acad_education_office@nps.gov)

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

## Staff News

KATE PETRIE recently coordinated two successful community events at Sieur de Monts—National Junior Ranger Day in April and Friends of Acadia's Family Fun Day in July. Hopefully you got to attend these or read about them in local papers. In August, Kate offered a number of teacher workshops at the Schoodic Education and Research Center.

DONNA HEALY went "froggy" this summer, leading a new weekly family program called A Frog's Life as well as a storytelling program based on the book, *Frog Starting Life*. The Carroll Homestead Open House continued to attract a lot of folks. Donna introduced the traditional game of Graces to the outdoor activities enjoyed by all ages.

PETE BERQUIST left Acadia in August to take a full-time position as head of the geology department at Thomas Nelson Community College in Hampton, Virginia, close to where he grew up. He hopes to have summers off so he can continue as a seasonal ranger at Acadia in the future.

CARYN BEITER spent most of last winter exploring New Zealand and Fiji by van, foot, and kayak! She came back to be an interpretive ranger at Acadia and is looking forward to working with our school groups on MDI for a second fall season.

SUSAN AVERY from Olean, New York, will be teaching and learning as our intern for day programs. She brings many skills and experiences with her, including Florida Master Naturalist training, Sierra Club group guide, and American Red Cross instructor.

Schoodic Education Adventure interns this year include RACHEL SWANSON, SUSAN CULLINEY, GIULIA DETOMATI, AND EMILEE MOROZ. RACHEL is studying Outdoor Recreation and Resource Management at Indiana University. She visited this area for the first time on vacation last year and is happy to return. Originally from Hawaii, SUSAN graduated from Bowdoin College and has been working as a field ornithologist in California. GIULIA comes to Acadia all the way from Milan, Italy. She has an undergraduate degree in Tourism and a graduate degree in Environmental Management. EMILEE grew up in North Carolina. She studied geology and has recently been working for the Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont.



# Fall Workshops

September 14–16

*Building Bridges: Creating Change for a Common Good*

For more information about the New England Environmental Education Alliance Conference in Smithfield, Maine, visit [www.neeea.org](http://www.neeea.org).

October 9 – 10

*Communicating Natural Resource Issues Through Maps & Graphs*

Cost: \$75; scholarships available.

- Two-day map, compass, and GPS tour of resource study activities you can transfer to your classroom.
- Integrate language arts, social studies, science, art, and math into classroom map studies.
- Suitable for grades 2–10.

For details, contact Kate Petrie at [kate\\_petrie@nps.gov](mailto:kate_petrie@nps.gov) or 207-288-8823.

## New Curriculum

A new online curriculum aimed at students in grades 3–6 entitled “Nature’s Partners: Pollinators, Plants, and You,” has been launched. Comprised of seven modules, each module offers three or four engaging activities to study the interactions of plants and pollinators. The curriculum project is a partnership between the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Learn more at [www.nappc.org/curriculum](http://www.nappc.org/curriculum).



Teacher-Ranger Connie Shaw explores aquatic insects with Family Fun Day participants.

## Teacher to Ranger to Teacher

Acadia was excited to host our first teacher-ranger this summer as part of a National Park Service program called Teacher to Ranger to Teacher (TRT). This program places classroom teachers from disadvantaged schools in national parks for 8–10 weeks. During that time the teacher-ranger participates in a variety of first-hand experiences, including public programs, field research, Leave No Trace training, visitor center information desk, community outreach, natural and cultural history training, and more. Teacher-rangers are provided shared housing, a uniform, and small weekly stipend.

Connie Shaw from Denton, Texas, was selected for this new position. Connie has taught for over 20 years and is currently teaching 7th-grade Language Arts. She will be using her park experiences to create lesson plans for her classes. These lessons will eventually be posted in the teacher section of our park

website. Connie is also required to wear her ranger uniform to school during National Park Week in April and spread the word about park resources and stewardship. If you are interested in finding out more about the TRT program go to: [www.nps.gov/wupa/forteachers/trt.htm](http://www.nps.gov/wupa/forteachers/trt.htm)

This year’s teacher-ranger position was funded entirely by Eastern National, Acadia’s cooperating association. Eastern National operates educational sales outlets in more than 170 national parks and public lands in 30 states. Educator discounts are available.



# Spider Blitz: A Learning Adventure

by Sherri Clixby, Third-Grade Teacher  
at Mountain View School (Sullivan)

Each summer Acadia National Park sponsors a BioBlitz during which intrepid individuals crawl over rocks and search through fields and woods to discover the variety of different animals living within the park. This year scientists, naturalists, professional and amateur entomologists, and other interested individuals were invited to help inventory the spider populations in the Schoodic section of the park. Six elementary students from Pemetic School and Tremont School were among those who answered the call.

The students temporarily diverted from their summer exploration of insects to participate in the biodiversity assessment held at the Schoodic Education and Research Center. Before beginning the 24-hour search, the children along with adults learned about spider anatomy, ecology, and identification. There was a session on finding and collecting spiders. Equipped with nets, pipe cleaners, flashlights, “pooters,” and other equipment, students joined experts in the field.

Some focused on pit traps that Ranger Jim McKenna had set out the week before. Using GPS information, they located and collected specimens from woods, fields and boggy areas. Students recorded precisely where the captures were made and described



Schoodic Education and Research Coordinator Jim McKenna teaches students about the importance of documenting collection techniques and locations.

the site. Others swept vegetation using nets, lifted logs and rocks, and crawled under buildings to catch live specimens. Some continued late into the night.

Once the specimens were collected, students brought them to the lab where they were meticulously logged into the computerized system. Some students became quite proficient in sorting spiders as mature males, mature females, or immature individuals. After this initial stage, experts will continue identification of individual spiders to the species level over the next several months. The collection itself will become part of the permanent inventory housed in Acadia National Park and will be available for researchers for years to come.

The blitz offered an opportunity to



The author and a student worked together to collect spider specimens.

do field work with spider experts (not an everyday occurrence!) and to contribute to a significant project. Once you have spent a weekend searching high and low for spiders, your view of the world is not quite the same. The students who attended the blitz now know that spiders surround us and that they are very different from the insects and other animals. For many children, opportunities like this can initiate long-term pleasure in noticing living things and their ways of making a living.

# Acadia National Park - 2007 Fall Programs



## THIRD GRADE

### Carriage Road Explorers

Who built Acadia's historic carriage road system? Why were these stone roads and bridges built and how? Why and how does the National Park Service preserve them? Travel by horse-drawn carriage or on foot as you hear about the people who played a part in developing this unique park resource. The park will provide classroom copies of *Exploring the Carriage Roads*.

**Walk:** Free. Available September 17 – October 31.

**Ride:** \$9 per student, cash or check made payable to Wildwood Stables. No more than one adult per ten students, please. Available September 24, 27, and 28. Additional dates may be available for smaller groups.



## FOURTH GRADE

### Animals of Acadia

"Food, water, shelter, space. Habitat is a wonderful place." Explore two very different habitats at Acadia National Park. Discover how the state-endangered peregrine falcon and the widespread beaver have adapted to survive in the wild. Available September 17 – October 31.



## FIFTH GRADE

### Island Life

Embark on a sea voyage to the Islesford Historical Museum on Little Cranberry Island. At the museum, students will learn about island residents and their lives during the early part of our country's history. Cost: \$14 per person. **Financial assistance from Eastern National, Acadia's bookstore partner, is available if needed.** Maximum number of passengers is 37, including adults. Available September 17 – October 12.



## SIXTH - EIGHTH GRADE

### Fire and Ice

While hiking around Great Head, we will read the landscape and share the story of Acadia's geologic past. See evidence of the local rock cycle, glacial features, and plate tectonics. This program works best as a review of basic geologic terms and processes studied in the classroom. **Warning: The hiking trail is considered fairly strenuous!** Available September 17 – October 31.

**Reservation deadline is September 7!**



# Acadia National Park - Program Reservation Form

**Please return by Friday, September 7**  
 Return in one of three ways:

- E-mail as an attachment to acad\_education\_office@nps.gov
- Fax to 288-8831
- Mail to Education Office - Acadia National Park  
 P.O. Box 177  
 Bar Harbor, ME 04609

Teacher Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ # of Students \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

***\*\*Please make a separate copy of this form for each program you request!\*\****

Please check one

	<b>Third Grade - Carriage Road Explorers (WALK)</b> Park provides <i>Exploring the Carriage Roads</i> booklets. <i>Available dates: September 17 – October 31</i>	<b>Time: 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.</b>
	<b>Third Grade -Carriage Road Explorers (BY CARRIAGE)</b> Park provides <i>Exploring the Carriage Roads</i> booklets. Charge: \$9 per student <i>Available dates: September 24, 27, and 28.</i> *Contact our office for more dates—small groups only.	<b>Time: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.</b>
	<b>Fourth Grade - Animals of Acadia</b> <i>Available dates: September 17 – October 31</i>	<b>Time: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.</b>
	<b>Fifth Grade - Island Life</b> Charge: \$14 per passenger (limited to 37 passengers) <i>Available dates: September 17 – October 12</i> *Do you need financial assistance? Yes___ No___ If you answered yes, our office will contact you for details. Made possible by Eastern National.	<b>Time: 8:45 a.m. - 1 p.m.</b> (note earlier starting time)
	<b>Sixth - Eighth Grades - Fire and Ice</b> Please circle the grade level participating: 6 7 8 <i>Available dates: September 17 – October 31</i> *Contact our office if you need a copy of the <i>Geology of MDI: A Visitor's Guide</i> .	<b>Time: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.</b>

First Choice Date	
Second Choice Date	
Third Choice Date	

***Note: Let us know in advance if you have any conflicts with the scheduled program times.***

What pre-visit activities will you be doing with your students?

Note below any special requests or needs, including accessibility or medical issues.

A confirmation letter will be mailed within one week of processing your program request. If your program is scheduled for the week of September 17 or if there is a conflict with dates, you will be contacted by phone or e-mail.

Office Use Only:	Confirmation sent:	Program date:
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# Acadia National Park - HawkWatch 2007

Come join us on Cadillac Mountain for a free ranger-led raptor program. This exciting program will cover topics such as hawk migration, conservation, and identification, as well as the purpose of HawkWatch at Acadia National Park. Although each day is different, there is a good chance of seeing migratory hawks, falcons, and/or eagles. After the talk, your group may join our rangers and volunteers at the HawkWatch site for further viewing.



This program is designed for third through sixth grade students. Programs can start any time between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. Due to the terrain, we are only able to accommodate groups of up to 30 students. The interactive talk will last 30-40 minutes. All groups will be provided pre-visit materials and activities.

This program is available Tuesdays through Fridays from September 11 to October 5. If the weather on the day of your visit is not suitable for outdoor activities, alternate arrangements—including choosing a different date or an indoor program—can be made. For further information, please contact Lora Haller at 288-8810 or [lora\\_haller@nps.gov](mailto:lora_haller@nps.gov).

*Reminder: The Cadillac Mountain Summit is 1,530 feet high and exposed. The weather is usually cold and windy; please dress accordingly. Although binoculars are not required, they are useful.*

Please indicate your preferred date and two alternatives on the form below and return to:

Lora Haller, Division of Interpretation  
Acadia National Park  
P.O. Box 177  
Bar Harbor, ME 04609  
Fax: 207-288-8813

..... Please return lower portion of form .....

# Acadia National Park - Hawkwatch 2007

Teacher's Name:	First Choice Date:
School:	Second Choice Date:
Address:	Third Choice Date:
City/State/Zip:	Arrival Time/Departure Time:
Number of Students:	Grade:
Phone #/Best Time to Call:	E-mail address:

Please fax to 207-288-8813 or mail to Lora Haller, Division of Interpretation, Acadia National Park, P.O. Box 177, Bar Harbor, ME 04609.