



Inside the OLC

October 2023



CREATURE FEATURE

This month's featured creature is the Bald-faced Hornet. Although called a hornet, this insect is actually a type of yellowjacket. They can often be seen chewing on wooden structures, gathering cellulose from the wood to build their nests. Bald-faced Hornets eat many pest insects, including flies and other yellowjackets. Learn more [here](#).

PRE-K AT THE OLC

This school year, students at White Oak Early Learning Center have been coming to the OLC each month for a nature activity and science lesson. We've talked about why leaves change colors in the fall, looked at native insects, and played a mystery touch box game. It's been a blast!



Above: Students used paint sample swatches to try and match colors to leaves.



Left: WOELC students on a hike at the OLC.

Plan your visit to the OLC!
Email: jdmaxwell@avon-schools.org

Big News!

We've been planning a trail renovation project at the OLC for a while now. The first trail is officially complete! Through a grant from the Hendricks County Community Foundation, we've been able to solidify the trail leading to the cabin ramp and covered bridge, and make it wheelchair accessible. Matt Gessner of Milestone Contractors has been instrumental in this project, as have several volunteers.

A HUGE thanks to everyone involved!!



PLANT FEATURE

October's featured plant is the New England Aster. This bright purple flowering plant blooms in September-October, before setting seed in late fall. As seen in this picture, the New England Aster is very attractive to migrating Monarch Butterflies, like this one seen outside the cabin. Learn more [here](#).