



Winter/Spring After School Programs 2026

Marion Natural History Museum

8 Spring Street, Marion, MA 02738 | 508-748-2098 | marionmuseum.org

Designed for curious kids in grades 1 through 6, these programs are all about hands-on exploration and fascinating facts about the wild world right outside your door. Held on Wednesday afternoons at the Marion Natural History Museum unless otherwise noted.

Weather permitting, all programs may contain an outdoor component - come prepared to get outside!

All programs are 3:30 – 4:30. Price is \$8.00/each members, \$10.00/each nonmembers

February 4 - Great Backyard Bird Club (GBBC)

This year's GBBC event is from February 13 - 16 and is a great citizen science opportunity. We will be learning how to participate with long time birder Carol Molander of the Nasketucket Bird Club. This is an exciting opportunity to learn about birds and contribute to a world-wide study effort to help our avian neighbors.

February 25 - Owl Diet Detective

Join us for an exciting exploration into the world of owls and their unique eating habits! Unlike other birds, owls swallow their prey whole and regurgitate the bones as owl pellets. Our Owl Pellet Dissection program provides a fascinating insight into the diet of these nocturnal predators.

March 4 - Salt Works in Marion Harbor

Come learn about Marion's historic harvesting of salt - looking at maps of where salt production took place and learn about how it was produced, processed, and used. Alanna Nelson of the Sippican Historical Society will lead a dynamic discussion of this important part of Marion's history.

March 25 - Who's That Quacking in the Woods?

That quacking sound you hear in the woods in early spring - chances are those are not ducks, but wood frogs calling. Let's take a close look at the vernal pools in our forests and discover the many important species in them that form the start of our forest's food web.

April 8 - Wildlife in Our Young Forest

Come learn a little about who is living in our own Holmes Woods. Presenter Marianne Piché, a Habitat Biologist with the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, will lead an exploration of the animals living in our young forest habitats.

April 15 - Native Plants and Pollinators

Our native bees and insects are an important resource for pollination - essential for the production of the fruits and vegetables that we eat. Wildflower and pollinator enthusiast, Maggie Payne will teach us about the flowers and pollinators in our area and create seed "bombs" of wildflowers to take home and plant.

May 6 - Early Risers

Different types of flowers, and the butterflies who rely on them, wake up at different times of the year. Let's take a look at some of spring time's earliest risers with entomologist Blake Dinius.

May 20 - Rocket Science!

Led by rocketry enthusiast Mike Cronin, this program offers a hands-on introduction to the principles of propulsion and lift. Each child receives a rocket kit with a motor for a personal building, decorating, and launching experience. Availability is limited to 12 children, and we welcome parent volunteers to assist in rocket assembly. The program is limited to children ages 6 and older, on a first-come, first-served basis. Cost: \$25 per child, covering the rocket kit and motor.

June 3 - Expedition to an Island

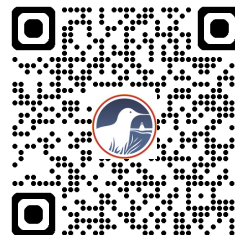
Set off on a journey to Ram Island, a gem within Sippican Harbor known for its diverse and unique ecosystems. Thanks to the generosity of Michael and Hannah Moore, we have a special opportunity to explore this fascinating island. Life jackets are required, and can be provided upon request. Space is limited to children only. Pick up is at 4:30 at Island Wharf.

Email director@marionmuseum.org for more information

Register online at marionmuseum.org/after-school or by filling out and returning form on back

YES! Please register my child for the following after-school program(s):

- Great Backyard Bird Club - February 4
- Owl Diet Detectives - February 25
- Marion Salt Works - March 4
- Who's that Quacking in the Woods? - March 25
- Wildlife in our Young Forests - April 8
- Native Plants and Pollinators - April 15
- Early Risers - May 6
- Rocket Science - May 20 (Cost is \$25/child)
- Expedition to an Island - June 3 (bring a life jacket!)



Or Register Online Here

Cost for all programs is \$8 members, \$10 non-members; \$25 per child for the Rocket Program

After-school registration forms (with payment!) are to be mailed or dropped off to the Marion Natural History Museum, 8 Spring Street, 2nd Floor, P.O. Box 644, Marion, MA 02738. Please do not bring the forms to the school or library. Registration is not complete without payment.

Refund and registration policies are on our website. Questions? Contact Elizabeth Leidhold via e-mail at director@marionmuseum.org.

Name Member Non-member
 Address
 Telephone E-mail

Sippican School release form to walk to the program location:

I, hereby give permission to Elizabeth Leidhold of the Marion Natural History Museum, to pick up my son/daughter from Sippican School and walk them to the after-school program at the Museum or Harbormaster's Office to attend the above programs. I understand that after-program pick up is at 4:30 pm unless otherwise noted above.

My emergency contact information is the above number or

Marion Natural History Museum photo/media release:

I grant the Marion Natural History Society and summer program teachers the right to use, reproduce, and/or distribute photographs, films, video tapes of my child for use in any materials they may create.

I have read and agree with the museum's terms and conditions, which can be found at marionmuseum.org/terms-conditions.



terms and conditions

Signature of Parent/Guardian: