

# Transferring Education From Our Classroom To Yours

## 2011 - 2012 Coralville Lake Program Guide

Coralville Lake is pleased to announce the following programs are available free of charge (as always) for the 2011 - 2012 school year. The programs are approximately 30 - 60 minutes in length, with the exception of the Junior Ranger Program. This program consists of a five-session series each approximately 60 minutes in length. The appropriate grade level assigned to each program is listed by each description.

Spring field trips for groups are available from April through May each year. Fall field trips are also available from mid September through October.

For more information on program availability, contact Natural Resource Specialist Terry Escher at (319) 338-3543 ext. 6308 or email [Coralville.Lake@usace.army.mil](mailto:Coralville.Lake@usace.army.mil).

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## Wildlife Programs

### **Owls of Coralville Lake (Any Grade)**

Park Ranger Kate Soska will bring three owl mounts that she will use as visual aids as she discusses the habits and some unusual characteristics of these nocturnal creatures with your students. Find out how owls find their way around in total darkness, why their ears are asymmetrical, and how to identify an owl by its call. This program is really a hoot! Please contact Natural Resource Specialist Kate Soska directly to schedule this program. She can be reached at (319)338-3543 ext. 6305 or at [Contact Us](#)

### **Bats (Any Grade)**

Although commonly misunderstood because of popular myth, bats are perhaps some of the most beneficial animals on the planet. With species estimates reaching one thousand, bats are considered to be the most diverse animals in the world, each species having its own unique adaptations that allow it to best survive in its environment. Join Natural Resource Specialist Terry Escher as she unravels the myths about these nocturnal creatures and discusses the importance and adaptations of the world's only flying mammals.

### **Junior Ranger Program (4th - 5th Grade)**

The Junior Ranger program is a five part series. It is designed for students in 4th through 5th grades. The purpose of the Junior Ranger program is to develop in young people an awareness of the environment at lake and river projects around the country. The program is designed to inform young people about the Corps of Engineers, and the

Corps' recreation and resource management programs. Also, this program educates the students about the changing problems and challenges that land managers face when trying to provide outdoor recreation opportunities while properly managing our natural and cultural resources. The major goal is to develop an environmental ethic in young people through community service learning.

During the course of this program, students are engaged in a variety of activities including ranger talks, prairie seed germination and planting, tree planting, poster drawing, and essay writing.

To qualify as a Junior Ranger, students must complete activities in five subject areas. Upon completion, Corps patches and certificates are awarded. Rosters are kept for future assistance with nature projects.

Due to the amount of time required for this program, space is limited. Please contact Natural Resource Specialist Terry Escher at (319) 338-3543 ext. 6308 to reserve a spot for your class soon.

### **Subject Areas:**

- 1. The Corps of Engineers Ranger:** What is a Ranger? This program discusses the many roles a Ranger fills. A discussion and slide presentation of a Ranger's duties, responsibilities and educational requirements are used.
- 2. Environmental Protection:** Reduce, reuse, and recycle are some of the most important words today. This program will look at how pollution effects our environment and what everyone can do help the environment by reducing, reusing, and recycling.
- 3. Water Safety:** Skits are presented to demonstrate safe water rescue techniques. This program discusses cold water hazards and water safety procedures to follow when recreating.
- 4. Wildlife Management:** All wildlife is essential in the web of life. As caretakers of the land, we have a responsibility to protect and properly manage wildlife. The history, food chain, habitat and management needs of selected wildlife will be studied.
- 5. Land Management:** Activities will center around the prairie community and the need for proper management of wildlife, prairie plants, watershed protection and bio-diversity. An optional activity is actually planting and starting prairie plants from seed. Light stands and all materials are provided.

### **Graduation: Optional Field Trip**

The conclusion of the Junior Ranger program ends with a field trip to Coralville Lake. Students plant, weed, water and prune trees near the Sugar Bottom Recreation Area.

Students then graduate from the program and are awarded patches and certificates. Other on-site activities can also be arranged.

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## **Coralville Lake History**

### **The Great Flood of 1993 (4th - 6th Grade)**

In 1993, devastating record high floods raged through Iowa. During this time, the Coralville Spillway was overtopped for the first time in 1993. As floodwaters filled the Coralville Lake, the Corps of Engineers was caught in a delicate balancing act, reducing flooding downstream while trying not to contribute to flooding upstream. Eventually, floodwaters raged through the spillway, taking with it the Lower Cottonwood Campground, 15 feet of soil, and five feet of limestone bedrock. Every cloud has a silver lining; this one was made of gold. Your students will learn why as they learn about the Coralville Dam, the Flood of 1993, and the ancient Devonian Age sea floors that were once found in Iowa. A videotape of the flood and 360 million-year-old fossils will be key components in this program.

## **Water Safety**

### **The Drowning Machine (Any Grade)**

As the nation's leader in water-based recreation, the US Army Corps of Engineers feels it is necessary for the public to be aware of the dangers existing around water. For example, did you know that there are over 200 low head dams along Iowa's rivers? These dams may create dangerous situations for river travelers. This program illustrates this situation through the use of a working model of a low head dam, as well as emphasizing the importance of personal floatation devices, the causes, symptoms, and treatment of hypothermia, and much more.