

# Naturalist Notes

Fall/Winter 2018



# **Featured Program: Monarch Tagging**

If you'd like to do monarch tagging this year, be sure to schedule a program soon! Monarch tagging takes place only in September as monarchs are migrating in large groups to their wintering grounds in Mexico. Tagging monarchs can help us discover more information about them. When a tagged monarch is recovered and reported, we will know the monarch's original location. Knowing where it's going and where it's from can give us a migration timeline and path! I can bring the monarchs to you, or we can meet in a natural area and catch them.





# **New Program: Bees**

This summer I've had the pleasure of taking care of bees! The CCCB now has two hives to help adults and students learn more about pollinators and our environment. Believe it or not, learning about bees involves STEM (so much math!)! If you'd like a program on bees, just let me know! I have safety equipment, boxes and frames for hives, life cycle & brood posters, and an viewing box for a working hive frame that I could bring into the classroom. Talking about bees helps us to learn more about these insects, other important pollinators, and human impact.

#### **Office Information**

Cherokee Co. Conservation Board 629 River Rd Cherokee, IA 51012 (712)225-6709 Cherokeeccb@gmail.com www.cherokeecountyparks.com

Sign-up for *Smoke Signals*, our quarterly electronic newsletter!



# **Cherokee County Conservation Board programs are:**

- Hands-on and engaging
- Available year-round, indoors or outdoors, and at multiple locations
- For all ages
- Adaptable to your needs and curriculum
- FREE!



Laura Jones
Naturalist



# **Program Series: Jr. Naturalists**

In January, I piloted a program series called Jr. Naturalists. This program series is geared towards 2-5 yr olds and includes a story, craft, sometimes a snack, and other hands-on nature-themed activities. The program takes place every second Thursday morning of each month from 10:00-11:00am at the CCCB office. (I've had so much fun with the kids and adults that have participated thus far!) A couple of months ago, I was asked if a class of little ones could take a field trip to my

office and participate in the series. (How awesome!) As much as I knew the little ones would LOVE my office with copious amounts of "stuffed" animals, I knew that I couldn't accommodate that number of students plus general public. Then it occurred to me, I need to bring this series to you! If you know of a daycare or early childhood learning class that might like Jr. Naturalists, have them give me a call! I can visit each month and talk about that month's topic or you can pick and choose your topics and visits. Click here to find this year's calendar. Soon, I'll be posting topics for 2019!



## **How to Schedule a Program**

Contact me with a topic that you have in mind, your grade level, number of students, and a date. I can always stop by if you have a big event in mind or need to collaborate with other teachers. <u>Visit our website for program ideas.</u> Don't see a program that fits you? No problem! I can custom make one for you. There's no way I can list every potential program topic when it comes to nature! **My contact information**: **712-225-6709 or cccblaura@gmail.com** 

### **Upcoming CCCB Events**

September 13: Jr. Naturalists Meet in the CCCB office on River Rd at 10:00am to learn about leaves!

**September 16: Monarch Tagging** Join Laura at the Cherokee Middle School at 2:00pm for monarch tagging!

**September 30: Little Sioux Archeology Day at the Prairie Heritage Center** Enjoy flint knapping, pottery making, and more! It runs from 1:00pm-4:00pm.

October 11: Jr. Naturalists Meet in the CCCB office on River Rd at 10:00am to learn about bats!

October 13: Halloween Hike at Silver Sioux Trick-or-treat, hit the haunted trail, decorate a pumpkin, and more.

November 8: Jr. Naturalists Meet in the CCCB office on River Rd at 10:00am to learn about camouflage!

December 13: Jr. Naturalists Meet in the CCCB office on River Rd at 10:00am to decorate a tree for nature!

Keep your eyes open for a new adult skills series! Most classes include snacks, samples, and take home items.

Program dates, locations, and content are subject to change. Check the CCCB website (<u>www.cherokeecountyparks.com</u>) and Facebook page for up-to-date information.