

YOUNG EXPLORERS CLUB

Sponsored by the Morgan County Audubon Society, a Chapter of the Illinois Audubon Society, and the Jacksonville Public Library

The *Young Explorers Club* (YEC) is back for its *SIXTH* season! Students of all ages are welcome to join and participate in YEC programs. All activities are absolutely *free* and pre-registration is not required. Students are invited to attend all or some of the YEC programs.

December 16, 2023 (11:00 a.m.). We will set up the *Bird Feeder Challenge* and provide supplies for each participant to make a bird feeder to take home. Students will learn the basics of bird identification and how to record the birds coming to their feeders. **Location: Jacksonville Public Library, 201 West College Avenue, in the activity room.**

January 27, 2024 (11:00 a.m.). *The Invisible Life of Ponds*. Learn about the microscopic life commonly found in ponds and lakes from Professor Bryan Arnold and his students at Illinois College. Participants will use microscopes and observe single-cell organisms. **Location: Parker Science Center (Room 141) on the Illinois College Campus.**

February 17, 2024 (11:00 a.m.). *Fossils from Illinois' Ancient Seas*. Learn how fossils are formed and how to identify fossils commonly found in our area. Students will see and handle fossils found in Illinois and take home a make-your-own fossil kit. **Location: Jacksonville Public Library, 201 West College Avenue, in the activity room.**

March 9, 2024 (11:00 a.m.). *The Wonderful World of Pollinators*. Do you like eating apples, blueberries, raspberries, strawberries, or chocolate? If you do, you can thank a pollinator! One of every three mouthfuls of our food and 80% of flowering plants depends on them. Learn about the diverse types of pollinators and ways you can attract them to your yard. **Location: U of I Extension Office, 104 N. Westgate, Jacksonville.**

April 1, 2024 (7:00 p.m.). *What You Can See in the Springtime Night Skies*. Professor Bernd Estabrook will discuss and point out the planets, stars and galaxies in the sky while participants enjoy S'mores! **Location: Western Illinois Youth Camp, 2244 4-H Club Ln, Jacksonville.** RAIN DATE: April 15th.

To learn more, please contact Allen Yow at (217) 243-8457.

