



Science on the Go is a professional development program designed for K–8 educators who want to increase their comfort teaching science through the use of **NGSS-aligned, hands-on, inquiry-based lessons that incorporate cooperative learning**. For more than 30 years, our experienced education staff has been working side-by-side with teachers to bring locally relevant science to classrooms throughout Chicago.

— with *science on the go*, you'll invest in: —



Professional Development
afterschool workshop to prepare for
classroom implementation;

EARN

Up to six and a half
professional development
clock hours.



Nine lessons that explore local science content
through NGSS-aligned curricula with all
materials and documents provided,

INCLUDING

Three lessons—taught by a museum educator—
that **model best practices** in science education
and utilize **unique museum resources** from our
living and preserved collections.



Focused Field Trip to connect
classroom learning to real-
world experiences

INCLUDING

A bus reimbursement
to the Nature Museum.

*(Please contact us for an alternative
format if your school is not doing
in-person field trips at this time.)*

science on the go *timeline*

QUARTER
TIMELINE

1 ONLINE REGISTRATION

Register at naturemuseum.org/sog.

2 PRE-PROGRAM CONTACT AND PLANNING

Communicate with your visiting Museum educator, finalize your visit schedule, and share insights about your students.

at your school

3 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Participate in an afterschool workshop at the Nature Museum to go through each lesson of the curriculum as a learner, and prepare to teach in the classroom. Receive your curriculum documents and all materials prepared for a class of 32 students.

at the museum

“ This program has modeled for me what high-quality instruction looks like and I feel much more confident teaching science. ”

– Science on the Go teacher

4 NINE NGSS-ALIGNED LESSONS

Classroom teachers teach six NGSS-aligned lessons. Students learn about local science content through inquiry-based lessons and cooperative learning.

at your school

5 THREE MUSEUM EDUCATOR VISITS

Three of the nine lessons (the first, fourth, and seventh), taught by a visiting Museum educator, model best practices in science education, and use unique museum resources from our living and preserved collections.

at your school

6 FOCUSED FIELD TRIP

Receive a bus reimbursement to visit the Nature Museum and make connections between learning in and out of the classroom.

at the museum

7 REFLECTION MEETING

Reflect on Science on the Go and determine next steps for your science teaching practice.

at your school

“ Science on the Go has prompted me to encourage greater student exploration in science. ”

– Science on the Go teacher

SCIENCE ON THE GO
choose your curriculum

GRADE	K	1	2	3	4	5	6-8
Q1 10/12-11/19	Nature in the City						Pollination Investigation (C)
		Budding Sprouts					Interrupted Ecosystems
				Insect Investigators			
				Freshwater Flashback			
				Conservation on Location (C)			
Q2 12/7-1/28	Nature in the City						Biodiversity Disrupted (C)
		Habitat Seekers					Climate Change in Chicago
		Making Sense of Butterflies		Freshwater Flashback			
				Survivor: Winter Edition			
				Chicago's Nature Network			
Q3 2/22-4/1	Animal Secrets						Pollination Investigation (C)
		Habitat Seekers					Interrupted Ecosystems
		Making Sense of Butterflies					
				Survivor: Winter Edition			
				Chicago Bird Watchers			
Q4 5/3-6/10	Nature on the Block						Biodiversity Disrupted (C)
		Budding Sprouts					Climate Change in Chicago
		Making Sense of Butterflies					
				Chicago Bird Watchers			
				Insect Investigators			
			Chicago's Nature Network				

(C) = **Connected** → Programs designed especially for 1-to-1 digitally-equipped classrooms in which all students have access to a digital device in every session.

register online at: naturemuseum.org/sog

- Q1** October 12 - November 19, 2021 | Registration Deadline: **September 9**
- Q2** December 7, 2021 - January 28, 2022 | Registration Deadline: **October 28**
- Q3** February 22 - April 1, 2022 | Registration Deadline: **January 13**
- Q4** May 3 - June 10, 2022 | Registration Deadline: **March 24**

SCIENCE ON THE GO

curriculum descriptions

GRADES **K 1 2**

Nature in the City **K**

NGSS: K-ESS3-1, K-ESS2-2

Use observations, discussions, and scientific drawings to explore ecosystems on the ground, in the trees, and near buildings in the neighborhood.

Animal Secrets **K 1**

NGSS: K-LS1-1, 1-LS1-1

What can humans learn from how living things survive? Explore the unique ways Midwestern animals sense and thrive in the world around them.

Nature on the Block **K 1**

NGSS: K-ESS2-2, K-LS1-1, 1-LS1-1

Explore how local plants and animals survive in their environments by using various structures to meet their needs and change their surroundings.

Budding Sprouts **1 2**

NGSS: 1-LS3-1, 2-LS2-2

Discover how plants spread without being planted and nurtured by humans! Use hands-on modeling to explore plant parts, pollination, and seed dispersal.

Habitat Seekers **1 2**

NGSS: 1-LS1-2, 2-LS4-1

Explore the animals and habitats of the Midwest! Discover the different ways adult animals care for their young in wetland, prairie, and woodland habitats.

Making Sense of Butterflies **1 2**

NGSS: 1-LS1-1, 1-LS1-2, 2-LS4-1

Investigate the ways butterflies find out about the world around them. Explore the unique ways each species responds to the information they collect to increase their chances of survival.

GRADES **3 4 5**

Insect Investigators **3 4**

NGSS: 3-LS1-1, 3-LS4-3, 4-LS1-1

Did you know that insects represent over 80% of the species alive on Earth? Explore the body structures, behaviors, and life cycles of Chicago's fascinating local insects.

Freshwater Flashback **3 4**

NGSS: 3-LS3-2, 3-LS4-1, 4-ESS3-2

What lives in—or used to live in—Chicago's Great Lakes environment? Students will examine evidence of the ways local freshwater ecosystems have changed over time.

Survivor: Winter Edition **3 4**

NGSS: 3-LS4-3, 4-LS1-1

Where do Chicago's animals go in the winter? Use hands-on activities and nonfiction text to develop a claim about animals' structural and behavioral adaptations.

Chicago Bird Watchers **3 4**

NGSS: 3-LS4-3, 3-LS4-4, 4-ESS2-1

Investigate how populations of common (and uncommon) birds vary across the city of Chicago. Gather evidence about the ways species respond to changes in local habitats.

Conservation on Location (C) **3 4 5**

NGSS: 3-LS1-1, (3-LS4-4), 4-LS1-2, 5-ESS3-1

Join conservation scientists at the Nature Museum as they monitor endangered species, and work to improve local ecosystems and increase these animals' chances of survival.

Chicago's Nature Network **4 5**

NGSS: 4-LS1-1, 5-LS2-1

What is Chicago's apex predator? Explore the food web and connections between living and non-living things in our urban ecosystem.

GRADES **6–8**

Pollination Investigation (C) **6–8**

NGSS: MS-LS1-4, MS-LS1-5, MS-LS1-6

Investigate the complex role of plants in their ecosystems: the interactions that sustain both plants and animals, and the process plants use to cycle energy and matter into their environments.

Interrupted Ecosystems **6–8**

NGSS: MS-LS2-1, MS-LS2-4

What happens to ecosystems when 12 million people move in? Students will analyze and interpret data, construct arguments, and explore the dynamic ecosystems of Illinois to discover how organisms respond to human disruptions.

Biodiversity Disrupted (C) **6–8**

NGSS: MS-LS2-1, MS-LS2-4, MS-ESS3-3

How can we tell if an ecosystem is healthy? Explore the work of conservation scientists at the Nature Museum and evaluate the impacts of human activities on Chicago's woodland biodiversity.

Climate Change in Chicago **6–8**

NGSS: MS-ESS3-4, MS-LS2-2

How are local species affected by climate change? Students will construct an explanation about the cause of a changing climate and its effect on biodiversity in the Chicagoland area.

(C) = Connected

Programs designed especially for 1-to-1 digitally-equipped classrooms in which all students have access to a digital device in every session. The curriculum relies on direct student engagement with documents, images, and media that are included in digital form.

These curricula also include hands-on cooperative learning activities and in-person visits by the Nature Museum educator. If your students do NOT have daily access to a digital device, please choose a curriculum that is not labeled "Connected".

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