

Lower Elementary Nature Boxes

Boxes can be checked out for two weeks. They must be picked up and returned during business hours to the Conservation Center at McFarland Park, 56461 180th St., Ames, IA unless other arrangements are made.

To reserve a box, contact Naturalist Clair Pfantz at 515-232-2516, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm or email at cpfantz@storycountyia.gov.

Nature boxes contain background information, materials, and activities including puzzles, crafts, games, finger plays, poems, felt boards, and nature items to explore. Box subjects offered:

Pre-K through Kindergarten ages:

- **Camouflage:** types of camouflage, insect camouflage, and monarch butterflies
- **Creatures of the Night:** night-time animal adaptations, bats, owls, and nocturnal insects
- **Dirt and Seeds:** soil, worms, and insects, as well as seed types and formation
- **Honeybees:** bee characteristics and behaviors including eyesight, body structures, and jobs
- **Spiders:** spider characteristics and behaviors including web design, life cycle, and body structures
- **Pond Habitat:** life in a pond including tadpoles, frogs, insects, and ducks
- **Prairie and Insects:** life in a prairie including insects, grasses, and flowers
- **Woods Habitat:** life in a woodland including parts of a tree, leaf shape, and woodland animals

1st through 3rd grade ages:

- **Rocks & Fossils:** compare rock types, rock formation, and fossils
- **Tracks:** identifying animal signs including mysteries and track matching
- **Ice Age Mammals:** comparing the ice age to recent years through mammal characteristics, glaciers, survival techniques, cultures of early people, and tools of paleontologists and archaeologists

Find this information online at www.storycountyconservation.org >
Education >Loan a Nature Box

