

All Nature Studies programs at Wave Hill incorporate science process skills based on a series of discoveries, and address the following Key ideas, as described in the New York State Elementary Science Core Curriculum (<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/scirg.html>).

## Standard 4: The Living Environment

Elementary Grades	Avian Adventures	Trees Alive	Woodland Ecology	Seeds We Need	A Walk for the Senses
<b>Living things are both similar and different from each other and from non-living things.</b>					
Describe the life processes common to all living things.	●	●	●	●	●
Describe the characteristics of, and variations between, living and non-living things.			●		●
<b>Organisms inherit genetic information in a variety of ways that result in continuity of structure and function between parents and offspring.</b>					
Recognize that traits of living things are both inherited and acquired or learned.				●	
<b>Individual organisms and species change over time.</b>					
Describe how the structures of plants and animals complement the environment of the plant or animal.	●	●	●	●	●
Observe that differences with a species may give individuals an advantage in reproducing and surviving.	●	●		●	
<b>The continuity of life is sustained through reproduction and development.</b>					
Describe the major stages in the life cycles of selected plants and animals.	●	●		●	
<b>Organisms maintain a dynamic equilibrium that sustains life.</b>					
Describe the basic function of common living specimens.	●	●		●	
Describe some survival behaviors of common living specimens.	●		●		

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Elementary Grades <i>continued</i>	Avian Adventures	Trees Alive	Woodland Ecology	Seeds We Need	A Walk for the Senses
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<b>Plants and animals depend on each other and on their physical environment for survival.</b>					
Describe how plants and animals, including humans, depend on each other and on the non-living environment.	●	●	●	●	
Describe the relationship between the sun as an energy source and the cycles of living and non-living things.		●	●	●	

<b>Human decisions and activities have a profound impact on living and non-living things.</b>					
Identify the ways in which humans have changed their environment and the effect of those changes.	●	●	●	●	

Intermediate Grades	Avian Adventures	Trees Alive	Woodland Ecology
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<b>Living things are both similar and different from each other and from non-living things.</b>			
Compare and contrast the parts of plants, animals and on-celled organisms.	●	●	●

<b>Individual organisms and species change over time.</b>			
Describe sources of variation in organisms and their structures, and relate these variations to survival.	●	●	
Describe factors responsible for competition within species and the significance of that competition.	●	●	●

<b>The continuity of life is sustained through reproduction and development.</b>			
Observe and describe developmental patterns in selected plants and animale, such as insects, frogs, humans and seed-bearing plants.	●	●	

Intermediate Grades <i>continued</i>	Avian Adventures	Trees Alive	Woodland Ecology
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<b>Organisms maintain a dynamic equilibrium that sustains life.</b>			
Compare the way a variety of living organisms carry out basic life functions and maintain dynamic equilibrium.	●	●	●
Describe the importance of major nutrients, vitamins and minerals in maintaining health and promoting growth; explain the need for a constant source of energy for living organisms.		●	●

<b>Plants and animals depend on each other and on their physical environment for survival.</b>			
Describe the flow of energy and matter through food chains and food webs.	●	●	●
Provide evidence that green plants make food; explain the significance of this process to other organisms.		●	●

<b>Human decisions and activities have had a profound impact on living and non-living things.</b>			
Describe how living things, including humans, depend upon the living and non-living environment for their survival.	●	●	●
Describe the effect of environmental change on humans and other living populations.	●	●	●