

## **YMCA Camp Potawotami Curriculum Overview Grades K-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

### **Class Possibilities**

#### ***Creepy Crawlies***

Just as the name suggests, students learn about insects and spiders. Students will discuss what makes an insect an insect. Discussion will include habitat, food, body structures and life cycles. Students will then be able to explore camp's environment in order to find, locate and identify various insects.

#### ***Cooperative Games***

Students work together to solve fun and interesting challenges. The importance of cooperation, listening, participation, and encouragement are stressed.

#### ***Leaf and Plant Hunters***

In leaf and plant hunters, the students will: observe and explain why trees and plants are important, talk about trees and that items still on the tree are alive and collect a sample of a leaf, twig, and bark and compare it to other samples found in the class. Students will learn about leaves and plants through hands on activities.

#### ***Soil Investigators***

Students will identify the composition of soil by examining soil with a magnifying glass and sifter and learn how to use a "Texture by feel" test. At the end of the class the students will be able to answer the following two questions: how is soil created and what is needed to create soil?

#### ***Canoeing***

The ultimate lesson in working together; canoeing combines fun and adventure. Blackman Lake is perfect for the beginner. On land, students will learn the basics of stroking, steering, and safety, including properly fitting a lifejacket. In the water, students will put these techniques into action. Because bad or windy weather can easily cancel this class, please choose an alternative class we can use if needed. **Additional chaperones will be needed for each group.**

#### ***Climbing Tower***

Camp Potawotami's 50 ft. climbing tower expands a student's comfort zone, improving self-esteem and can help to conquer fears or insecurities. Our climbing wall is also a teambuilding exercise; we emphasize support and encouragement from everyone. All participants will wear safety equipment and be given careful instructions from a trained facilitator. At least two adults are required to help with this activity.