

Evergreen Nature Center: A Virtual Success!

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Dina Baker, ENC Director

This week marks the halfway point in our first ever 8-Week “Virtual Nature Program” for kids and we are delighted to announce that the program has been a resounding success. Once a week, we have delivered a live on-line class, free, to 12-18 students via the internet platform Zoom. Each lesson is connected to and builds upon previous lessons, but because they also stand alone, parents are welcome to pick only the topics that most interesting to their students. The classes include a webinar-style nature lesson, a short activity, nature journaling, outdoor exploration and group sharing. We have students participating from Evergreen, Conifer, Littleton, Illinois AND Washington D.C.! It has been especially fun for the young people to compare springtime discoveries with others who log-on from different elevations and even different parts of the country!

Be sure to check out our 2020 Student Bird Art Contest and vote for your favorite at [\(put the link here\)](#). Local middle and high school students have submitted photos of their bird-inspired drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photography in a virtual celebration John James Audubon’s recent 235th birthday. This exhibit was originally planned to take place at Evergreen Nature Center but since we couldn’t open as scheduled, it has been moved online. Voting will be open until May 6th!

Another virtual Nature Center project has been taken on by our Environmental Educator, Heather Schwartz. Heather has been creating and posting a variety of educational videos on our website, FaceBook page, Twitter and Instagram, including a weekly post on Mindfulness in Nature. If you need inspiration for harnessing the healing power of the great outdoors or more incentive for getting out into nature, check out Heather’s videos.

Happy Spring!

