



Mission: Connect kids and their families to the outdoors!

Visit our website at cpwsole.org for more resources, photos, and stories!

Enjoy what you read? [Click here](#) to join our mailing list.

Schools and Outdoor Learning Environments (SOLE)

Schools and Outdoor Learning Environments (SOLE) is a program of Colorado Parks and Wildlife with the mission: **Connect kids and their families to the outdoors!**

Funded by Great Outdoors Colorado, SOLE provides 4th grade students the opportunity to go on three field trips, receive in-class programming, and have a Family Nature Night event at their school. We also offer professional development opportunities for SOLE teachers and outdoor programs for SOLE families.



What can you do with all those leaves? Fall Leaf Finger Puppets

Materials

- toilet paper or cut paper towel rolls in halves or thirds
- leaves (preferably real, but fake will work)
- twigs or pipe cleaners
- pebbles or buttons
- school glue or hot glue gun
- wiggly eyes
- scissors



Instructions

1. Glue a leaf at the top of the paper roll for the head.
2. Glue the twigs or pipe cleaners to the sides of the paper roll for arms.
3. Glue pebbles or buttons on the front of the paper roll to look like buttons.
4. Glue wiggly eyes on leaf head.
5. If you have paint, construction paper, or marks and crayons at home, you can decorate your paper roll body any way you like!
Or add other items from nature!
Get creative!

Hyperphagia...What's that?

Every fall, bears and other wild animals start to prepare for winter. One of the ways they prepare is by eating A LOT! Hyperphagia is a biological urge to excessively eat, which helps these animals gain weight and fatten up to survive the upcoming winter.

Bears must consume up to 20,000 calories or more per day! The extra weight they add on in the fall will help give them an extra layer of insulation to keep warm. It also gives them the energy they need to survive the long, cold winter months.

Because bears have to eat so much before winter, they are willing to take more risks and enter areas they would not normally enter due to a major human presence, such as neighborhoods and campgrounds.



Wow! Look at that moose!

Have you noticed there have been a lot of human encounters with moose lately?

Moose are very curious creatures and are not as afraid of humans as deer or elk are. They will sometimes wander up to houses and look inside the window. But sometimes, humans and other animals, can catch them off guard, which causes them to react aggressively.

Female moose (cows) are very protective of their young (calves), and males (bulls) can be aggressive and very protective over territory, especially in the fall during breeding season (rut). This can make approaching moose a dangerous idea.

Moose are amazing creatures and to see one in the wild is an amazing experience, but remember to give them space.



Check out these fun fall activities!

Cherry Creek State Park

- **Trunk or Treat**

Saturday, October 23 at 2pm-4pm

Visit website for more [info](#)

City of Aurora

- **Trick or Treat Nature Trail** at Morrison Nature Center at Star K Ranch

- Saturday, October 30th at 10am-4pm

- Sunday, October 31st at 10am-4pm

Registration Required ([here](#))

- **Santa Wagon Rides at Plains Conservation Center**

- Sunday, December 12th at 9am-4pm

- Saturday, December 18th at 9am-4pm

Registration Required ([here](#))

Barr Lake State Park

- **Annual Harvest Festival**

Saturday, October 9th at 9am-1pm

No registration required

- **Annual Halloween Trail**

Saturday, October 30th at 6-9pm

Registration is required for kids age 3-15 ([here](#))

Denver Botanic Gardens

- **Día de los Muertos Celebration**

Saturday, November 6th at 9am-4pm, York Street Location

Registration Required ([here](#))

- **Wagon Tour of Plains Conservation Center**

Saturday, November 13th 12pm or 3pm, Plains Conservation Center

Registration Required ([here](#))

Bighorn Sheep Festival - Georgetown, CO

- Saturday, November 13th at 10am-6pm ([info](#))

See our [calendar](#) for more information and other events!



Check out these fun fall activities!

Bighorn Sheep Festival - Georgetown, CO

- **Saturday, November 13th at 10am-6pm ([link](#))**

Want to get out on your own? Download the Agents of Discovery app and visit Steamboat Lake State Park to discover more about nature!

See our [calendar](#) for more information and other events!

Check out these fun fall activities!

Happy Birthday to Fishers Peak!

[Fishers Peak State Park](#) opened in October 2020

Nature's Educators Nature Center Programs - Florence, CO

- **All About Owls**
Sunday, October 24th at 6-7pm
- **Creatures of the Night**
Saturday, November 6th at 7-8pm
- **Raptor Identification Course with live raptors!**
Saturday, December 11th 10am to 12pm
(Register for programs [here](#))

Cheyenne Mountain State Park

- **International Observe - The Moon Night**
Saturday, October 16th 7-9pm
([info](#))

Mueller State Park

- **Archery**
Saturday, October 9th at 1pm
 - **Elk Touch Table**
Sunday, October 10th at 10am-12pm
 - **Trick or Treat**
Saturday, October 16th at 1pm
- Visit website for more [info](#)

See our [calendar](#) for more information and other events!

Check out these fun fall activities!

Nature's Educators Nature Center Programs - Florence, CO

- **All About Owls**
Sunday, October 24th at 6-7pm
- **Creatures of the Night**
Saturday, November 6th at 7-8pm
- **Raptor Identification Course with live raptors!**
Saturday, December 11th 10am to 12pm
(Register for programs [here](#))

Want to get out on your own? Download the Agents of Discovery app and visit Ridgway State Park to discover more about nature!

See our [calendar](#) for more information and other events!