Science on the Go is a professional development program designed for K–8 educators who strive to build inspired science learning communities using effective instructional practices, through the use of NGSS–aligned, hands-on, inquiry-based lessons that incorporate collaborative problem solving. For more than 30 years, our experienced education staff has been working side-by-side with teachers to leverage locally relevant science experiences in classrooms throughout Chicago.

**with science on the go, you’ll invest in:**

- **One Professional Development afterschool workshop** to prepare for classroom implementation;
  - **EARN**
  - Up to six and a half professional development clock hours.

- **Nine lessons** that explore local science content through NGSS–aligned curricula with all materials and documents provided
  - **INCLUDING**
  - Three lessons—taught by a museum educator—that **model best practices in science education and utilize unique museum resources** from our living and preserved collections.

- **Focused Field Trip** to connect classroom inquiry to community experiences
  - **INCLUDING**
  - A bus reimbursement to the Nature Museum.

[Visit naturemuseum.org/sog](http://naturemuseum.org/sog)
SCIENCE ON THE GO

TIMELINE

1. **ONLINE REGISTRATION**
   Register at naturemuseum.org/sog.

2. **PRE-PROGRAM CONTACT AND PLANNING**
   Communicate with your visiting Museum educator, finalize your visit schedule, and share insights about your students.

3. **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP**
   Participate in an afterschool workshop at the Nature Museum to go through each lesson of the curriculum as a learner, and prepare to teach in the classroom. Receive your curriculum documents and all materials prepared for a class of 32 students.

4. **NINE NGSS–ALIGNED LESSONS**
   Classroom teachers teach six NGSS–aligned lessons. Students learn about local science content through inquiry-based lessons and cooperative learning.

5. **THREE MUSEUM EDUCATOR VISITS**
   Three of the nine lessons (the first, fourth, and seventh), taught by a visiting Museum educator, model best practices in science education, and use unique museum resources from our living and preserved collections.

6. **FOCUSED FIELD TRIP**
   Receive a bus reimbursement to visit the Nature Museum and make connections between learning in and out of the classroom.

7. **REFLECTION MEETING**
   Reflect on Science on the Go and determine next steps for your science teaching practice.

“Science on the Go has prompted me to encourage greater student exploration in science.”

- Science on the Go teacher

“This program has modeled for me what high-quality instruction looks like and I feel much more confident teaching science.”

- Science on the Go teacher

Science on the Go | Fall 2023 – Spring 2024
# Science on the Go

## Choose Your Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Q1 9/19–11/3</th>
<th>Q2 11/14–1/26</th>
<th>Q3 2/6–3/22</th>
<th>Q4 4/9–5/24</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Nature in the City</td>
<td>Habitat Seekers</td>
<td>Animal Secrets</td>
<td>Trees Near Me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Perplexing Plants</td>
<td>Making Sense of Butterflies</td>
<td></td>
<td>Making Sense of Butterflies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Chicago Bird Watchers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Woodland Breakdown</td>
<td>Survivor: Winter Edition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Biodiversity Disrupted</td>
<td>Climate Change in Chicago</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6–8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Freshwater Flashback</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 register online at: [naturemuseum.org/sog](http://naturemuseum.org/sog)

- **September 19 - November 3, 2023** | Registration Deadline: **September 7**
- **November 14, 2023 - January 26, 2024** | Registration Deadline: **October 19**
- **February 6 - March 22, 2024** | Registration Deadline: **January 18**
- **April 9 - May 24, 2024** | Registration Deadline: **March 21**
Insect Investigators 3 4
NGSS: 3-LS1-1, 3-LS4-3, 4-LS1-1
Did you know that insects represent over 80% of the species alive on Earth? Explore the body structures, behaviors, and life cycles of Chicago’s fascinating local insects.

Freshwater Flashback 3 4
NGSS: 3-LS3-2, 3-LS4-1, 4-ESS3-2
What lives in—or used to live in—Chicago’s Great Lakes environment? Students will examine evidence of the ways local freshwater ecosystems have changed over time.

Survivor: Winter Edition 3 4
NGSS: 3-LS4-3, 4-LS1-1
Where do Chicago’s animals go in the winter? Use hands-on activities and nonfiction text to develop a claim about animals’ structural and behavioral adaptations.

Chicago Bird Watchers 3 4
NGSS: 3-LS4-3, 3-LS4-4, 4-ESS2-1
Investigate how populations of common (and uncommon) birds vary across the city of Chicago. Gather evidence about the ways species respond to changes in local habitats.

Conservation on Location 3 4 5
NGSS: 3-LS1-1, (3-LS4-4), 4-LS1-2, 5-ESS3-1
Join conservation scientists at the Nature Museum as they monitor endangered species, and work to improve local ecosystems and increase these animals’ chances of survival.

Woodland Breakdown 4 5
NGSS: 4-LS1-2, 5-LS2-1, 5-PS3-1
What’s happening in the woodland? Explore how organisms of all sizes, from fungi to frogs, get the matter and energy they need for survival.

Biodiversity Disrupted 6-8
NGSS: MS-LS2-1, MS-LS2-4, MS-ESS3-3
How can we tell if an ecosystem is healthy? Explore the work of conservation scientists at the Nature Museum and evaluate the impacts of human activities on Chicago’s woodland biodiversity.

Climate Change in Chicago 6-8
NGSS: MS-ESS3-4, MS-LS2-2
How are local species affected by climate change? Students will construct an explanation about the cause of a changing climate and its effect on biodiversity in the Chicagoland area.

Interrupted Ecosystems 6-8
NGSS: MS-LS2-1, MS-LS2-4
What happens to ecosystems when 12 million people move in? Students will analyze and interpret data, construct arguments, and explore the dynamic ecosystems of Illinois to discover how organisms respond to human disruptions.

Plants, Matter, Energy! 6-8
NGSS: MS-LS1-4, MS-LS1-5, MS-LS1-6
Investigate the complex role of plants in their ecosystems: the interactions that sustain both plants and animals, and the process plants use to cycle energy and matter into their environments.

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