

nature experience

Grace Farms began with the land. It informed the mission of Grace Farms Foundation as well as the design of the River building. Learn how nature has influenced Grace Farms and how intentional design has put nature first in its LEED-certified award winning building.

Led by a Grace Farms Educator, your group will explore solutions that can reduce human impact on land, air, water, and the living things in your local environment. As part of the experience, your group will be led through parts of the 10 biodiverse habitats at Grace Farms to learn about the power of the 2,000 trees on site to sequester carbon and how ongoing stewardship has allowed more than 100 species of birds to be observed throughout our nearly 80 acres of restored meadows and woodlands.

This program includes visiting the Garden, home to a variety of organic vegetables, fruits, herbs, brambles, and native flowering plants that feed our pollinators. Your group will engage in a close look at the roof of the River building to discover how it supports the natural water system. You will also examine the meadows and how natural species thrive in adverse conditions. Each student will also participate in a maker moment that will support further exploration of the natural environment.

curriculum standards

NGSS K-ESS3-3, 5-ESS3-1, MS-ESS3-3, MS-ESS3-4, HS-ESS3-6, 2-LS4-1, 3-LS4-4, 5-LS2-1, MS-LS2-5, HS-LS2-7

Additional Resources to Explore

[Pollinator Pathways](#)

[Design for Freedom Report](#)

[Design for Freedom Toolkit](#)

[2023 Annual Report](#)

explore more programming at gracefarms.org/events

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name _____

pollinator count

Grace Farms is part of the Pollinator Pathway! Pollen might make some people sneeze, but plants need it to make flowers, fruits, nuts, and seeds. Bees, butterflies, birds, and other insects and animals who spread pollen from plant to plant are all around us. Look closely outside.

How many pollinators can you find?

Find a quiet spot outside to sit for observation. Spend 10 minutes looking for pollinators, then move to a different location outside and observe for another 10 minutes. Record the number of the pollinators you see on the chart below.

pollinator	location 1	location 2
Bees 		
Butterflies 		
Birds 		
Beetles 		
Flies 		

Reflect

Did you find more pollinators at one location than the other?

What could cause the number to change?

How many pollinators do you think you would have seen if you had looked for 20 minutes at each spot?

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