LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Today, your child went on a field trip with **Heritage Conservancy** to **Croydon Woods Nature Preserve**, located next to their school.

Key topics and activities covered:

- **Habitat Investigation -** Students learned what the Eastern Towhee, a local bird, needs in its habitat for food, shelter, and water. Students used field guides and note sheets to look for habitat requirements for the Eastern Towhee, including:
  - Water, such as ponds or streams;
  - Food, such as ants, snails, or seeds;
  - And cover, such as shrubs or nests, or trees.
- **Bird Identification -** The Eastern Towhee is a common woodland bird with a unique call and distinct colors, which makes it easily identifiable for students.
- **Threats -** Students discussed potential threats to the Eastern Towhee, such as:
  - Cowbirds, who lay eggs in towhee's nests;
  - ATVs, that could destroy towhee cover;
  - And trash that could hurt the birds and their habitat.

Continue the conversation and learning at home:

- Ask your child which part of the walk they liked the most.
- Ask your child if they can remember what food and shelter the Eastern Towhee needs in it's habitat.
- Take your child on a walk and help them identify clues that could tell them what animals are living in the area. Look for birds nests in trees, animal tracks in the mud, or holes in the ground.

Ways you and your family can make an impact:

- Volunteer together at a cleanup at Croydon Woods Nature Preserve to keep the Eastern Towhee's habitat safe and clean!
- Join our newsletter to stay up to date on upcoming events, like our Croydon Woods Spring Carnival on May 17th.

Join us at Croydon Woods Nature Preserve Spring Carnival

- Guided hikes
- Activities
- Games
- Free food trucks
- Free merch

Date:
Friday, May 17th

Time:
4:00 PM to 6:30 PM

To celebrate the beauty of Croydon Woods and the spring season, we are gathering at **Croydon Woods Nature Preserve** with community members, volunteers, and local partners for an evening of fun!

Join us at this **free** event.

HERITAGE CONSERVANCY
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To learn more about Heritage Conservancy and upcoming events, visit HeritageConservancy.org