FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Explore Free Nature Programs at St. Charles County’s Towne Park, Nov. 4

St. Charles County, Missouri — Learn about different aspects of nature at Towne Park’s outdoor classroom from 1:30 -3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 4. Families, individuals, organizations, scout troops, clubs and youth groups are encouraged to get outside and participate in five nature activities that Tempt Your Senses, Explore Habitats, Feel the Texture, Get Balanced and teach you how to Build a Human Tree. Sponsored by the St. Charles County Parks Department and the Confluence Chapter of Missouri Master Naturalist, these fun educational programs are suitable for children ages 5 – 12.

Each nature program last about a half hour and is being presented at the only certified Nature Explore Classroom in St. Charles County. Park guests can choose to participate in one activity or all five throughout the course of the afternoon. Since it opened in May 2012, the Certified Nature Explore Classroom at Towne Park has become an inspiration for children, families and educators across the tri-county area. Registration for the programs is not required, but advised for groups of 10 or more.

Tempt Your Senses: Our five senses provide us with a direct connection to the natural world. Explore a variety of sensory stimuli as you make your way through the Certified Nature Explore Classroom blindfolded. A partner will guide you by using only smells to map your way.

Exploring Habitat: Why do animals live where they do? Would an owl be able to survive in a whale’s habitat? Join us as we explore habitats using activities to help us understand why animals survive in their own special environment.

Feel the Texture: Slippery, slimy, rough, smooth, pointed, prickly…all of these words describe how something feels. Discover the different compositions found in the Certified Nature Explore Classroom by using our fingers and making texture rubbings of these objects.
Get Balanced: We all want balance in our lives. Learn how different animals maintain balance in nature and how their habitat influences this balancing act. Participants will imitate various animals using the Balance Area of the Certified Nature Explore Classroom.

Build a Human Tree: Learn how to build a tree by using sound and actions. A tree has so many parts…its roots, trunk, layers of growth, branches, leaves and much more! Help us assemble a human tree by coming together to learn about each of its parts.

The Certified Nature Explore Classroom at Towne Park is a dynamic, nature-based play and learning space, which supports skill development in children by reconnecting them with the outdoors. Certified by the Arbor Day Foundation and Dimensions Educational Research Foundation, it encompasses 11 learning stations for children to explore. Each area of the classroom is designed to motivate children by offering interactive elements – including musical instruments made of natural materials, climbing structures, wooden blocks, garden areas, and natural materials for building and creating art – that would give children important and inspiring nature experiences.

For more information about additional free nature programs presented at Towne Park’s (100 Towne Park Drive, Foristell 63346) Certified Nature Explore Classroom, contact the St. Charles County Parks Department at (636) 949-7535 or visit the parks department’s activity calendar at www.stccpark.org.

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