The Connecticut Audubon Society’s Science in Nature Professional Development workshops build teachers’ capacity to:

- Integrate the practices of NGSS into their curriculum.
- Learn and apply pedagogical skills of field-based lesson planning and implementation.
- Identify tools for meaningful assessment of student learning.
- Network with peers to build and foster professional learning communities.

Our workshops are appropriate for K-12 classroom teachers, as well as non-formal educators. We can conduct workshops at any of our centers or at your school.

Experiential learning in nature is exciting and makes it easier to understand science, math, and other core concepts. Our award-winning Science in Nature program consists of hands-on, inquiry-based activities in earth and life sciences, ecology, conservation, and responsible citizenship. The program integrates the Three Dimensions of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), as students “do science” by investigating natural phenomena, gathering evidence, and proposing solutions to the conservation issues they observe.

Whether you are an early-adopter of NGSS and have fully integrated these standards into your teaching, if you are just getting started, or are somewhere in between, our educators can tailor our programs to meet you where you are in your practice.

Science in Nature is the recipient of the 2018 Dr. Sigmund Abeles Science Advocate Award, selected by the Connecticut Science Teachers Association and the Connecticut Science Supervisors Association for an organization that has demonstrated outstanding, long-term commitment to science education in Connecticut.

Professional Development Workshops

Join Us Today!

Participate at any of our centers, or we will bring Science in Nature to your school! For more information, contact us at one of our Centers:

**Center at Pomfret**  
218 Day Road, Pomfret / 860.928.4948

**Center at Fairfield**  
2325 Burr Street, Fairfield / 203.259.6305

**Milford Point Coastal Center**  
1 Milford Point Road, Milford / 203.878.7440

**Center at Glastonbury**  
1361 Main Street, Glastonbury / 860.633.8402

**Roger Tory Peterson Estuary Center**  
90 Halls Road, Old Lyme / 860.598.4218

Or visit us online at:  
www.ctaudubon.org
Our half-and full-day programs are hands-on, aligned to NGSS, and make learning fun. Students...

- Observe and collect field data.
- Build skills in using evidence to explain observed phenomena.
- Analyze & interpret data.
- Explore human impacts.
- Use models to explain scientific processes.

The Curriculum
We customize your program to fit the various ecosystems represented at our various centers. Students will “do science”, as each program gives students the opportunity to use high and low tech science tools, including field computers, sensors, and probeware. Select from the following curricula:

- **Weather & Climate**
  Students will use high tech science tools to explore various habitats in search of answers to questions such as: How does weather impact habitats and the plants and animals that live there? What influences our weather and climate? Students will observe the impact weather and climate have on plant and animal systems. Upper elementary and middle school students will also investigate how climate and weather are altered through natural and human processes.

- **Earth/Land Systems: Water, Weathering and Erosion**
  Students explore habitats to develop an awareness of the significance of water on earth, including its influence on the shape of our land and just how finite and valuable this resource is for all of life on Earth. These programs give students tremendous opportunities to hone science practices including obtaining and communicating information, and analyzing and interpreting their own data.

- **Adaptations: Structure & Function**
  Why do plants and animals live in different habitats and what features do they have to make it possible for them to survive there? These are just some of the questions that students gather evidence to help answer as they traverse through various habitat types.

- **Adaptations: Life Cycles**
  Students take to the field with various investigative tools to research and witness first-hand plants and animals in certain states of their life cycle. From seeds to metamorphosis, our field experiences provide a plethora of life cycle phenomena for students to obtain evidence that organisms grow and change over time in order to survive and reproduce in their habitats.

- **Ecosystems**
  Students research multiple habitats to study how plants and animals respond to changes in ecosystems, including changes that are caused by humans. In the ecosystem “laboratory”, students make observations of the interactions between organisms and use this evidence to explain how these interactions are essential to the health of the entire ecosystem. We can also conduct this program with a focus on Wetland Ecosystems.

At Our Sanctuary or at Your School
*Science in Nature* can be conducted at any of our locations, or one closer to or at your school campus.

It is important that students realize that nature is everywhere and scientific investigations can happen anywhere. We can bring *Science in Nature* to your schoolyard, local park, or other outdoor location.

For more information, please contact your nearest center to arrange a *Science in Nature* program near you.

And many more: Each of our nature centers conducts additional center-specific programs not described here. For other program listings, visit our webpage at [www.ctaudubon.org/school-programs](http://www.ctaudubon.org/school-programs).

Our Full Day Programs include:

- Easy to do preparatory pre-visit activities.
- Access to myriad non-fiction, multi-media resources that help teachers and students.
- A student science journal you can use for assessment and they can keep.
- Inference-making post-visit activities to help students make meaning of their science experience.