



Hoover Forest Preserve provides an unparalleled location for nature-based learning.

At the KCFPD's Natural Beginnings Early Learning Program, up to 66 children annually discover the wonder and beauty found in Hoover's nearly 350-acres of prairies, woodland trails, creeks, as well as the Fox River throughout the seasons from August through May.

The program is designed to encourage children to explore the connections between their lives and the world around them.

By offering Natural Beginnings within the preserve's boundaries, the children have access to numerous daily encounters with plant and animal life both inside and outside the physical classroom.

Aside from daily hikes within the preserve's natural habitats, the children tend to outdoor gardens and care for the plants and animals in "The Rookery" Early Learning Center.

Natural Beginnings students are inspired and guided by teachers trained in nature education, and experienced in sharing their enthusiasm for the natural world.

During outdoor explorations, children frequently have the opportunity to observe native wildlife including White-tailed deer, Cooper's hawk, Eastern tiger swallowtail butterflies and hundreds more. In addition to those organic experiences, children will frequently engage with the animals inside the classroom.



Natural Beginnings Tuition: 2-Day Program \$1,700 and 3-Day Program \$2,200 Registration Fee: \$150 + 10% Tuition (4TH Qtr.)