



NEWS RELEASE

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Zion Nature Center Teacher Trunks available to educators

Last May, Zion Nature Center, a part of Zionsville Parks & Recreation Department, received a \$4,887 grant from the Duke Energy Foundation to support two hands-on, science-focused initiatives: Traveling Teacher Trunks and Nature Play Days.

The Traveling Teacher Trunks are now assembled and available to educators around Boone County and the surrounding counties. Each trunk, available for a \$10 rental fee, contains natural artifacts, materials and resources that allow area teachers to expand their school's science curriculum. There are six trunks total, each suitable for classrooms with up to 30 kids, ages Preschool to Grade 8.

The trunks align to current Preschool to Grade 8 Indiana Science and Social Studies standards.

With the help of the Community Foundation of Boone County, Mindy Murdock, Park Naturalist, applied for Duke Energy Foundation's Community Impact Grant.

"The teacher trunks provide a valuable resource for hands-on learning experiences, which can greatly impact learning opportunities for children," said Murdock. "While I myself am not able to travel around the county to share our Zion Nature Center programs, these trunks are available to all educators in the county for use to supplement current science curriculums."

More information can be found on Zion Nature Center's [2018 Education Program Guide](#).

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