Congratulations for having been selected as an Audubon Advocate! Your commitment and participation in all the lessons is very important to get the most out of this opportunity. Perfect attendance is recognized and rewarded! We have a lot of great outdoor activities planned for this semester, so mark your calendars and get ready to have some fun!

**January / February 2018 Calendar**

January 22-26: Introduction to Advocacy  
Students will learn why we become advocates. We begin to explore the trails and observe the interconnection of plant and animal communities.  
*Please note Glendale Elementary will meet on Friday 1-26 this week.*

January 29-February 1: Art and Photography  
Students will learn how to do nature sketches and outdoor photography.  
*February 5-8: No class due to teachers’ conferences*

February 12-15: Birding and Wetland Habitats  
Students will hike a local wetlands habitat and learn how to use binoculars to observe and learn about shore and wading birds.  
*February 19-23: Stormwater Runoff*  
Guest Speaker will demonstrate how stormwater runoff affects the Indian River Lagoon and what we can do as advocates.  
*Please note Vero Beach Elementary will meet on Friday 1-23 this week instead of Monday.*

February 26-March 2: Hike the Scrub Habitat  
Students will hike the scrub habitat and observe the plants and animals that depend on this Ecosystem.  
*Please note Glendale Elementary is scheduled for Friday 3-2 this week instead of Wednesday.*  

* calendar activities occasionally subject to change due to speaker schedules, weather, etc.

**OUTDOOR CLOTHING:** Most of our activities are outdoors and sometimes we get wet and/or muddy. It is important to dress appropriately for your own comfort and well-being. Long sleeve shirts and pants with closed-toed walking shoes are recommended. Bring jackets as necessary.

**Healthy Outdoor Families**

Numerous scientific studies show how important spending time outdoors is for our overall health and well-being. Spending time outdoors influences every aspect of childhood development. Physical growth, learning skills, and social behaviors are all benefited by spending time outdoors in Nature. Here are some local outdoors events that your family might enjoy:

**17th Gardenfest February 3-4, 2018 - Riverside Park, Vero Beach**  
Garden fest will have 85 vendors displaying and selling plants and decor for your yards and gardens. Youth activities and food available, with free admission and parking. For more info www.gardenclubofirc.org

**Coming Soon: The Great Air-Potato Round-Up**  
Have fun and help the environment at the same time as we search for and remove the invasive air-potatoes around the Audubon House.

A special event for Audubon Advocates and their families!

**NATURE NICK'S ANIMAL ADVENTURES**

Two Free! Performances at  
Audubon House  
195 9th Street SE (Oslo Rd), Vero Beach  
Saturday, February 17, 2018  
Shows at 10AM & 1PM  
Obtain tickets online at www.PelicanIslandAudubon.org  
Four tickets per registrant  
Tickets will be mailed  

Tickets going fast! Reserve your tickets today!