



## Botany Bay Plantation - Edisto Island

### Directions:

Botany Bay Rd. 29438

[Google Map](#)

**Each program lasts about 1 hr.**

### **Barrier Island Field Study** (Grades K-12)

Students will use a field guide to conduct a survey of shells, plants, and common invertebrates found along South Carolina's beaches. We will observe signs of beach erosion and investigate how beaches are changed by water, wind, and humans. On the trip out to the beach, students will learn to identify common characteristics of other barrier island habitats, such as maritime forests, salt marshes, and hammock islands.

### **Salt Marsh Field Study** (Grades K-12)

Come along on a muddy trek through the marsh to explore its importance and biodiversity. Students will use quadrats to replicate current research sampling methods while practicing species identification and data collection. Students will learn about adaptations of observed wildlife as well as how humans impact the salt marsh habitat.

**\*We advise NOT pairing this program with our "Marine Debris" program as similar topics will be covered and both explore the salt marsh**

### **Trailer Tour** (Grades K-12)

Come take an open-air trailer tour through this former plantation now managed for wildlife habitat. As you drive through the property to see remains of the former plantation buildings, learn how people have been conserving this land for wildlife in the past and the present. Tour includes stops at the historical ice house, plantation house ruins, and multiple wildlife viewing areas.

### **Sea Turtle Ecology** (Grades K-12)

Come learn about our state reptile! In this lesson, students will become a sea turtle biologist, learning about sea turtle ecology, genetic tagging, nesting, and strandings. An introduction to sea turtles will be followed by activities including monitoring a mock nest while calculating the success rate and investigating a stranded sea turtle scenario. We will then dive into determining how human and natural threats to sea turtle survival can be mitigated.



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### Horseshoe Crabs and Shorebirds (Grades K-12)

Have you ever found horseshoe crabs lying on the beach? Or watched shorebirds shuffle along the waves? SCDNR Biologists spend their days (and nights) scouring our beaches looking for these amazing animals. Practice your investigation skills to learn how scientists study these species, and see how they are related to each other and us!

### Marine Debris (Grades 5-12)

Marine debris is a growing global concern. But where does it come from, how does it get there, and why do we care? Through an assortment of estuary-based outdoor lessons and group activities, students will learn where marine debris originates, how it moves, how it affects our marine ecosystem, and prevention techniques. Be sure to wear clothes/shoes that can get muddy as this program is followed by a marsh clean up where we will explore how marine debris has an impact on our own backyard!

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