



The Traveling Science Center

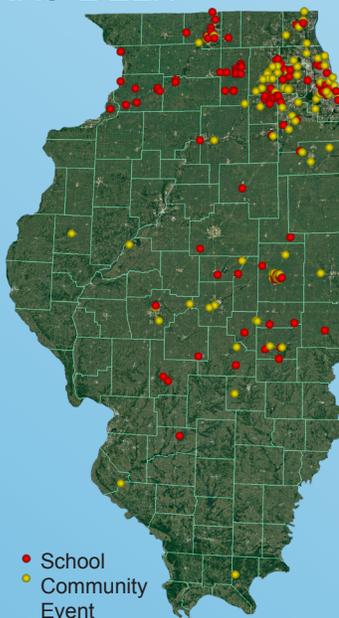
HISTORY

The TSC program began in 2006 and has since provided programs for students from over 150 communities in Illinois and participated in over 200 public events reaching approximately 300,000 people.

During the first four years dedicated staffing was funded by a gift from ComEd, part of the Exelon corporation, to operate in northern Illinois.

In 2010, the vehicle was relocated to central Illinois, to provide programs to communities statewide.

WHERE THE TSC HAS BEEN



GOAL

The goal of the Illinois Natural History Survey's Traveling Science Center (TSC) is to:

- Promote the interface, mission, research and efforts of the Prairie Research Institute, the individual State Surveys, and the University of Illinois.
- Provide an objective, quality mobile education on natural and cultural resources, and environmental stewardship to all ages.
- Foster a connection between families, science, and the natural and cultural resources of Illinois.

The TSC's goal is achieved by providing visitors a hands-on experience using a stunning display of interchangeable educational panels, interactive displays, props, and handouts. The numerous venues the TSC travels to reaches a broad demographic of Illinois' population.



For more information or to schedule a visit contact:

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WHAT TOPICS ARE COVERED IN THE TSC?

The exhibits in the TSC focus on the natural environment and biodiversity. Visitors will learn about habitats and species of Illinois as well as steps they can take to be good stewards of their environment. The exhibits are modular and may change to incorporate emerging topics.



During school programs, students take a scavenger quiz based on grade level. The quizzes are designed to engage the students while focusing their attention. The quizzes also enable us to align with science standards.

WHERE DO WE GO?

The TSC participates in programs organized by:

- The Prairie Research Institute
- Illinois public and private schools
- Illinois institutions of higher education
- Not-for-profit land stewardship agencies
- Non-government organizations
- Nature centers
- Local governmental land management agencies
- State-level land management agencies
- Federal-level land management agencies
- Youth camps



FEEDBACK WE'VE RECEIVED

"We got such wonderful feedback from participants about the Traveling Science Center. I wish you were at ALL of our public events!"

- Chicago Park District

"Wonderful, engaging displays-presenters were knowledgeable and enthusiastic. The scavenger hunt kept my class enthused and they enjoyed it very much. I was very impressed and I would love for the TSC to visit next year! Well done!"

-8th Grade Teacher

"The kids really loved it! I learned things too!"

- 7th Grade Teacher

"Fantastic Experience! The students love it (As did I). Very informational and interesting! A very enjoyable time outside the classroom setting! Thank you!"

- 6th Grade Teacher

"The TSC staff was not only knowledgeable but had a great way of interacting with our students and keeping them engaged. The exhibit/presentation exceeded my expectations."

- 5th Grade Teacher

"The Traveling Science Center was a wonderful experience for my class! The children were very excited - learning made fun! The activities made them investigate for themselves! Excellent! They especially loved all the "hands-on" items."

- 4th Grade Teacher

"It was like having a mini field trip in our own backyard. My class really enjoyed it."

- 3rd Grade Teacher



"This was a fantastic opportunity for our students and one that our teaching team was able to expand on with our hands-on science curriculum."

- Principal of Boulder Hill Elementary

