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THE MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM PLANS NATURE PROGRAMS FOR KIDS THIS WINTER

HOWELL— Calling all budding naturalists and their parents! The Monmouth County Park System is filling the dull days of winter with fun and exciting nature programs for youngsters. First up is *Little Hands on Nature* for preschoolers age 3-5 with adult. Offered from 10-10:45am on Tuesday, January 15 at the Dorbrook Recreation Area, Route 537, Colts Neck, this class introduces tots to native animals, plants and environments. An additional session is offered on Saturday, January 19 from 2-2:45pm at the Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center, Georgia Tavern Road, Howell. The cost of each session is \$5.25 per person. Pre-registration is required.

A *Hot Chocolate Hike* is also being offered on Saturday, January 19 from 10-11am at the Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center. Open to ages 7-12 with adult, the hike takes participants through the woods to search for wildlife. Afterward, they'll enjoy hot chocolate, cookies and a bird feeder craft. The cost is \$7 per child. Pre-registration is required.

Sunday, January 20 brings *Turtles Around Us* to the Manasquan Reservoir Environmental Center. From 2-3pm, participants will have the chance to come face to face with several beautiful and intriguing turtle species and learn what makes them special. This program is open to ages 7 and up and costs \$6 per person. Pre-registration is required.

To register or learn more about these programs, please visit

www.monmouthcountyparks.com or call (732) 842-4000. For persons with hearing

impairment, the TTY/TDD number is 711. The Monmouth County Park System, created in

1960 by the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, is Monmouth County's Open Space, Parks and Recreation agency.

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