

Volunteer Opportunity -- Kids in the Woods

This program is a partnership between the Alachua County School District's Westwood Middle School, the U.S. Forest Service's Southern Research Station, the University of Florida's School of Forest Resources and Conservation, the City of Gainesville Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, and the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department. This program is part of the Forest Service's More Kids in the Woods initiative, which was launched to promote increased outdoor activity among children.

We are now in the 6th year of our program and our goal is to get students outside by providing them with outdoor science learning experiences in the nearby Loblolly Woods Nature Park and on the school campus. Students participate in scientific studies related to bird feeding behavior (October), creek erosion and deposition (November/December), and tree identification and benefits (February/March). We rely on many volunteers to help with this program every year. And although it is a science-based program, a background in science isn't required; the main role of the volunteers is to help the students learn outdoors, and guide them when they need assistance. The students really love having a set of constant, reliable volunteers that they can work with and build relationships with throughout the year. If you are interested in volunteering and getting some experience in the field, please email Program Coordinator, Molly Disabb at kidsinwoods2@gmail.com.

More details at <https://kidsinwoods-interfacesouth.org/>