



*An educational visit at
Wolf Haven International*

EDUCATION PROGRAM – WOLF HAVEN INTERNATIONAL

Overview

Wolf Haven seeks to provide leadership that enables a broad spectrum of constituents to understand the complex role wolves play in ecosystem health and longevity. By offering a variety of educational presentations about wolves and advocating for wolves in the wild, Wolf Haven hopes to inspire actions that foster empathy and ensure the well-being of wolves while also maintaining sensitivity to the needs and concerns of those who are affected by wolves.

Nature and Arts Deficit

As schools increasingly focus on helping students achieve nationwide educational standards in math and English, subjects deemed less essential (science and art) are often removed from curriculum, taught at a later age, or not addressed at all. In our fast-paced technological world, young people are becoming increasingly disconnected from nature and as a result, may become adults with no regard for or knowledge of non-human species. And although perhaps only a small percentage of students grow up to become professional artists, the study of art in schools is critical to teaching larger communication skills through symbols, colors, imagery, and hands-on experience. Art connects us to a larger society and encourages new ways of seeing the world.

Wolf Haven's Role

Wolf Haven bridges the existing education gap by providing science- and arts-based programs, as well as guided sanctuary and prairie walks, to groups of all ages and backgrounds. Our staff interact with students and teachers on and off site in both English and Spanish. We even offer interactive presentations via Zoom around the world, connecting with people in countries such as New Zealand and Japan. All of Wolf Haven's educational programs meet Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and offer a balanced perspective that respects diverse stakeholders in the community.

Outcome

Wolf Haven's education program has grown to match the needs in schools over the years. Students are provided field journals with room to draw, write, and record their observations of the wolves. They are also given a chance to explore our native prairie and examine the importance of biodiversity. Most recently, Wolf Haven partnered with the Colorado State University to create hands-on wolf ecology kits that explore the history of wolves, hunting, family behavior, ecosystem roles, and more — all from the lens of a biologist. Wolf Haven continues to strive to create memorable educational experiences for students of all ages.