



Fort McMurray—Lakeland Area

# In-Park Environmental Education





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## Environmental Education Programs:

# Mini Park Investigators



### Program Location:

Programs can be scheduled at any Park.

Common locations include:

Beaver Lake PRA

Gregoire Lake PP

Lakeland PP/PRA

Sir Winston Churchill PP

### Program Cost:

\$2/student

### Grade Level: Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten

**Program Description:** Students investigate nature through the use of colour matching and simple scavenger hunts. Students participate in the “100cm hike” where they will examine a small area and focus on noticing small details.

### Curriculum Links:

- Students will explore their environment and share their stories and experiences.
- Students will use tools (magnifying glass & measuring tape) to investigate the natural world.
- Sorting and describing natural objects by size, shape, colour, and texture. Analyzing similarities and differences between objects in nature.
- Students will learn about and imitate the different movements of animals.
- Students will learn respect for the group, for the speaker, for their peers, and respect for the environment.
- Students will participate in physically active games and activities.

For program inquiries or to book a program please contact **Jaclyn Denman** at **780-623-7189** or email at [jaclyn.denman@gov.ab.ca](mailto:jaclyn.denman@gov.ab.ca)



## Environmental Education Programs:

# Nature Investigators



### Program Location:

Programs can be scheduled at any Park.

Common locations include:

Beaver Lake PRA

Gregoire Lake PP

Lakeland PP/PRA

Sir Winston Churchill PP

### Program Cost:

\$2/student

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### Grade Level: Grade 1

**Program Description:** Students participate in a forest habitats scavenger hunt using each of the five senses. Students will be tasked with finding the perfect home for a variety of animals through an animal homes activity and presenting their habitat to the class. Students will participate in a hike and look for signs of seasonal change in the forest, relating to the current season. Students will be able to identify the needs of the animal and how they relate to human needs.

### Curriculum Links:

- Students will explore their environment using their senses and search for signs of seasonal change and discuss the seasons and how they affect wildlife.
- Students will listen to an Indigenous story on seasonal change and reflect on how humans are impacted by seasons.
- Students will identify the needs of animals and plants.
- Students will compare their own needs with the needs of plants and animals.
- Students will learn respect for the group, for the speaker, for their peers, and respect for the environment.
- Students will work in groups and work on leadership, teamwork, and communication skills.
- Students will participate in active outdoor pursuits.





## Environmental Education Programs:

# Bugs and Biodiversity



### Program Location:

Programs can be scheduled at any Park.

Common locations include:

Beaver Lake PRA

Gregoire Lake PP

Lakeland PP/PRA

Sir Winston Churchill PP

### Program Cost:

\$2/student

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### Grade Level: Grade 2

**Program Description:** Students will learn about the different lifecycle patterns of insects, including complete and incomplete metamorphosis. Students will be given the opportunity to practice what they learn about metamorphosis through a lifecycles game. Students will explore different insect and animal habitats in the forest through a scavenger hunt and get hands on experience handling wildlife thru a bug hunt activity.

### Curriculum Links:

- Students will compare invertebrates and identify differences between insects and arachnids (spiders).
- Students will identify different insect habitats.
- Students will determine where different invertebrates fall in the food chain.
- Students will learn how to appropriately handle wildlife.
- Students will learn to work as a team to accomplish a goal.
- Students will learn respect for the group, for the speaker, for their peers, and respect for the environment.
- Students will develop teamwork and communication skills.
- Students will participate in active and engaging outdoor activities.



## Environmental Education Programs:

# Learning the Lands



### Program Location:

Programs can be scheduled at any Park. Common locations include:

Beaver Lake PRA

Gregoire Lake PP

Lakeland PP/PRA

Sir Winston Churchill PP

### Program Cost:

\$2/student

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### Grade Level: Grade 2

**Program Description:** Mountains, rivers, lakes, oh my! Learn about Alberta's many different landforms and how earth's surface has changed over time. Students will learn about Alberta's landform timeline, create their own landforms using sand, and explore the many ways humans and animals impact land through a scavenger hunt.

### Curriculum Links:

- Students will learn about how the Earth changed over time.
- Students will explore the different landforms of Alberta.
- Students will learn about different bodies of water in Alberta.
- Students will learn about how changes of the landscape over time are shared through intergenerational Indigenous stories.
- Students will learn about how human, animal, and plant activities impact landforms.
- Students will learn respect for the group, for the speaker, for their peers, and respect for the environment.
- Students will develop teamwork and communication skills.
- Students will participate in active and engaging outdoor activities.





## Environmental Education Programs:

# Food Chain Fun!



### Program Location:

Programs can be scheduled at any Park. Common locations include:

Beaver Lake PRA

Gregoire Lake PP

Lakeland PP/PRA

Sir Winston Churchill PP

### Program Cost:

\$2/student

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### Grade Level: Grade 3

**Program Description:** Did you know what wolves can change rivers? Learn about how everything in nature is interconnected through food chains! Students will learn about how plants and animals interact with each other based on what they eat. Students will participate in various games and activities that will demonstrate how food chains work. Students will get to explore the forest and look for signs of different animals.

### Curriculum Links:

- Students will learn about all plants and animals are interconnected through food chains.
- Students will investigate how animals are classified based on what they eat and identify herbivores, omnivores, and carnivores.
- Students will develop an understanding of keystone species and how ecosystems are balanced.
- Students will gain an understanding of predator and prey relationships.
- Students will recognize how humans can impact ecosystems and how to take action to protect natural environments around them.
- Students will develop teamwork and communication skills.
- Students will learn respect for the group, for the speaker, for their peers, and respect for the environment.
- Students will participate in active and engaging outdoor activities.



## Environmental Education Programs:

# Layers of History



### Program Location:

Programs can be scheduled at any Park. Common locations include:

Beaver Lake PRA

Gregoire Lake PP

Lakeland PP/PRA

Sir Winston Churchill PP

### Program Cost:

\$2/student

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### Grade Level: Grade 3

**Program Description:** This program will take students back in time to the land of the dinosaurs! Students will participate in a timeline activity where they learn what Alberta looked like and what creatures roamed this province millions of years ago! Students will learn about Alberta's history through activities on fossils and soil layers.

### Curriculum Links:

- Students will learn about the Earth's history and how its surface, and landforms, have evolved over time.
- Students will develop an understanding of how landforms can change, including from plate tectonic movements to human impacts.
- Students will develop an understanding of Alberta's landscape history by analyzing layers of fossils and soil.
- Students will learn about the different layers of soil and how soil can show ecological changes over time.
- Students will develop communication and teamwork skills through group activities.
- Students will develop an appreciation for Alberta's ecosystems and natural history.





## Environmental Education Programs:

# Boreal Forest Plants



### Program Location:

Programs can be scheduled at any Park. Common locations include:

Beaver Lake PRA

Gregoire Lake PP

Lakeland PP/PRA

Sir Winston Churchill PP

### Program Cost:

\$2/student

### Grade Level: Grade 4

**Program Description:** Students will learn the parts of the plant and their functions as well as the needs of the plant and how those needs affect plant growth. Students will become familiar with seed types and the different methods of seed transport through a card game. Students will participate in a scavenger hunt and learn to identify common plants and trees.

### Curriculum Links:

- Students will demonstrate understanding of the importance of plants to humans and their various uses.
- Students will identify the parts of the plant and their functions.
- Students will describe the needs of the plant.
- Students will discover plant propagation techniques and seed transfer mechanisms.
- Students will recognize individual plant communities and how the needs of plant communities differ.
- Students will be able to identify common forest trees and plants.
- Students will identify recyclers in a forest environment.

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## Environmental Education Programs:

# Wetland Discovery



### Program Location:

Programs can be scheduled at any Park. Common locations include:

Beaver Lake PRA

Gregoire Lake PP

Lakeland PP/PRA

Sir Winston Churchill PP

### Program Cost:

\$2/student

### Grade Level: Grade 5

**Program Description:** Students will study biotic and abiotic factors that influence wetland health through observations of wetland sounds and objects. Students will learn about the different types of wetland plants and will discuss a variety of water quality tests. The program wraps up with pond dipping.

### Curriculum Links:

- Students will identify characteristics of a wetland.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of how living and non-living things contribute to environmental health.
- Students learn about water health and quality tests and how they affect wildlife.
- Students demonstrate an understanding of wetland wildlife and their habits.
- Students learn about the function of wetlands and how this impacts their daily lives.
- Students learn about the effects of human actions on wetlands.
- Students learn about wetland conservation and preservation.

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## Environmental Education Programs:

# Trees and Forests



### Program Location:

Programs can be scheduled at any Park. Common locations include:

Beaver Lake PRA

Gregoire Lake PP

Lakeland PP/PRA

Sir Winston Churchill PP

### Program Cost:

\$2/student

### Grade Level: Grade 6

**Program Description:** Students learn the characteristics that define a tree as well as the parts of the tree and their functions. Students will investigate the differences between coniferous and deciduous trees and how to identify them. Students are introduced to the dichotomous key through a card exercise and will be able to identify a number of common trees and plants using the key. The program wraps up with a tree coring and measurement exercise.

### Curriculum Links:

- Students identify the characteristics of a tree and differences between coniferous and deciduous trees.
- Students demonstrate an understanding of the value of forests.
- Students learn to identify common native tree and plant species.
- Students demonstrate an understanding of leaf shapes and patterns.
- Students will identify growth rings and show an understanding of tree growth.

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## Environmental Education Programs:

# Art in the Park



### Program Location:

Programs can be scheduled at any Park.

Common locations include:

Beaver Lake PRA

Gregoire Lake PP

Lakeland PP/PRA

Sir Winston Churchill PP

### Program Cost:

\$2/student

### Grade Level: Any

**Program Description:** Students experience nature through the lens of art and creativity. Students are encouraged to notice the small details of their environment and investigate the nuanced colours of nature. Students will discuss how individuals perceive the same landscape differently and how perception influences art. Students create nature-themed watercolor paintings to take home at the end of the program.

### Curriculum Links:

- Students will explore texture, colour, and shade.
- Students will compose their own artwork in order to tell a story or convey an emotion.
- Allows students to visually record a special event or experience.
- Students are encouraged to express themselves through any method or type of art.
- Students will use colour in impactful and meaningful ways.
- Students will understand how perception influences art.
- Students will learn respect for the group, for the speaker, for their peers, and respect for the environment.

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**Alberta Parks**

***Couldn't find what you're looking for?***

With advance notice, interpreters are happy to create new programs for your class's topic of interest!

Contact us and take learning outdoors with Alberta Parks: call 780-623-7189 or email [jaclyn.denman@gov.ab.ca](mailto:jaclyn.denman@gov.ab.ca).