

Maitland Valley Conservation Authority

IN - SCHOOL CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

The Maitland Valley Conservation Authority brings conservation to you through a series of in-school environmental programs that can be conducted right in your classroom! Choose one of the listed programs or contact Wawanosh Nature Centre staff to alter or combine programs to provide a customized learning experience for your students. All programs are approximately one and a half hours in length to fit into the balanced school day (unless otherwise noted). Programs are best delivered to one class at a time due to their hands-on nature.

Note: In the winter, most activities are conducted in the classroom unless otherwise stated. In the spring and fall, some programs are in the classroom, outdoors or in the gymnasium (if weather unsuitable).

2011-12 PROGRAMS

Animal Groups & Adaptations ~ (K- Gr.2) (Fall/ Winter)

Gr. 1~ characteristics & needs of living things; Gr. 2 ~ growth & changes in animals.

With the use of a stuffed owl, deer antlers, animal furs, butterflies, snake skin and a turtle shell, staff will introduce a variety of animals. We will discuss their life cycles, movement, body covering, special needs for raising their young, habitat and seasonal adaptations.

Animal Habitats & Life Cycles ~ (K- Gr. 2) (Spring only)

Gr. 1~ characteristics & needs of living things; Gr. 2 ~ growth & changes in animals.

Students will participate in activities which help them understand the habitat requirements of animals and the changes in life cycles which occur in spring. Habitats featured will be ponds and streams, fields and forests. Life cycles of frogs and toads, birds and deer will be explored.

Animal & Plant Preparations ~ (K - Gr. 2) (Fall only)

Gr. 1~ characteristics & needs of living things; Gr. 2 ~ growth & changes in animals.

Students will become squirrels hiding their food, migrating butterflies and several other animals as they learn more about animals getting ready for winter. They will role play the process of leaf changes and observe a variety of seeds.

Birds of Your Backyard ~ (Gr. 1-6) (Fall/ Winter)

Gr. 1~ characteristics & needs of living things; Gr. 2 ~ growth & changes in animals; Gr. 3 ~ growth & changes in plants; Gr. 4 ~ habitats; Gr. 6 ~ diversity.

Who are those flying visitors that find your backyard feeders so interesting? We will bring pictures, taped calls and activities to introduce students to the colourful birds that remain in this area during the winter.

Birds of the Field & Forest ~ (Gr. 1-4) (Spring only)

Gr. 1~ characteristics & needs of living things; Gr. 2 ~ growth & changes in animals; Gr. 3 ~ growth & changes in plants (plant & animal interactions); Gr. 4 ~ habitats.

The return of migrating birds heralds the arrival of spring. Using pictures and taped calls, we'll learn to recognize local birds. Students will learn about birds creating nesting territories and finding mates, as well as investigate the styles of nests that various bird species create. ** **Note:** Gr. 2-4 students may use binoculars for part of this hour or for an hour in Part II.

Bird of the Field & Forest Part II ~ (suggested Gr. 2-4) (Spring only)

In the second hour, students will walk to a nearby park or natural area (location determined by teacher), to observe, using binoculars, the birds which make their homes there. Please ensure that you have an appropriate number of adults to help supervise.

Butterflies & Moths ~ (Gr. 2-4) (Year round)

Gr. 2 ~ growth & changes in animals; Gr. 3 ~ growth & changes in plants (plant & animal interactions); Gr. 4 ~ habitats.

Butterfly and moth metamorphosis and adaptations for survival will be examined through displays and games. The program concludes with a Monarch migration activity and a game of survival.

Environmental Games ~ (Gr. 6-8) (Year round)

Gr. 6 ~ biodiversity; Gr. 7 ~ interactions in the environment; Gr. 8 ~ Water Systems.

A series of simulation activities will make the students more aware of the impacts of human activity on animal survival. Chemical pollution, habitat destruction and climate change are featured. ****Program time will be spent in gym****

"Bringing conservation to the classroom"

COST

\$100.00*

1.5 hour session

OR

\$250.00*

For whole day

* HST included in price

- ☺ Programs have been altered to fit into the balanced school day.
- ☺ Mix and match programs for a full day nature experience



BOOKING

- ☺ Contact the MVCA office at (519) 335-3557 between 8:30am & 4:30pm, Monday to Friday or leave us a message.
- ☺ E-mail us at: edolmage@mvca.on.ca

WAWANOSH Nature Centre



To receive seasonal flyers send your name and school name to edolmage@mvca.on.ca

Habitat Games ~ (Gr. 3-4) (Year round)

Gr. 3 ~ soils in the environment, growth & changes in plants; Gr. 4 ~ habitats & communities.

A series of simulation activities will help Gr. 3 students become more aware of the importance of soil interactions (decomposition and soil food webs) as well as plant needs and survival. Gr. 4 students will learn more about the threats that animals face to survive as a result of human activity, chemical pollution, habitat destruction and climate change. ****Program time will be in gym****

Groundwater Bedrock Model ~ (Gr. 3-8) (Year round) ****Indoor Activity****

Gr. 3 ~ soils; Gr. 4 ~ rocks, minerals & erosion; Gr. 5 ~ weather; Gr. 7 ~ interactions in ecosystems; Gr. 8 ~ water systems.

Students will learn about groundwater, how it is used and replenished and the need to protect it from contamination through a cross-sectional model.

Inuit Games ~ (Gr. 2-6) (Winter only)

Gr. 2 ~ Communities around the world; Gr. 3 ~ Aboriginal communities; Gr. 4 & 5 ~ physical activity; Gr. 6 ~ Aboriginal Peoples.

Incorporate these games into your winter carnival activities or study of aboriginal peoples. Traditional Inuit games reflect the skills and physical strength needed to survive the harsh arctic climate. These games are the focus for an examination of Inuit culture and environmental attitudes. More time may be spent on Arctic animals if requested. **** Note: Majority of program outdoors.**

Mammal Skulls & Furs ~ (Gr. 1-7) (Year round)

Gr. 1 ~ characteristics & needs of living things; Gr. 2 ~ growth & changes in animals; Gr. 3 ~ growth & changes in plants; Gr. 4 ~ habitats; Gr. 6 ~ diversity; Gr. 7 ~ interactions in ecosystems.

Students will examine the skulls of five animals from local habitats to identify herbivores, omnivores and carnivores. Approximately 15 complete, tanned skins help students to learn more about the adaptations of these mammals.

Owls & Their Habitats ~ (Gr. 1-4) (Year round)

Gr. 1 ~ characteristics & needs of living things; Gr. 2 ~ growth & changes in animals; Gr. 3 ~ growth & changes in plants; Gr. 4 ~ habitats.

A stuffed great horned owl, feathers, pellets (dissection an option), pictures and recordings are used to help students understand owl adaptations and their role in the ecosystem. This program is presented in the classroom and concludes with a ten-minute food chain game.

Rocks & Minerals ~ (Gr. 3 & 4) (Year round)

Gr. 3 ~ soils in the environment; Gr. 4 ~ rocks & minerals.

Let your students become amateur geologists! Through two hands-on activity centres, students will perform tests on minerals (hardness, lustre, colour & texture) as well as, identify and classify various rocks as either igneous, metamorphic or sedimentary. Students also get to observe minerals and fossils with magnifiers.

Species at Risk in Ontario ~ (Gr. 4-7) (Year round)

Gr. 4 ~ habitats; Gr. 6 ~ diversity; Gr. 7 ~ interactions within ecosystems.

This active program explores why animal species become rare, threatened or endangered. The first half of the time will be used to introduce the students to some of Ontario's species at risk. An active game will conclude the study outdoors (if weather is suitable) or in the gymnasium where students play the role of an endangered animal.

Snowshoeing ~ (Gr. 1-8) (Winter only)

Gr. 1-8 ~ physical activity.

Staff will bring snowshoes to your school and take the students on a hike around the school yard or a nearby park. Snowshoe rental fee is \$1.50 per person, including HST. Please contact staff for program rates (ie. One staff vs. two; half day vs. full day). ****Programs are one hour in length****

Water Cycle ~ (Gr. 2 & 5) (Year round)

Gr. 2 ~ water cycle; Gr. 5 ~ weather.

In an active game setting, students travel through the water cycle. Along the way they encounter pollution and learn about actions that can prevent pollution. Gr. 5 incorporates changes of state experiments.

Water Pollution & Erosion ~ (Gr. 2-5) (Year round)

Gr. 2 ~ air & water; Gr. 3 ~ soils in the environment; Gr. 4 ~ rocks, minerals, erosion; Gr. 5 ~ weather.

Students participate by building a watershed on the Enviroscape Model then view the resulting effects of pollution on lakes and streams. This program incorporates the concepts of the water cycle, erosion and the causes/prevention of pollution.

MAITLAND VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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