

Wetland Wonders

Grade K-12

What's in our water? Learn about the importance of the Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary wetland ecosystem and the creatures that call it home. This program allows participants to explore the cultural significance of water and wetlands for the Interior Salish people and participate in a guided pond dip from shore, learning how to identify organisms that live in the lake.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Learning about the significance of wetland ecosystems and water for the Interior Salish people. Listen to stories shared by Interior Salish people. [20 min]
- A walk by Swan Lake to observe the wetland. [10 min]
- A guided pond dip to identify organisms that live in Swan Lake. [30 min]

This program occurs entirely outdoors. Please dress appropriately for any weather that may occur.

PROGRAM THEMES

- Learn about how all living and non-living things in the Nature Sanctuary rely on the lake
- Get a hands-on experience collecting and examining their own samples in an ethical and curiosity-driven manner
- Recognize that human behaviour and animal health are intrinsically related
- Brainstorm some ways we can be better stewards of our ecosystems
- The Nature Sanctuary supports so much biodiversity because of the health of the lake
- Negative impacts to the lake have a trickle-down impact on the health of the entire sanctuary

SAMPLE CURRICULAR CONNECTIONS

Science:

- Kindergarten - Plants and animals have observable features.
- Kindergarten - Daily and seasonal changes affect all living things.
- Grade 1 - Living things have features and behaviours that help them survive in their environment.
- Grade 2 - Living things have life cycles adapted to their environment.
- Grade 2 - Water is essential to all living things, and it cycles through the environment.
- Grade 3 - Living things are diverse, can be grouped, and interact in their ecosystems.

- Grade 4 - All living things sense and respond to their environment.
- Grade 5 - Multicellular organisms have organ systems that enable them to survive and interact within their environment.
- Grade 6 - Multicellular organisms rely on internal systems to survive, reproduce, and interact with their environment.
- Grade 7 - Evolution by natural selection provides an explanation for the diversity and survival of living things.
- Grade 8 - Photosynthesis and cellular respiration
- Grade 9 – The biosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere are interconnected, as matter cycles and energy flows through them
- Grade 10 - Mechanisms for the diversity of life:
- Environmental Science 11 - Complex roles and relationships contribute to diversity of ecosystems
- Environmental Science 11 - Humans can play a role in stewardship and restoration of ecosystems.
- Science for Citizens 11 – Scientific understanding enables humans to respond and adapt to changes locally and globally
- Science for Citizens 12 - Human actions affect the quality of water and its ability to sustain life