

About Our Programs

The Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority offers a range of quality curriculum based environmental education programs to classroom teachers and their students. This booklet provides a description of our current programs. If you don't see what you are looking for, please ask us, we'll do our best to accommodate you!

Booking Instructions

Our conservation education programs can be booked at any time by calling Brenda Graham of the CRCA at (613) 923-1526 or by e-mailing edmjwa@gmail.com.

Please leave a detailed message including your name, school, grade, class size, proposed dates and choice of program. We will confirm either by phone or e-mail and then also in writing. Note the dates of availability for each program.

Biodiversity Bonanza:

Birds, Insects or Mammals (Grade 6)

Science & Technology - fall, winter, spring

Your class will experience a visual presentation and an opportunity to get up close and personal to animal skulls **or other animal specimens depending on the chosen focus.**



Through various outdoor activities, students will come away with an understanding of basic classification systems and the importance of the biodiversity of animals. Your students will also leave feeling better connected and ready to act in ways to help protect the biodiversity around us.

Biosphere Hike (Grades 4-6)

Science & Technology
The Thousand Islands-Brockville-Kingston area has been designated the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO. Come on a guided hike and discover what a biosphere is and some of the unique features of this area. Caring for nature and the proper use of outdoor areas are stressed.



Ecosystem Interactions (Grade 7)

Students will be introduced to the importance of ecosystems and define such terms as biotic, abiotic, niche and the levels within the food chains. Through a dip-netting activity in a marsh ecosystem, they will examine examples of consumers and producers. Within a forest ecosystem, by role-playing in a game, students will experience the needs of animals and the impacts of limiting factors. Students will leave with a better understanding of their connections to ecosystems and the positive impacts they as humans within them.

Home Sweet Home (Grade 4)

Science & Technology - fall, winter, spring



Through role-playing either a plant or an animal, each student explores marsh, field, and forest habitats in this program developed by the Institute for Earth Education. Students are introduced to the basic needs of the plant or animal they become, why they are important, and some interesting facts about their adaptations. This habitat exploration wraps up with an exciting dramatized twist where students apply information learned.

Instincts for Survival (Grades 4-8)

Science & Technology

In this simulation game, students assume the role of a local mammal. Biological concepts such as predation, competition, food webs, reproduction, and conservation are taught in a fun manner.

Orienteering - Part 1 (Map Reading)

(Grades 4-8) Social Studies, Geography & Physical Education.

The emphasis in this program is upon map reading skill. Students will be taken through a progression that includes memory, line and score orienteering.



Orienteering - Part 2 (Compass)

(Grades 4-8) Social Studies, Geography & Physical Education.

Students will be introduced to the orienteering compass, learn to take a bearing and to follow a bearing to find a given point. Through games and activities, students will practise compass skills. Students already familiar with the orienteering compass will be chal-

lenged to use their knowledge along with map reading to follow a demanding course.

Pond Community (Grades 4-6)

Science & Technology

This program allows the students to examine the inter-relationship between non-living things, the biodiversity of plants and animals in a pond habitat. With the activities in this study, we hope to develop a respect for life, an awareness of the interdependence of living things and an understanding of pond food chains.

Secrets of Succession (Grade 7)

Science & Technology

Students will visit three areas where secondary succession is evident; a pond environment, a meadow, and a forest clearing and observe the succession of new plant life in these environments. They will sample and record the succession of new plant life in one of these environments. Students will also observe an example of primary succession of lichens and mosses on glacial boulders, and the example of bio-invasion of purple loosestrife in the wetland.

Snowshoeing (Grades 4-8)

Physical Education



This program involves a brief classroom introduction to snowshoe construction and styles used by First Nations peoples. This is followed by a practical session on basic snowshoeing skills and a cross-country trek to gain an appreciation of the winter environment.

Wet & Wild Water Systems (Grade 8)

Science & Technology - fall, winter, spring

Students will become familiar with the use and importance of water within the watershed they live in. Students assess the health and pollution level of the pond through sampling the living organisms present and testing water samples. Through water activities, a game, and outdoor exploration, students will leave with a greater awareness of human impacts on water.

We also offer Home School, Primary and Secondary programs visit cra.ca/education for details.

Program Dates & Fees

- **Fall** - September 19 to December 2, 2016
The last date for Pond Water Ecology program is October 7, 2016
- **Winter** - January 16 to February 24, 2017
- **Spring** - April 10 to June 16, 2017
The first date for Pond Water Ecology program is May 8, 2017

Cancellation

A minimum of seven (7) working days notice is required for cancellation to allow us time to contact groups from our waiting list. If the CRCA is notified of the cancellation less than seven (7) working days in advance of the scheduled visit, a cancellation fee of \$30.00 will be charged. Education staff will contact your school by 7:30 a.m. if we need to cancel due to severe weather. There will be no charge for a cancellation made due to severe weather conditions. If you have any questions please call Brenda Graham at (613) 923-1526.

Location

Programs take place at Mac Johnson Wildlife Area (7 km north of Hwy. 401 in Brockville on Debruge Road).

Times

All regular programs are two hours in length and are available both mornings and afternoons. Start and end times are flexible to adapt to busing schedules. We encourage full day visits so you and your class can take in two education programs or journey on your own through the Conservation Area.

Fees

- \$6.00 per student attending for all regular half day programs. A minimum fee of \$100.00 applies to all groups.
- Please bring cash or a cheque made payable to the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority on the day of your visit. **Cancellation fee is \$30.00**

Acknowledgments

The Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority would like to thank the CATARAQUI CONSERVATION FOUNDATION for their generous contributions to the cost of operating our education programs.

Please consider becoming a Foundation supporter or making a donation to the *Partners in Outdoor Education* fund.

For more information call (613) 546-4228 ext. 221 or 1-877-956-CRCA (2722) ext. 221.

Visit the Foundation page on the CRCA website at www.crca.ca/foundation



CATARAQUI CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION

We believe that instilling awe and respect for the natural environment today leads to a conservation ethic in decision-making for tomorrow.

Make a Day of It!

Combine your program with other great activities for a terrific day in the outdoors. Or do your own education program. Our education staff would be pleased to provide you with program ideas. Mac Johnson Wildlife Area has a variety of habitats including wetland, field and forest.

There are also great recreation facilities including picnic areas, an 11 km trail system and a skating rink on the pond during the winter. There is a warming hut, a bonfire pit and washrooms located beside the reservoir and parking lot. The entrance fee for groups to use our facilities is \$2.00 per person.

You must make a group booking to use our facilities by calling (613) 345-1990.

To book an education program, please call (613) 923-1526.

CRCA JR & Intermediate Outdoor & Environmental Education Programs 2016-2017

at
Mac Johnson Wildlife Area - Brockville



CATARAQUI REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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Toll-free (613 area code):
1-877-956-CRCA (2722)

For bookings: call Brenda Graham at
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