



## Outdoor Environmental Education Programs for Elementary Schools

### **Program Guide & Booking Information**

Dundas Valley Conservation Area

Contact us at:

[hcaenved@conservationhamilton.ca](mailto:hcaenved@conservationhamilton.ca)

905-690-3371

Connect your class with the outdoors through year-round outdoor environmental education programs offered by the Hamilton Conservation Authority in affiliation with the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board.



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAMS BOOKING INFORMATION



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### PROGRAM INFORMATION

- Program day is typically 9:30-2:00, with a half hour lunch break mid-day (supervised by teacher).
- Program length and time can be adapted to suit your group's scheduling requirements.
- We can accommodate two classes per day with a maximum of 55 students in total.
- Programs are connected to the Ontario Science Curriculum.
- The majority of the program time is spent outdoors, weather depending.
- While we make every effort to accommodate students with special needs it is not always possible given our rugged terrain.
- Please ensure that all your students are dressed properly for an outdoor program, proper outdoor footwear like running shoes, hiking boots or other closed toed shoes is essential. Students that arrive without proper outdoor gear may not be permitted to participate in outdoor activities.
- Our staff are enthusiastic Naturalists who are excited to share their knowledge and appreciation for the natural world with you and your students.

### PROGRAM LOCATION

Dundas Valley Conservation Area - 650 Governors Road, Dundas, Ontario

### PROGRAM COST

The Environmental Education Program Fees for HWDSB schools are covered by the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board in partnership with the Hamilton Conservation Foundation. Trip days are allocated out to schools by the HWDSB. Please check with your principal to see if your school has an allotted trip day available for you to use this school year.

### TRANSPORTATION

Schools are required to make their own transportation arrangements.

### INCLEMENT WEATHER

- During inclement weather programs will be modified with a greater portion of the programs conducted indoors.
- All programs continue rain or shine. In extreme weather schools will be notified in advance to make alternative arrangements and re-schedule the date.
- Program participants are expected to dress appropriately for the weather and outside conditions.

### BOOKING PROCEDURE

To arrange a booking please complete the Booking Request Form and return it by email to [hcaenvd@conservationhamilton.ca](mailto:hcaenvd@conservationhamilton.ca)

Teachers will be emailed a **Booking Confirmation Letter and Pre-Trip Preparation Information** with all the details pertaining to the field trip once a trip date has been finalized.



## BOOKING REQUEST FORM HWDSB ELEMENTARY



### OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FIELD TRIPS

**Submit completed form to:**  
[hcaenvd@conservationhamilton.ca](mailto:hcaenvd@conservationhamilton.ca)

**Note:** Please fill out a separate booking request form for each trip day you would like to book.

<b>SCHOOL NAME</b>			
<b>SCHOOL ADDRESS</b>			
<b>SCHOOL PHONE &amp; EXTENSION</b>			
<b>CONTACT TEACHER NAME</b>			
<b>CONTACT TEACHER EMAIL</b>			
<b>CONTACT TEACHER PHONE</b>			
	<b>Class A</b>	<b>Class B</b>	
<b>TEACHER NAME</b>			
<b>GRADE(S)</b>			
<b>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</b>			
<b>PROGRAM CHOICE</b>			
<b>DATE OPTIONS</b>	Option #1	Option #2	Option #3
<b>MOBILITY CONSIDERATIONS</b> Our terrain is quite hilly and rugged. Please let us know of any students that use a wheelchair, walker or have any other mobility challenges so that we may do our best to accommodate when planning your program.			
<b>OTHER ACCESIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS</b> Please let us know of any other information about that we should consider when planning for your program.			



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAMS PROGRAM GUIDE

Each program contains hands-on exploration, nature walks, and games connected to the local ecology.

### **Kindergarten:**

Sherlock the Squirrel is planning a party for his forest friends and he needs your help! Students will be guided through a variety of activities that combine imaginative play and hands-on exploration, discovering what can be found in the Dundas Valley as they prepare for Sherlock's guests to arrive.

### **Grade 1: Needs and Characteristics of Living Things**

Discover the plants and animals that live within the Dundas Valley and observe how this area provides the basic needs for these living things. Through games and exploration students will also learn more about our local wildlife and how some of these living things adapt to our seasonal changes.

### **Grade 2: Growth and Changes in Animals**

Explore the Dundas Valley in search of the insects, birds, mammals, and other wildlife that call this place home. Through games and discovery students will also learn more about various animal characteristics, life cycles, and adaptations.

*Note: This program is available with French language components, upon request.*

### **Grade 3: Growth and Changes in Plants**

Discover the many different trees, wildflowers, and ferns that can be found in the Dundas Valley and observe some of the ways these plants change throughout their life cycle! Through games and exploration students will also learn more about how plants and animals depend on one another.

### **Grade 4: Habitats and Communities**

Discover some of the different habitats found in Dundas Valley and investigate what plants and animals are part of this forest community. Through games and exploration students will also learn more about food chains and predator-prey relationships.

### **Grade 6: Biodiversity**

Explore the diversity of habitats found within Dundas Valley and discover the many living things that can be found in these habitats, with a focus on an incredibly biodiverse group of animals—invertebrates! Students will also learn more about the impact of invasive species and the biodiversity of this area through a variety of games.

### **Grade 7: Interactions in the Environment**

Participate in an ecosystem survey to discover what producers, consumers, and decomposers can be found in the Dundas Valley and learn about how they interact with one another. Students will further reinforce these concepts through games including Survival of the Fittest.

### **Grade 8: Water Systems**

Explore the water systems of the Dundas Valley. Students will learn about the Hamilton watershed, the role that the conservation authority plays in monitoring it, and how human activity can impact the health of our watershed.

Had something else in mind? Reach out and we will see what we can do.