



Killarney-Shebanoning Outdoor
Environmental Education Centre

A Natural Place for Learning

Current Programs

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Pond Ecosystems & Freshwater Ecology

In this program, students explore the many wacky water critters that live in and around local aquatic ecosystems. Students learn about various characteristics, life cycles and the roles certain aquatic animals have in the ecosystem. Students will become field researchers for the day as they use nets, magnifying viewers and microscopes to examine the creatures that are captured, studied, classified, and released. Water Quality testing can be completed by advanced groups.

Decomposition Mission

In this program, students investigate the fascinating and complex process of decomposition. Through exploration and discussion, students will discover key characteristics of decomposing wood and leaves. Students will learn about the various processes that contribute to decomposition and its role in the cycling of matter. Students will be challenged to recognize and find evidence of different stages of decomposition as they explore the ecosystem.

Hikin for Lichen

Is it fungi, is it algae, what is this stuff? Through an inquiry process, students will observe and explore this 'stuff' that grows on trees and rocks. Eventually, they will learn that it is lichen and use hand lenses and identification cards to identify 3 different types. Students will also search for evidence of succession as a result of lichen. After this program, students will continue their exploration, as they will notice lichen wherever they go.

Interactions in the Environment

Everything in nature is connected! This program allows students to get down and dirty while exploring the biotic and abiotic components of the ecosystem. Various characteristics and life cycles of a terrestrial ecosystem are studied, while food chains and food webs are constructed. Students will use guidebooks and field equipment to identify and make predictions about the interactions taking place in the ecosystem. Discussions and games to promote sustainability and respect for the environment will be included throughout the program to ensure the students are learning and having fun.

Trees, Trees & more Trees

Forests are forever...if we use them wisely. This program will examine how we use and manage our forests for a number of purposes. Students will have the opportunity to examine the various parts of a tree and the life of a tree. Students will learn how to identify local trees using a dichotomous key before entering the forest to find clues to help them solve a treerific puzzle!

ADVENTURE, FUN & GAMES

Acting Wild - Nature Games and Activities

Have your students ever acted a little wild? In this program students take part in various nature-based games and activities to learn about concepts of ecology and interactions among living things. Students will have to think and act like animals as they forage the forest for food, water, shelter and space. Discussions before and after each activity allow students to gain an understanding and appreciation for the concepts covered in this program.

Group Dynamics & Team Building

Through a series of strategic team building activities, small groups will be given outdoor challenges which promote trust, interpersonal skills, conflict resolution, problem solving and the importance of participation. This program is action-packed and full of fun.

Low Ropes Challenge

Our low ropes course offers students a number of challenges, each becoming more complex. Students challenge themselves physically and emotionally as they work individually and as a team to complete various tasks on the course. Themes of co-operation, trust and problem solving are all emphasized. Are you up for the challenge?

Walk on the Wild Side (Nature Hike)

Rugged coastlines, marshes, forests, and billion year old rock ridges are a few of the breathtaking features that await the students as they explore the landscape of Killarney. "Project Wild" and other activities are included during the hike. Programs can be adapted to meet the needs of most curricula, while on the trail... let us know what you have in mind and we will tailor the hike to suit your needs. Full day picnic-lunch trips to Killarney's majestic lookouts are also available.

Orienteering

Where are you going? This active outdoor program introduces students to map interpretation and compass skills. Upon completion, the students will be able to orient a map and accurately locate objects and places on it. Students also learn to design and draw simple maps. Our property includes a basic and advanced orienteering course as well as an orienteering frisbee golf course.

Wilderness Survival

Have you ever been lost in the forest and didn't know what to do? In this hands-on program students will learn how to be prepared for a wilderness survival situation. Students will explore the 7 basic needs for human survival and how to meet these needs if found in a survival situation. Critical thinking and teamwork skills will be an asset during a survival scenario where students will build shelters and fires. Can you survive?

Camping Skills

This open-ended program can be designed with various modules that appeal to the goals of the teacher. It may include trip planning considerations, fire-building (traditional and modern methods), site selection and tent pitching, shelter building, menu planning and food storage, food preparation on camp-stoves and/or campfires, and basic wilderness first aid skills. This program can be adapted to the seasons, and to the level of challenge needed for various age groups

Artists of the North

Get some natural inspiration! This program involves a short hike and has students taking part in various nature-based sensory activities to get connected with the natural environment. Painting workshops are then conducted 'en plein air' overlooking the beautiful Georgian Bay shore line or Killarney's LaCloche Mountains.

Have your students learn from a local... Special painting workshops with local, professional artists are also available.

Indigenous Teachings

Have you ever used a tipi as a classroom, started your day with a smudge ceremony, cooked bannock over an open fire, or taken part in a pipe ceremony? This is all possible with the Biindigen Biimaadiziwin (Welcoming all of Life) programs at the Killarney-Shebanoning Outdoor Environmental Education Centre. Students have a great opportunity to learn first hand from our First Nations Elders and instructors. Through various programs and teachings, students learn about First Nation's traditional ways of life and ideologies, including the close connection to and respect for the natural world.

Choose Your Own Adventure

Do you have an outdoor education idea for your class? We are open to suggestions and are willing to work with you to plan a unique program for your students. The options are endless!

Contact us for more details

Visit: <http://outdoored.sudburycatholicschools.ca>

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