



the BC Spaces for Nature Wilderness Education Program

NATURE IS OUR CLASSROOM!



Topic

GETTING TO KNOW OUR REGIONAL PARKS WITH WildED

Overview

What do salmon, wildlife, First Nations, rivers, drinking water, rainforests, wetlands, and recreation all share in common? They are all part of the amazing story of our Regional Parks! Join WildED on an outdoor adventure as we experience the wonder and living lessons offered by our Regional Parks, making personal connections to special places and diverse species.

Inspired by the natural wonders found in Metro Vancouver Regional Parks, as well as Robert Bateman's *Get to Know* interactive CD, WildED's newest curriculum-linked program, is sure to build upon and strengthen learning opportunities in our outdoor classroom.

Utilizing both in-class and regional park settings, students will be introduced to park specific learning themes to build on prior knowledge and strengthen their understanding of ecological concepts. Students will also learn about opportunities to become involved in actual hands-on park stewardship programs.

Programs are available in four Metro Vancouver Regional Parks. Which park will you Get to Know?

Pacific Spirit - *Story of the Forest*

What stories can a forest tell us? In Pacific Spirit Regional Park they are many and varied. Exploring the lush temperate rainforest students learn about the human and natural history of one of Metro Vancouver's most beloved parks. From the early history of the Musqueam peoples to present day, students appreciate the ecological and social elements that have shaped the park and the diverse user groups that call it home.

Capilano River - *The River Runs Through It*

What do salmon, drinking water, rainforests, recreation and the Squamish Nation share in common? The Capilano River system begins its journey to the Pacific 32 kilometers north of the park at its namesake mountain. In the spectacular and dramatic river canyon, students embark on their own journey to understand the relationship between human and other species reliant on this precious natural resource. Weaving between the natural and built environments such as the Cleveland Dam and Capilano Hatchery, students also gain an understanding of the complexity of resource and park management issues.

Burnaby Lake - *Urban Oasis*

Over 12,000 years ago retreating glaciers created this aquatic wildlife sanctuary situated in the heart of Burnaby. Here, students will learn about the changes and challenges this park and its wild inhabitants have endured and how they continue to thrive. Paying special attention to birds and wetlands, this program highlights this special and invaluable habitat.

Tynehead - *The Serpent and the Salmon*

Comprised of 260 hectares of rolling meadow and forest on the banks of the Serpentine River, Tynehead Park is a wildlife refuge in a growing urban community. Students learn about the various BC species of this riparian ecosystem and explore the concept of nature as a resource from forestry to fish enhancement. The importance of waterways and greenways is also a key learning theme.

* A free copy of Robert Bateman's *Get to Know* interactive CD-ROM will be provided to participating schools in the following school districts: Coquitlam, Delta, North Vancouver, Surrey, Vancouver, and West Vancouver. Use this informative resource to bridge learning from the classroom to the park or act as a fun follow-up activity.

Learn more at www.gettoknow.ca

Links to Learning Outcomes

Subject: Physical Education (Grades 4-12)

- Participate in physical activities in a variety of settings
- Develop personal fitness and a healthy lifestyle
- Describe the impact of physical activities on the environment
- Learn and demonstrate safe and responsible behavior in a variety of physical activities

Subject: Science (Grades 4-10)

- Structures and behaviors of local animals and plants
- Habitats and communities, food chains
- Aboriginal perspectives on the environment
- Personal choices and environmental consequences
- BC's living and non-living resources
- The five kingdoms: Plantae, Animalia, Monera, Protista, Fungi
- Food webs, populations, communities, and ecosystems
- Interactions between organisms and the environment, adaptations
- Sustaining healthy local ecosystems and evaluating human impacts
- Characteristics of living things
- Relationships and patterns of change in living things
- Recognition and description of landscape formation and change

Subject: Social Studies (Grades 4-10)

- Use of maps and aerial photos to gather and represent information
- Aboriginal relationships with the land and natural resources
- Interpretation of physical features of BC and locations of natural resources
- Critical thinking skills applied to a local or global problem or issue
- Physiographic regions and natural processes
- Stewardship and sustainability

Subject: Biology 11

- Inter-relationships of organisms within an ecosystem
- Algae, mosses, and ferns

Subject: Earth Science 11

- Rock and mineral features and locations
- Landscape formation, features, weathering and erosion

Subject: Resource Science - Forests 11 & 12

- Forests and Society
- Forest Ecology
- Plants, Trees and Animals of BC
- Land Use Planning
- Forest Management
- Management Perspectives
- Forest Ecology
- Insects and Diseases

Subject: Sustainable Resources 11 & 12

- Agriculture, fisheries, forestry and mining

Subject: Geography 12

- Tectonic Processes
- Climate
- Biomes
- Resource Management and Sustainability

Subject: BC First Nations Studies 12

- Relationships with natural world
- Traditional education with respect to land

Subject: Geology 12

- Earth materials
- Internal Processes and Plate Tectonic theory
- Surface Processes and the Hydrosphere

Actual lesson plans can vary according to group age, size, time constraints, and by request.