

Preschool & Kindergarten Programs

Life Systems: Wetlands, Gardens & Indoors

All of the following workshops fall under the Science and Technology portion of the Ontario School Kindergarten curriculum and are designed to meet both overall and specific expectations as outlined by the ministry.

Workshops Available for: Fall/Winter

Who's Preparing for Winter

It's starting to get cold outside. Come to our centre and discover how animals and plants prepare for winter while we take a walk out in our arboretum and gardens. In this workshop, you will learn about hibernation, how animals protect themselves from the cold and what happens to the insects in the winter.

Treasures of Nature

It's beginning to look like fall outside. Come along on a nature adventure as we take a walk through our arboretum and gardens. In this workshop we will look for signs of fall while collecting natural shapes, textures and colours of nature items that we find during our walk. Then we will create a 2-dimensional mosaic to take home to remind us of all of the things that happen in nature during the fall.

Seasonal Celebrations in Nature

As we get closer to December, come to our centre and learn why evergreen trees are such important symbols for the holidays. In this workshop, you will learn about what animals live in and around these trees and why they choose to live there. We will talk about how the trees keep them safe and protected from the cold and the snow through reading a story and through exploration of our arboretum. Then the children will make a special gift for the animals that live in the trees and make a little craft to take home to help celebrate the holidays.

For all of these workshops you can expect....

- Outdoor exploration of our arboretum, stream, insect gardens and wetland pond.
- The children will have a greater visual understanding about the animals and insects that live in the world around them.
- Students will learn how animals and insects prepare for the changing seasons.
- The majority of these workshops take place outside so please dress appropriately according to the current weather conditions.

Workshops Available for: Spring/Summer

It's a Bug's Life

Spring has sprung! Let's get outside and go exploring for bugs in our butterfly and insect gardens. In this workshop, you will learn about which bugs are beneficial to our gardens and which bugs can harm the plants that we are growing in our gardens.

Wiggly Worms

Let's get ready to wiggle. In this workshop, you will discover a worm's characteristics by examining real live worms. We will also create a worm habitat and learn why worms are one of nature's topsoil scientists. Come and see why worms are a very important part of our ecosystem.

For the Birds

Let's go bird watching as we take a walk through our arboretum. In this workshop, you will discover the beauty of our backyard birds as we explore our arboretum and gardens in search of our feathery friends. You will also learn about what birds need in terms of food and shelter.

For all of these workshops you can expect....

- Outdoor exploration in our arboretum, stream, insect gardens and wetland pond.
- The children will have a greater visual understanding about the animals and insects that live in the world around them.
- The children will learn about the different animal and insect habitats that are in their neighbourhood.
- The majority of these workshops take place outside so please dress appropriately according to the current weather conditions.

The Arts

All of the following workshops fall under the Arts portion of the Ontario School Kindergarten curriculum and are designed to meet both overall and specific expectations as outlined by the ministry.

In the Spotlight

Are you ready to get moving? In this workshop, you will learn how to use your body to perform actions and express yourself in this high-energy workshop. We will learn some stretching exercises and explore what sounds make us want to move and dance. We will also use our facial expressions and our voices to show how we feel and create some musical instruments. Then we will get all dressed up in some costumes and have some fun dancing with our instruments.

For this workshop you can expect:

- Children will learn some stretching exercises and learn what types of music make them want to move and dance.
- Dressing up in different costumes.
- Creating musical instruments to use with their costumes.

Dinosaurs

All of the following workshops fall under the Science and Technology portion of the Ontario School Kindergarten curriculum and are designed to meet both overall and specific expectations as outlined by the ministry.

Digging for Dinosaurs

Let's explore the world of herbivores and carnivores that once roamed the planet millions of years ago. In this workshop you will learn about some of the many different types of dinosaurs as well as discuss how fossils are made and look at some real fossils. Then you will become an Official Paleontologist as we uncover fossils in our very own dinosaur dig. This workshop is

designed to give children a greater understanding of the dinosaur era by providing them with a chance to see life size dinosaur replicas and fossils.

For this workshop you can expect:

- A Painting craft.
- Hands on Exploration of our dinosaur gallery.
- That the dinosaur gallery is inside of a greenhouse and therefore when it is cold outside, it is cold inside and when it is hot outside, it is hot inside so please dress according to the current weather conditions.

Life Systems: Indoor Activities

All of the following workshops fall under the Science and Technology portion of the Ontario School curriculum and are designed to meet both overall and specific expectations as outlined by the ministry.

No Bones About It!

Grow an appreciation for the foundation of our bodies: which are our bones. In this workshop, you will learn how we can build stronger bones by being active and eating healthy. You will also learn that Healthy Bones = Strong Bodies and how we can keep our bones healthy and strong.

Germs, Germs Go Away

Eww, Germs! Gross! In this workshop we will investigate the world of germs as we learn how they travel and multiply. You will learn what germs are, what they look like and where we find germs. You will also learn some ways to protect yourself from germs and the spread of bacteria.

Seed to Table

Where does our food come from? In this workshop, come and explore our gallery while learning how little tiny seeds grow and become the food in our grocery stores and on our tables. Then plant some seeds of your own to take home

For these workshops you can expect:

- Physical Activity
- Messy crafts
- Sticky and Messy Activities.
- Hands on exploration of our galleries.