GET THEM OUTSIDE!

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIELD TRIP GUIDE
Inspire Students
Through Exploration with TRCA

With over 60 years of experience in environmental conservation and education, Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) aims to foster sustainable citizenship through our educational and community-based programming at our sites and facilities throughout the GTA. Our vision of Building The Living City® is a new kind of community where human settlements can flourish forever as part of nature’s beauty and diversity.

TRCA education provides hands-on learning opportunities for classes of all grades in relevant, authentic and local environments in the areas of nature, ecology and cultural heritage. By incorporating these experiences into education, students are encouraged to better understand environmental, sustainability and urban issues, as well as create a stronger sense of place.

Our environmental and educational professionals deliver exceptional curriculum-linked programming at our premier facilities and sites, and in combination with our vision for The Living City, this makes TRCA the ideal one-stop-shop for Ontario educators’ outdoor, environmental, geography, science and cultural heritage needs.

This guide contains a sample of TRCA’s valuable and exciting educational programs.
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GRADE AND CURRICULUM LINKS

The following symbols will make it easy to select the right programs to fit your classroom needs and achieve your curriculum objectives. Look for them next to the program descriptions.

- The Arts
- Language
- Seasonal/Specialty Program
- Geography
- Physical Education
- Local, Outdoor Environment Required
- History
- Science & Technology
- Social Studies (K-6)
- Mathematics

1
FIELD TRIP PLANNING MADE EASY!

1 Use it! The sample itineraries on pages 18 and 33 give you an idea of how to maximize your field trip experience. We also have a helpful regional map on pages 16 and 17 to outline which TRCA facility is most convenient for you!

2 Choose it! You will find grade & curriculum links listed next to each program. When multiple grades are listed, this indicates that the program will be adapted to fit the specific needs and curriculum of your classroom. This guide presents only a sample of our most popular programs. Additional programming is available for all sites at www.trca-education.ca.

3 Plan it! Consult with your school calendar and use the planning tips and templates on pages 32 through 35 to help structure, organize and customize your field trip.

4 Book it! Reach us at any of the points listed below to confirm your field trip!

PHONE
416-667-6295
Monday–Friday, 8:30am–4:30pm

EMAIL
customerservice@trca.ca

WEB
www.trca.ca/learning

ONLINE BOOKING (Day Visits)
trca.ca/learning/day-visits
Toronto and Region Conservation’s (TRCA) educational facilities at Kortright Centre for Conservation and Black Creek Pioneer Village specialize in delivering exciting, curriculum-linked, outdoor, environmental, cultural and historical programs in authentic environments. TRCA is also proud to bring nature education right to your classroom through our Outreach Education programs. Tailored for all age groups including ECE, primary, junior and intermediate classes, teachers will find the perfect field trip to complement their classroom at any of our premier educational facilities.

Single-day field trips are available at:

BLACK CREEK PIONEER VILLAGE
KORTRIGHT CENTRE FOR CONSERVATION
TOMMY THOMPSON PARK
YOUR SCHOOL (led by TRCA’s Outreach Education Team)
Winter Programming
at Black Creek Pioneer Village

For some winter fun, bring your class to Black Creek Pioneer Village!

BACK TO SCHOOL • PARLOUR PLAY TIME
PIioneer LIFE • PIioneer PIURSUITS

All winter programming is available January to April, weather permitting.
BLACK CREEK PIONEER VILLAGE

Bring lessons to life, nurture curiosity and help develop a love of learning with a class trip to a living example of a typical 1800’s Ontario crossroads community. Black Creek Pioneer Village provides unique and authentic experiences for your students.
SENSORY ADVENTURES Pre-school to Grade 1

Students let their five senses guide them on a sensory journey through the Village. From meeting our farm animals and feeling sheep’s wool as you try your hand at carding to smelling freshly baked bread and tasting a delicious historic treat, this program promises to be an exciting Sensory Adventure not to be missed!

Duration: Half day (1.75 hours)
Available: May to mid-November

CHRISTMAS PAST Pre-school to Grade 8

A special Christmas experience awaits students as they learn about the traditions and celebrations of the different cultures that make up the Village. Enjoy the plentiful and festive displays of Scottish, Irish, British and German-Pennsylvanian winter influences. Get into the holiday spirit by helping to make a traditional Christmas craft, try on pioneer winter clothes and play with Victorian Christmas toys!

Duration: Half day (1.75 hours)
Available: Mid-November to December

YESTERDAY’S CHILD Grade 1 and 3

Imagine being a child over 150 years ago! Help students relate to the lives of early settler children by comparing and contrasting through activities like trying on period clothing, practicing chores around the farm and trying their hand at 19th-century trades. Students may also learn how a doctor would make you feel better (or not) and experience toys and games from the 1860’s!

Duration: Half day (1.75 hours)
Available: May to mid-November

BACK TO SCHOOL Grade 2 and 3

Spend some time in our 1860s schoolhouse where students are encouraged to understand the experience of early settlers by assuming the identities of children from a typical period community. A costumed school teacher leads the class through a variety of activities, including working on a slate, participating in a spelling bee, playing 19th-century games and practicing the 3Rs.

Back to School is a half day program providing exclusive use of the school house. It is recommended that you extend the program to a full day, providing students a half-day guided tour of the rest of the Village.

Duration: Half day (1.75 hours) or full day (3.5 hours)
Available: January to April (full day recommended)
**FARM LIFE** Grade 2 to 6

Experience Black Creek Pioneer Village’s curriculum-linked and hands-on Farm Life program! The Village sets the tone for students as they grind grain in a quern, winnow wheat by hand and machine, plant seeds to take home, explore heritage gardens, investigate and examine artifacts and enjoy fresh bread and butter!

Duration: Half day (1.75 hours)  
Available: May to mid-November

**PIioneer Pursuits** Grade 2 to 8

Get active and learn how various groups contributed to our Canadian identity through sport and leisure pursuits. Students snow shoe (*weather permitting*), play traditional outdoor games, and learn and perform three Victorian dances. Compare and contrast nineteenth century social life with that of today in this cross-curricular program.

Duration: Full day (3.5 hours)  
Available: January to April

**Pioneer Life** Grade 3

Our authentic, heritage log house provides the perfect setting for students to get a taste of pioneer life! Hands-on tasks include cooking on a real wood stove, churning and preparing butter, carding wool and using a spinning wheel. A visit to our workshop offers opportunities to try woodworking and weaving on a barn loom. This program concludes with a 90-minute tour of the historic village.

Duration: Full day (3.5 hours)  
Available: January to April

**Rebellion of 1837 Revisited** Grade 7 and 8

Students take sides in the 1837 Rebellion to decide the future of Canada. They meet interpreted characters from the time period and collect information to examine key social and political issues that led to the rebellion. It culminates with a lively Town Hall debate where students must defend their position to see which side will emerge victorious!

Duration: Half day (1.75 hours)  
Available: May to June, September to mid-November

Additional programs including secondary-level programming can be found at [www.blackcreek.ca](http://www.blackcreek.ca)
Tap into Spring

Sugarbush Maple Syrup Festival

- Guided, curriculum-linked Maple Syrup walks
- Discussions on and demonstrations of the tools, methods and techniques used in the production of maple syrup
- Pre and/or post-visit materials
- Tasty treats!

For more information visit www.MapleSyrupFest.com or call 416-667-6295
At Kortright Centre for Conservation students are immersed in a natural setting and provided an opportunity to learn, hands-on, about sustainable living, stewardship and the environment. Curriculum-linked programs build on in-class learning and invite students to connect with nature and better understand their relationship with and responsibility to the natural world around them.
**MAPLE SYRUP** Pre-school to Grade 8

Enjoy the sweetness of springtime in Ontario! Come experience historic and modern methods of making maple syrup. Learn how to identify maple trees and see how they are tapped for sap. Students complete their visit with a taste of the sweet, end result.

Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**
Available: **March to early-April**

**INSECTS** Kindergarten to Grade 6

Students learn basic insect identification and classification skills appropriate to their grade level and then take to the field with bug-catchers in hand to collect different living organisms exploring at least two different habitats. Students compare their findings, examine the importance of invertebrates and learn about the fascinating life cycles of this important group of organisms.

Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**
Available: **April to November**

**GROWTH AND CHANGE IN ANIMALS** Grade 2

This hands-on program provides learners with an introduction to a variety of animals and their distinct characteristics. With the help of skins, antlers, feathers and additional natural items, students investigate the similarities and differences between mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish. They also have an opportunity to observe and explore animal life in several habitats around the Kortright property.

Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**
Available: **Year-round**

**ART IN NATURE** Grade 2 to 8

Students explore Ephemeral Art by working in groups to create a masterpiece using the natural materials provided by the landscape. Learners begin with a review of the basic elements of design - colour, texture, line, shape, form and space - to help guide their installation. A scenic location provides the backdrop for Kortright’s “gallery without walls”, where an appreciation of art and an understanding of the natural environment is fostered.

Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**
Available: **Year-round**
FORCES CAUSING MOVEMENT & KITE FLYING  Grade 3

Students learn to identify the forces of gravity, magnetism, electrostatic force, wind, tension and friction through hands-on activities and experiments in this introduction to Forces Causing Movement program. Using investigative techniques, students are challenged to determine the effects of changing the amount of force applied to an object and observe natural forces in action. Extend this program to include making and flying kites!

Duration: Half day [2 hours]
Available: April to October

HABITATS AND COMMUNITIES  Grade 4

From forests and streams to wetlands and meadows, Kortright Centre boasts a rich variety of habitats for students to experience first-hand. Learners will identify producers, consumers and decomposers that form the communities in these areas and explore the natural environment that these species call home. The human dimension is considered in a discussion on the effects of human activities on resident plants and animals.

Duration: Half day [2 hours]
Available: Year-round

CONSERVATION OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES  Grade 5

Kortright offers students a unique opportunity to observe and understand sustainable technology through renewable energy demonstrations. A hike along our Power Trip Trail displays practical, everyday, alternative energy sources. An appreciation of conservation is developed through hands-on exercises challenging students to produce the energy generated by solar panels and windmills through the use of a bike or hand pump.

Duration: Half day [2 hours]
Available: Year-round

WATER SYSTEMS  Grade 7 and 8

Students examine both man-made and natural water systems at Kortright to increase their awareness that water is crucial to life and a valuable resource that needs to be managed sustainably. Activities include dipping for aquatic invertebrates and water quality testing that can reveal the health of the environment, and studying the water conservation measures currently employed at the Centre.

Duration: Half day [2 hours]
Available: April to November

Additional programs including secondary-level programming can be found at www.trca-education.ca
Imagine a town square where you can shop artisan markets, practice yoga, enjoy a theatre performance, take a photography class, eat a locally grown dinner with a friend or catch a movie under the stars.

Now imagine all that in your backyard. That is Bolton Camp.

COMING SOON!

follow us @boltoncampproject

trca.ca/BoltonCamp
OUTREACH EDUCATION

Let us bring nature education to you! Our passionate, knowledgeable instructors come prepared with all the required tools and materials to deliver relevant, hands-on experiences to students through curriculum-linked programs and community-based action projects. Early registration is recommended, as these in-class programs fill up quickly.
NEEDS OF LIVING THINGS Grade 1

Sensory games and hands-on activities deepen students’ understanding of their senses and the many ways in which animals use theirs to meet their own needs.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: Year-round

LEAF LINKS Grade 3

Students learn about the important roles that trees play and have the opportunity to use simple identification keys to learn about the characteristics of local plant life and different tree species. Using the trees from your own community or school ground elicits prior knowledge and allows the learning to continue once we leave.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: Year-round

WETLAND ECOSYSTEMS Grade 3, 4 and 7

Through a variety of engaging and interactive activities, students learn about the important roles that wetlands play and explore the types of animals and plants living in Ontario’s wetlands.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: Year-round

INSTINCTS FOR SURVIVAL Grade 4 and 7

Experience life on the wild side! Students assume the role of an indigenous species to simulate predator-prey relationships in an active, outdoor food-web game. This popular game reinforces the concepts of habitats and communities, provision of basic needs, food chains, trophic levels, energy flow and pyramid of numbers. It also looks at human impacts on animal survival.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: Year-round
CLIMATE CALAMITY Grade 5 and 7

When it comes to climate change, there is little time to waste. Students learn to separate fact from fiction by playing a greenhouse gas game and learning about human activities that accelerate the Earth’s change in climate. Stewardship and what we can do to help is also discussed.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: Year-round

CLEAN WATER, CLEAR CHOICES Grade 7 and 8

A classroom experiment gets students thinking about different water filtration methods. Working in teams, they attempt to clean polluted water using miniature versions of water filtration items that represent equipment found in municipal waste water treatment facilities.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: Year-round

YELLOW FISH ROAD PROGRAM Grade 2 to 8, Community Groups

An indoor lesson and an interactive model help students learn how storm drains are linked to local water bodies. An outdoor component involves marking storm drains with yellow fish symbols and distributing educational leaflets to increase residents’ awareness of storm water pollution.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: April to October

AQUATIC PLANTS PROGRAM Grade 3 to 8

Students will grow native aquatic plants from seed in your classroom and transplant them on a trip to a local wetland. This outdoor program includes engaging activity stations that help students to understand the value of wetland ecosystems and the important roles they play in maintaining the ecological health of our region. Students will have fun outdoors while learning to care for their environment!

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: May and June

Additional programs including secondary-level programming can be found at www.trca-education.ca
TOMMY THOMPSON PARK

Minutes from downtown Toronto, unique opportunities abound for your students at Tommy Thompson Park. Wildflower meadows, cottonwood forests, and coastal marshes are just some of the habitats students will explore on their field trip to this urban wilderness. Experience the phenomenon of bird migration and gain an appreciation for the wildlife living in our cities.
**ANIMAL DETECTIVES** Grade 2 to 3

Become an Animal Detective as you explore Tommy Thompson Park’s trails looking for animal clues.

Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Mid-April to October**

**WETLANDS: SOAK IT UP** Grade 2 to 8

Soak up the wonder of wetlands by immersing your class in an incredible story of habitat restoration. Students experience wetlands first-hand while learning about nature’s own filter.

Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **May to October**

**CITY LIFE, WILDLIFE** Grade 4 to 6

There is wildlife in our cities! Get to know the urban wildlife that lives in Toronto’s backyard on an interactive hike that includes a habitat investigation, a close look at invasive species, and a reflection on the impacts of human activity in natural spaces.

Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Mid-April to October**

**POLLINATION INVESTIGATION** Grade 4 to 6

We need pollinators more than they need us! You’ll learn why and have opportunity to investigate the lives and habitats of insect pollinators. Tommy Thompson Park’s meadows are rich with tiny wildlife for you to discover!

Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Mid-May to October**

**WINGED MIGRATION** Grade 4 to 7

Hone your observation and data collection skills by becoming immersed in the natural phenomenon of bird migration. Learn more about the migratory species of Tommy Thompson Park and what we can do to protect them.

Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours), a.m. only**  
Available: **Mid-April to October**

Custom Programs Also Available
WE CAN COME AND SEE YOU!
Through our mobile Outreach Education programs we bring nature education to you. See pages 13 to 15 for more details.
# SAMPLE OVERNIGHT TRIP ITINERARY
(for Lake St. George Field Centre)

Grade(s): 7  # of students: 40

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY 1</th>
<th>MORNING PROGRAM</th>
<th>Check-in and meet centre staff</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>LUNCH</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AFTERNOON PROGRAM</td>
<td>Group Dynamics</td>
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<td>DINNER</td>
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<td></td>
<td>EVENING PROGRAM</td>
<td>Night Hike or Owl Prowl</td>
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<tr>
<th>BREAKFAST</th>
<th>MORNING PROGRAM</th>
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<td></td>
<td>AFTERNOON PROGRAM</td>
<td>Wilderness Survival Skills</td>
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<td>DINNER</td>
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<td></td>
<td>EVENING PROGRAM</td>
<td>Legends of Lake St. George</td>
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<th>MORNING PROGRAM</th>
<th>Introduction to GPS Technology</th>
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<td></td>
<td>AFTERNOON PROGRAM</td>
<td>Instincts for Survival</td>
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<td>EVENING PROGRAM</td>
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<td>Coureurs De Bois: Fur Trading Game</td>
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<td>EVENING PROGRAM</td>
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<tr>
<th>BREAKFAST</th>
<th>MORNING PROGRAM</th>
<th>Nature Art or Nature Photography</th>
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| LUNCH       | DEPART                 |                                      |

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<th>DAY 5</th>
<th>MORNING PROGRAM</th>
<th>Nature Art or Nature Photography</th>
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Toronto and Region Conservation’s (TRCA) educational, overnight programming at Lake St. George, Claremont and Albion Hills offers an exciting and distinctive opportunity for students to learn and to grow, both as individuals and as a member of the class. With access to unique environmental and geographic resources such as a kettle lake, solar-powered pontoon boat and endless hiking and skiing trails, students are provided the backdrop to build confidence, develop leadership skills and bond with one another. All excursions are curriculum-linked, customized to your groups’ specific needs and delivered by our passionate and knowledgeable OCT-certified teachers.

Overnight programs are available at:

ALBION HILLS FIELD CENTRE (Caledon)
CLAREMONT FIELD CENTRE (Pickering)
LAKE ST. GEORGE FIELD CENTRE (Richmond Hill)
An ideal place to host your CROSS-COUNTRY RUN

From regional to provincial meets, we’ve got the trails for you. Run sites are available at the following conservation areas:

- ALBION HILLS, Caledon
- BOYD, Vaughan
- BRUCE’S MILL, Stouffville
- HEART LAKE, Brampton
- PETTICOAT CREEK, Pickering

www.trca.on.ca
ALBION HILLS FIELD CENTRE

Creating memories and lasting impressions for over 50 years, Albion Hills is the Toronto and Region Conservation’s (TRCA) residential field centre with both the longest history and the longest list of visitors! With OCT-certified teachers, immersive lessons and fantastic resources like our low-ropes course and cross-country paths, Albion Hills is the perfect site to bring your class!
COUREURS DE BOIS: THE FUR TRADING GAME Grade 4 to 8

Relive an important part of Canadian history. This simulation game immerses students in the lifestyle of the “Runners of the Woods”, the early French settlers who paddled their canoes through Canadian waterways trading goods with First Nations for furs. Students learn how European contact changed the lives of First Nations People. Bartering and orienteering skills are developed as they travel among the villages.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: March to early April

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING Grade 4 to 8

Explore the trails of Albion Hills with a Nordic twist. Skis, boots and poles are provided, followed by a group lesson on basic techniques and safety considerations. A ski tour of the property will follow to allow time for students to hone their skills.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: December to March (weather permitting)

INSTINCTS FOR SURVIVAL Grade 4 to 8

Experience life on the wild side! Students will assume the role of an indigenous species while fighting to maintain a place on the food chain. This predator-prey simulation teaches students about relationships within the food web and also looks at the human impact on animal survival while they play this active, outdoor adventure game.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: Year-round

NATURE ART Grade 4 to 8

Albion ArtFest! Awaken the creativity within by combining different artistic styles and techniques inspired by nature. Students take a short hike, observing the natural landscape through the eyes of an artist, searching for vistas and plants to be used in their art. A combination of solar prints, sketching, watercolour’s and creative writing are explored to capture each student’s unique artistic impression of Albion Hills.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: Year-round
STREAM STUDY  Grade 4 to 8

An investigation of the Centreville Stream, a tributary to the Humber River, provides students with the opportunity to observe, measure, experiment with and collect biophysical data. An emphasis will be on exploring and identifying biodiversity using classification tools. Students analyze their findings to determine if the stream ecosystem is healthy and biologically diverse. Connections are made between the stream and other systems.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: March through September

WILDERNESS SURVIVAL SKILLS  Grade 4 to 8

Survivor Albion! Working as a cooperative team in this simulation activity, students are challenged to engineer a shelter constructed from natural materials, build a small cooking fire to make hot chocolate, and signal for help. Safety and a no-trace philosophy are emphasized in this program.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: Year-round

GROUP DYNAMICS  Grade 5 to 8

Students work in teams to solve a variety of active challenges in our low ropes course. Team success depends on a combination of cooperation, communication, physical and mental effort from all students. The emphasis is put on the process, and is designed to instill self-confidence, develop relationships and build trust and respect among team members.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: Year-round

ORIENTEERING  Grade 4 to 8

You can choose from two different Orienteering programs. In Photo-Orienteering, students work cooperatively in pairs to analyze a series of photographs, determining the location of the photographer using accurate compass skills and deductive reasoning. Score-Orienteering also involves teamwork; however students are challenged to become experts in map interpretation and navigation by using a compass to find a series of hidden targets.

Duration: Half day (2 hours)
Available: Year-round

Additional programs including secondary-level programming can be found at www.trca-education.ca
Give your group an unforgettable experience!

Reconnect with one another and nature, earn badges, gain experiences to last a lifetime! Enjoy the great outdoors at our Field Centres while we take care of the details. Weekend programming to suit any groups’ needs, objectives or focus is available.

Call Toronto and Region Conservation at 416-667-6295 or visit www.trca.on.ca/weekends

Calling all SCOUTS, GUIDES, CAMPS, TEAMS and SCHOOL RETREATS!
Located just north of Toronto, Claremont Field Centre is a cedar log building with a wood burning fireplace that provides a cozy backdrop for your overnight, educational experiences. Our OCT certified teachers will share their passion with your students as they are immersed in engaging, environmental programming!
**INSTINCTS FOR SURVIVAL** Grade 4 to 8

Experience life on the wild side! Students will assume the role of an indigenous species while fighting to maintain a place on the food chain. This predator-prey simulation teaches students about relationships within the food web and also looks at the human impact on animal survival, while they play an active, outdoor adventure game.

**Duration:** Half day (2.5 hours)  
**Available:** March through September

**WILDERNESS SURVIVAL SKILLS** Grade 4 to 8

Working as a cooperative team in this simulation activity, students are challenged to engineer a shelter constructed from natural materials, build a small cooking fire to make hot chocolate, and signal for help. Safety and a no-trace philosophy are emphasized in this program.

**Duration:** Half day (2.5 hours)  
**Available:** Year-round

**CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING** Grade 4 to 8

Explore the trails of Claremont with a Nordic twist. Skis, boots and poles are provided, followed by a group lesson on basic techniques and safety considerations. A ski tour of the property will follow to allow time for students to hone their skills.

**Duration:** Half day (2.5 hours)  
**Available:** Winter

**STREAM STUDY** Grade 4 to 8

An investigation of a local stream provides students with the opportunity to observe, measure, experiment, and collect biological and physical data. After interpreting the results, the young scientists will then determine if the stream ecosystem is healthy and biologically diverse.

**Duration:** Half day (2.5 hours)  
**Available:** Spring, Summer, Fall
**POND STUDY** Grade 4 to 8

Ever wonder what lurks beneath the surface of local ponds? Students will explore the unknown by becoming acquainted with the characteristics of healthy pond ecosystems. Collecting and identifying pond organisms illustrates how these animals have adapted to their ecological habitat.

Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Spring, Summer, Fall**

**ABORIGINAL STUDIES** Grade 3 to 8

Students will first learn about the history of local First Nation’s through discussions and an examination of actual artifacts. Hands-on activities like participating in historic games of skill, using a fire bow, pounding corn and baking Bannock help bring the history of the culture and people to life.

Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

**TREASURE MAPPING** Grade 6 to 8

‘X’ marks the spot! This activity introduces students to mapping. Participants are equipped with all of the necessary supplies to create a map and hide a treasure. Paces and bearings are used to develop a route, and clues are left as to the location of the treasure.

Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

**PHOTO ORIENTEERING** Grade 6 to 8

In this program students are introduced to, or have the opportunity to refine, their compass navigation skills. Working with a partner and using a booklet of photographs, accurate compass skills and deductive reasoning, students will determine the exact location of where each photograph was taken. They will be able to check their accuracy by recording the compass bearing of each site.

Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

Additional programs including secondary-level programming can be found at [www.trca-education.ca](http://www.trca-education.ca)
ELEMTARY TEACHER
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

TRCA’s nature-based PD courses build skills that support curriculum links through experiential learning and proven teaching methods, in authentic environments.

Offerings include:

• VOICES FROM THE LAND: ART & CULTURE IN NATURE
• TEACHING & LEARNING WITH MONARCH BUTTERFLIES
• CREATING MONARCH HABITATS
• GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEMS (GPS) CERTIFICATION

Full-day or half-day workshops are offered at fully equipped educational facilities. Certification and/or licencing are available in appropriate areas, upon completion.

For information on programs, dates and locations, visit: www.trca-education.ca
LAKE ST. GEORGE FIELD CENTRE

Lake St. George provides an atmosphere reminiscent of cottage country, nestled within the city limits. This certified Eco-Centre is the perfect backdrop for class bonding and offers unparalleled educational resources. Extend your students’ learning and development through exciting programming with our OCT certified teachers in a setting and experience they’ll never forget!
**LAKE ECOLOGY** Grade 4 to 8

Take a ride on our solar-powered pontoon boat! Students have the unique opportunity to learn about glacial kettle lakes while enjoying a boat ride on Lake St. George. Participants will record data that allows them to create a profile of the lake. They will also be introduced to water sampling, perform chemical tests on water samples, and graph and interpret the results.

- **Duration:** Half day (2.5 hours)
- **Available:** Spring, Summer, Fall

**FISH MANAGEMENT** Grade 4 to 8

What varieties of fish species swim in Lake St. George? Students will answer that question by conducting an experiment, beginning with a fishing expedition using our 80-metre-long seine net. They will identify fish using identification keys and create drawings of the different species. Students will also be encouraged to weigh and measure the length of the fish before employing methods of “gentle release” back into the water.

- **Duration:** Half day (2.5 hours)
- **Available:** Spring, Summer, Fall

**INTRODUCTION TO GPS TECHNOLOGY** Grade 7 and 8

Students will learn how this technology works and relates to topographic maps. They will gain experience with the UTM (Universal Transverse Mercator) system using a handheld GPS unit and will be challenged to successfully navigate to various checkpoints in an orienteering challenge.

- **Duration:** Half day (2.5 hours)
- **Available:** Year-round

**INSTINCTS FOR SURVIVAL** Grade 4 to 8

Experience life on the wild side! Students will assume the role of an indigenous species while fighting to maintain a place on the food chain. This predator-prey simulation teaches students about relationships within the food web and also looks at the human impact on animal survival, while they play an active, outdoor adventure game.

- **Duration:** Half day (2.5 hours)
- **Available:** Year-round
WILDERNESS SURVIVAL SKILLS Grade 4 to 8

Working as a cooperative team in this simulation activity, students are challenged to engineer a shelter constructed from natural materials, build a small cooking fire to make hot chocolate, and signal for help. Safety and a no-trace philosophy are emphasized in this program.

Duration: Half day (2.5 hours)
Available: Year-round

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING Grade 4 to 8

Explore the trails of Lake St. George with a Nordic twist. Skis, boots and poles are provided, followed by a group lesson on basic techniques and safety considerations. A ski tour of the property will follow to allow time for students to hone their skills.

Duration: Half day (2.5 hours)
Available: Winter

NIGHT HIKE Grade 4 to 8

Explore the Lake St. George property under the cover of darkness while engaging all the senses to develop an appreciation for the specialization of the nocturnal world. With consideration given to theme, weather and time, possible activities include owl calling, moon mints, chalk sketching, storytelling and astronomy investigations.

Duration: Evening program (1.5 hours)
Available: Year-round

COUREURS DE BOIS: THE FUR TRADING GAME Grade 4 to 8

Relive an important part of Canadian history. This simulation game immerses students in the lifestyle of the “Runners of the Woods”, the early French settlers who paddled their canoes through Canadian waterways trading goods with First Nations for furs. Students learn how European contact changed the lives of First Nations People. Bartering and orienteering skills are developed as they travel among the villages.

Duration: Half day (2.5 hours)
Available: Year-round

Additional programs including secondary-level programming can be found at www.trca-education.ca
PLANNING AN OVERNIGHT TRIP

OVERNIGHT PLANNING CHECKLIST

☐ Coordinate school schedule with proposed overnight excursion dates.
☐ Make deposits with TRCA to secure preferred trip dates.
☐ Schedule site visit or phone session with Education Supervisor to review and select programs.
☐ Book your transportation.
☐ Communicate with Parents:
  • Price  • Date(s)  • Safety/Permission Forms
  • Packing list/expectations
☐ Complete dorm assignments, work groups and any other necessary forms.
☐ Confirm participant numbers with TRCA and make final payment.

ENJOY YOUR TRIP!
# OVERNIGHT PLANNING TEMPLATE

## For 3-day or 5-day trip

**Grade(s):**

**# of students:**

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<th>DAY 1</th>
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<td>MORNING PROGRAM</td>
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<td>DEPART (if 3-day trip) or LUNCH (if 5-day trip)</td>
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<td>LUNCH</td>
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<td>DEPART</td>
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HOW TO REACH US
for inquiries, bookings and more information

PHONE
416-667-6295, follow prompts

WEB
www.trca-education.ca

EMAIL
customerservice@trca.ca

BOOKING REQUESTS
for Watershed on Wheels and Outreach Education:
trca.ca/learning/outreach-education

HELPFUL HINTS

• **Inclusivity and equity are integral:** Field Centres can accommodate students with mobility concerns. Share your needs with us!

• Payments can be a hassle, but with TRCA you control the process (payments, collections, payment plans etc.) and **only two simple payments are required: deposit and balance.**

• Invite another class, or even another grade, to **help reduce the per student cost of expenses like transportation.** Visitor Services can assist you with booking different programs for each class or grade.
Ontario EcoSchools...

Outdoor experiential learning and professional development supports the Curriculum and Teamwork & Leadership sections of your Ontario EcoSchools certification application.

Connect with your EcoTeam Lead to see how YOU and YOUR CLASS can contribute to your school’s application.

For more information visit www.ontarioecoschools.org
OUR EDUCATION CENTRES AND PROGRAMS

Albion Hills Field Centre
Caledon, Ontario

Black Creek Pioneer Village
Toronto, Ontario

Bruce’s Mill Conservation Area
Stouffville, Ontario

Claremont Field Centre
Claremont, Ontario

Kortright Centre for Conservation
Vaughan, Ontario

Lake St. George Field Centre
Richmond Hill, Ontario

Outreach Education
Your School

Tommy Thompson Park
Toronto, Ontario

www.trca-education.ca