

SSI Conservancy Stewards in Training Program

Overview for Teachers

TOPIC: Ford Lake is a special place of uplands and wetlands

THEME: Wetlands Ecosystems

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The student at the end of the day will be able to:

- ✧ Create a Nature Journal entry with words and drawings.
- ✧ Recognize freshwater invertebrates.
- ✧ Construct a woven mat from leaves, as First Nations plant technology.
- ✧ Use their observation skills to find hidden objects in a natural environment.

PRE-TRIP: 40 minute session in Class

The Program Coordinator runs a classroom session to familiarize students with the upcoming field program, and wetlands. The session involves a brief discussion around the questions: What is stewardship? What does it look like? Who is familiar with the SIT Program from past years?

Students then are led in a demonstration of how to construct their field journal. Ideally, if time allows the journal should be reviewed briefly – a study of the aerial photo (who can find different features? etc.), and a review of the station sheets.

FIELD DAY: Full Day program on Site

Each school group will be accompanied by at least 8 volunteers. During the day, groups of 6 to 8 students (depending on class size) will move around to the various stations, accompanied by at least one, if not two, adults.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Parent volunteers are welcome. Teachers are encouraged to invite parents out for the field day with their child.

POST TRIP: 40 minute session in Class

The Program coordinator will visit the class to conduct this session and lead students in an activity about water quality and wetlands.

STEWARDS IN TRAINING PROGRAM PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING

1. Journal materials for use in the classroom.
2. All field equipment and supplies.
3. Booking and cost of the school buses to transport the students from the various schools to the field site and back.
4. Trained volunteers from the community.
5. First aid kits and walkie-talkies.
6. Cell phone for emergency.

STUDENT NEEDS FOR THE FIELD DAY

1. Dress for all weather (rubber boots or sturdy hikers, sweater, hat, rain gear).
2. Snacks, water bottle and hearty lunch.
3. Any personal medications (particularly allergy remedies for grass, bee stings, etc.).

CONSERVANCY NEEDS FROM THE TEACHER

1. Permission slips prepared and collected.
2. Scissors, glue sticks and pencil crayons/markers for the construction of the field journal during the pre-trip session.
3. A class list of students' first names sorted into four groups.
4. Two parent volunteers to attend the field day with the class.
5. Parent names & contacts who might be interested in coming out on field trip. They are welcome to come to our volunteer training day.
6. Names of all students with photo-use restrictions.
7. Cell phone for emergency, if available.
8. Help with the evaluation of the program.
9. Offer of any photos from field day.