



ECOstudies - Bringing Okanagan Nature into the Classroom

ECOstudies environmental education programs:

- connect environmental educators with teachers and students
- explore local habitats, wildlife, environmental sciences and conservation
- support skills, attitudes and knowledge for BC Prescribed Learning Outcomes
- most programs can take place in the classroom or on a fieldtrip
- Programs available September through June unless noted.

ECOstudies presenters:

- are local biologists, teachers and naturalists who bring their own supplies, props and even live animals into the classroom. Program fees cover presenter honoraria.

How to enquire about or book a program:

- Email Margaret Holm ecostudies@osca.org or go online at www.osca.org/ecostudies

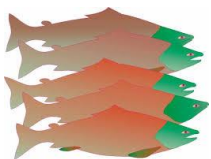
Cost:

- Most programs cost \$85-\$110 due on the program date.
- *Please contact us about field trip grants available through the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation.*
- "Bully Plants" and "Aquatic Invaders" are free.

2013-2014 OSCA Ecostudies Programs



Going Bats: Learn about the amazing anatomy and behavior of these flying mammals and the importance of bats around the world. Some of the 14 bat species that live in the Okanagan will be explored along with how we can help our local bats. Grades 2-12. \$85.



Save our Salmon: Learn about Okanagan salmon, their life cycle, living requirements and the challenges in a hands-on interactive program. The program can be a fieldtrip to see spawning salmon or an in class presentation. Oliver fieldtrip to Okanagan River site to see spawning Sockeye available Oct. 10-18. Grades K-7. \$85.



Fur and Feathers: How does our body covering compare to the fur and feathers of wild animals? Students will examine the fur and feathers from different animals, learn to writing with quill pens, and have fun in a variety of activities. This is a hands-on program with lots of visual material and activity. Grades 1-4, **SD 53 only**. \$85.



Schoolyard Scavenger Hunt: Your schoolyard and nearby green spaces are full of plants, animals, insects, and unexpected things. This program encourages students to explore natural habitats in their neighbourhood. Students will hunt for items, make observations and learn about habitats. Students will talk about what they found and what role it might play in their lives. Grades K-4, **SD 67 only**. \$85.



It's Not Easy Being Green: Being an amphibian in the Okanagan is getting tougher every day. Students will learn all about frogs, toads, spadefoots and salamanders and the impact of climate change, disease and human activity on survival. Grades K - 8. \$85.



Water Sense (pond or stream study): What lurks underwater in a pond or stream and what are the conditions needed to support life? Students will visit a local stream or pond to find pond invertebrates, measure the temperature, oxygen and turbidity of the water and learn about healthy habitats. This is a fun, hands-on

outdoor program or water samples can be brought to the classroom. Teachers' notes help prepare the class for activities. 1 ½ - 2 hour program. Grades 4-12. \$100.



Water Chemistry - what do the measurements mean?: Students will be introduced to water chemistry with Vernier water testing probes to measure temperature, pH, conductivity, turbidity and dissolved oxygen. They will add substances to manipulate water quality and interpret the results. Water from local streams as well as tap water will be compared to provide information on what conditions are needed to support life in a stream.

Grades 6-12.

What's the Buzz? What's happening inside a beehive? Biologist and beekeeper Janelle explains the fascinating world of bees. Learn about the importance of bees as pollinators and the people who produce honey. Students will taste fresh honey, try on a bee suit, observe live bees behind glass and understand why healthy habitats are important to bees and people. Grades K-8. September, May & June, \$100.



Owl be seeing you: Learn the characteristics, habitats and behaviours of bird of prey in the South Okanagan. Props, displays and "Pilot" a live Burrowing Owl, will highlight endangered species and how conservation programs and rehabilitation centres are working to support birds of prey. Lauren works for the South Okanagan Rehabilitation Centre for Owls (SORCO) and the Burrowing Owl Conservation Society of BC. Grades K-12; \$100.



Are you Bear Aware?: Bears and other wildlife are exciting and wonderful to watch but we must be careful we don't invite them into our yards. Students will learn how bears behave and what attracts them to our neighbourhoods. Parents are encouraged to attend this program which can be offered to the whole school at assembly. Grades K-8, **SD 53 only**. \$85.

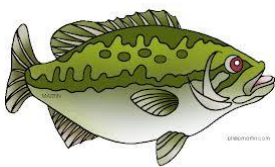


Trees Wanted - dead or alive: What do an owl, a raccoon and a woodpecker have in common? They all need "wildlife trees" to nest and raise their young. Learn why dead trees are important and how they provide important shelter and nests for many Okanagan wildlife species. This program is designed as both an indoor and outdoor program. Grades K to 8, \$85.

The following programs are sponsored by the Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society (OASISS) and are FREE. Email oasiss@shaw.ca or call Lisa Scott at 250-404-0115 to book



Bully Plants: Let's Weed Them Out! Learn about the environmental impacts of invasive plants or "weeds" on natural habitats and endangered wildlife in our region. Creative and scientific thought is encouraged using props and interactive activities. This program is sponsored by the Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society and is FREE for all classes. Note: this program can take place "in nature" upon request. Grades K to 8, **free**.



Aquatic Invaders: Invaders are lurking in our wetlands, rivers and lakes. Learn about the unwanted aquatic plants and animals that compete with our native species, contaminate our drinking water and cost millions of dollars to control, Grades K-8, free.

Thanks to our program supporters:

