Plan: How can I help prepare students and myself for a great day of learning?

The **Balancing Human Needs and Environmental Stewardship** program is designed to enrich student understanding of the Grade 4 Social Studies Inquiry Process through a hands-on, learning experience at Forest Valley Outdoor Education Centre.

Curriculum Connections:

- [Social Studies 1-6 (pp.102-104)](#)
- [Science and Technology 1-8, Understanding Life Systems, Habitats and Communities (p. 84-86)](#)

Some guiding questions to support effective field trip planning:

- Why did you choose our **Balancing Human Needs and Environmental Stewardship** program?
- How does it integrate into your classroom program?
    - Is the field trip going to act as a "minds on" engagement where students formulate questions for inquiry?
    - Is the field trip an opportunity for students to gather evidence for an inquiry already in progress?
    - Is the field trip a culminating experience for students to apply their learning?

Possible Pre-Trip Experiences

- using Google Images, search "[Toronto flood](#)" "[Toronto erosion](#)" "[Toronto water pollution](#)" to engage students in formulating questions to guide an investigation into the issues and challenges of balancing human needs/wants with environmental stewardship
- record student responses on a KWL chart and bring it with you to Forest Valley
- take a community walk around the school neighbourhood to gather information about how your local community balances its needs and wants for water with environmental stewardship
- document student observations using digital technology (cameras, mobile devices) or clip boards and sketches
- analyse maps of your school's relationship to the "[9 Rivers of Toronto](#)" and/or [Google Maps](#)
- construct a map of your school property to map where the water goes
- explore news stories about the Don River: [Funeral For the Don River](#), [Overhaul of Don River mouth could spur Port Lands development](#), [Why Does the Don River Flood So Often?](#)

TDSB Web Resources (note, these may only be accessible through TDSB computers):

- [TDSB Virtual Library](#)