

SECONDARY PROGRAMS AT FOREST VALLEY OEC

BELOW ZERO - SHSM: Students participate in a variety of activities designed by the Canadian Wildlife Federation for their Below Zero guides. They gain experience using the guides and adapt them to specific needs of their learning community.

BIODIVERSITY: Students explore the incredible diversity of Toronto ecosystems in this field-based inquiry into how humans are impacting species and systems.

CLIMATE CHANGE: Students investigate the difference that individuals and communities can make as they explore the sources and sinks of greenhouse gas emissions and the impacts of Climate Change on local ecosystems.

COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP: Students develop Global Competencies as they navigate a series of challenges designed to help them identify their leadership style. They reflect on their communication and collaboration with group members.

ENVIRONMENTAL ART - SHSM: Students collaborate with nature to create environmental art inspired by their surroundings. They will have the opportunity to create a work of art outdoors.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS - SHSM: Explore a variety of perspectives on determining the moral principles that govern a person's behaviour as students approach an environmental issue and decision making strategies from differing points of view.

EXPLORING THE OUTDOORS: Select this program and we will reach out to connect the interests and needs of your class to the various curricular related activities and program offerings at our site. Programs can include subject areas such as Geography, Science, Indigenous Education, Physical Education, Social Science and more.\

FITNESS YOGA - SHSM: Students partake in an inclusive Vinyasa Yoga practice outdoors with a focus on connecting the mind, body and breath while inviting gratitude for the environment.

GEOGRAPHY - AMAZING RACE: Using a map to guide them, students will engage in a series of challenges around Forest Valley that highlights various strands of Grade 9 Geography.

GEOGRAPHY - GEOLOGIC FORCES: Applying mapping skills, students explore the tremendous natural history of the area through a series of hikes and activities designed to guide observation to allow the land to tell the stories that began millions of years ago.

GPS - SHSM: Students explore the landscape of Forest Valley to develop navigation skills using GPS units, while expanding knowledge of Toronto's natural history and their ability to read the land.

HABITAT RESTORATION - SHSM: Students explore diverse perspectives on the importance of biodiversity by exploring human impacts at Forest Valley. They apply ecological expertise by planting trees, shrubs or wildflowers, and remove invasive species.

HERITAGE INTERPRETER: MAPLE SYRUP - SHSM: Investigate the science and origins of maple sap use in Canada and the importance of maple sap and syrup as a cultural practice and production. Students explore how to lead a tour to educate others on this cultural practice.

ICE - SHSM: Using Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship, students examine the issue of climate change and look for pathways towards a sustainable future. Students will put their skills to work by pitching potential solutions.

LEADERSHIP - SHSM: This interactive and outdoor program will help students develop leadership skills and experiences to help prepare students to flourish in their prospective sectors and careers.

LEAVE NO TRACE - SHSM: Students explore the possibilities of a sustainable tourism industry that leaves minimal impact on local ecosystems through a series of guided hikes. They then learn to lead their own hikes using the LNT principles.

MAPLE SYRUP: While engaging in historical and present day methods of making maple syrup, students will be able to make many curriculum connections during this seasonally available program.

NAC10: Using an Indigenous lens, this program will explore the land in Toronto with the intention of fostering student's connections to the natural environment and learning from the land.

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY: Students practise photography and examine the principles of light and perspective, while exploring how nature photography can be used as a storytelling tool to protect local environments.

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY - SHSM: Students practise photography and examine the principles of light and perspective, while exploring how nature photography can be used as a storytelling tool to protect local environments.

NBE ENGLISH - Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Voices: Using the land to guide the learning, students will analyse the changing use of text forms by Indigenous authors/creators from various periods and cultures in expressing ideas related to these themes. Activities will vary based on the season, but students will engage with the land through the observation and reflection on the plants, birds, river and landscape.

OUTDOOR LEARNING FOR NEWCOMERS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: Students learn about local wildlife in Toronto while participating in a guided sensory hike. Collaborative games are utilised to strengthen inclusion, celebrate existing knowledge and foster personal growth through social interaction.

PLANT BIOLOGY: Students explore the magic of the diversity of plant life as they delve into a study of plant physiology, ecology and mutualism within the Toronto landscape. They learn how to take action to protect plant diversity.

PLANT LAYOUT - SHSM: Students learn the principles of permaculture by observing patterns in nature and creating environmentally sustainable garden bed designs. They apply the learning by designing their own space.

PROJECT WILD SHSM: Students participate in a variety of activities designed by the Canadian Wildlife Federation for their Project WILD guides. They gain experience using the guides and adapt them to specific needs of their learning community.

QUEER NATURE: Outdoor Education with a rainbow connection - explore nature, biology, and sexuality in the natural world through the study of queer ecology. This program is customisable to connect with many high school courses.

SEED SAVING - SHSM: Students explore the connection between food production and biodiversity through an inquiry into the source of life - seeds. They investigate the process and impact of saving seeds in this hands-on program.

SHSM - OTHER CERTIFICATIONS: Select this program and our staff will reach out to discuss the various SHSM certifications for your programs.

SOIL SAMPLING: Students explore the magic beneath their feet as they dive into the natural history of how soil is formed. They investigate what makes soil healthy and productive.

SOIL TESTING TECHNIQUES - SHSM: Students engage with the power of soil by collecting samples from a variety of locations and test for pH and the building blocks of life - Nitrogen (N), Phosphorous (P) and Potassium (K).

SPECIES ID: Students develop an understanding of biological classification and skills in identifying a variety of flora and fauna commonly found in the City of Toronto, such as trees, flowers, birds and insects.

SPECIES ID - SHSM: Students develop an understanding of biological classification and skills in identifying a variety of flora and fauna commonly found in the City of Toronto, such as trees, flowers, birds and insects.

STRESS MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES - TREELAXATION SHSM: Students enjoy the benefits that a forest offers through the exploration of Shinrin Yoku, or Forest Bathing, and mindfulness. They learn how to carry these lessons from the forest into their daily lives.

SWAC PROGRAM: Collaborative Team Building for SWAC Students.

TREE PLANTING SHSM: Students learn how to identify trees that grow in Toronto and their ecological and social importance. They apply forestry expertise while planting trees to improve biodiversity and the forest's ability to store carbon.

TREELAXATION: Students enjoy the benefits that a forest can offer through the exploration of Shinrin Yoku, or Forest Bathing, and mindfulness. Students learn how to carry the lessons from the forest into their daily lives.

WATER STUDY: Using the Don River as the focus of study, students investigate determinants of river and stream health, such as salinity, pH, turbidity and the factors that affect them.

WATERCOLOUR: Students get inspired by nature in this exploration of the elements of design as seen in the forest. They practise their watercolour techniques in a serene forest setting.

WEED AND PEST IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT - SHSM: Students explore the importance of biodiversity and concepts of ecological change by learning to identify native plants. They will discuss the characteristics of invasive species and become stewards to protect the area.

YOGA: Students partake in an inclusive Vinyasa Yoga practice outdoors with a focus on connecting the mind, body and breath while inviting gratitude for the environment.