

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

The **Physical Patterns in a Changing World** program is designed to enrich student understanding of the Grade 7 Geographical Inquiry Process through a hands-on, learning experience at Forest Valley Outdoor Education Centre.

Curriculum Connections:

- [Social Studies 1-6, History and Geography 7 and 8, Physical Patterns in a Changing World \(pp. 166-169\)](#)

Some guiding questions to support effective field trip planning:

- Why did you choose **Physical Patterns in a Changing World** 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?

Recommended Pre-Trip Experiences

- Please equitably divide your class into groups of 3 or 4 students ahead of time
- Begin a Know, Wonder, Learn (KWL) chart about flooding in Toronto to bring with you to Forest Valley
- Compare photos of [Hurricane Hazel](#) in 1954 with the [Toronto Floods 2013](#)
- Determine what watershed your school is located in using [Toronto Region Conservation Authority's interactive map](#) and then explore the resources to gather and organize information about Toronto's relationship with our physical geography
- Consult the [TRCA's Issues and Challenges](#), then take a community walk to determine which issue best connects with your neighbourhood and begin planning an eco-action project in consultation with [Eco Schools](#)
- 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?](#)
- Find another city in the world that is built near the mouth of rivers like [Toronto](#) and compare how it deals with the challenges and opportunities presented by the physical geography
- Introduce your students to [topographical maps](#), physical landforms, characteristics of water systems, natural and human forces that shape the land (glaciation, erosion, mining, land reclamation)
- Explore some key natural processes and human activities that change vegetation patterns (climate change, erosion of top soil, deforestation, invasive species, fertilizers)
- Explore the various ways the [Toronto Region Conservation Authority](#) manages our floodplains

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

- [MediaNet](#) (Library & Learning Resources: Grade 7 Geography, Physical Patterns in a Changing World)
- [TDSB Virtual Library](#)