

Available Secondary Programs:

GEOGRAPHY:

Amazing Race - Students will adventure through the landscape at Forest Valley on a challenge to use their geographic observation and orienteering skills. Teams can work collaboratively, or compete against each other.

Traditional Ecological Knowledge - Through a series of guided hikes and activities, students learn about Indigenous culture and identity as they explore the natural history of Forest Valley through an Indigenous lens.

Species Identification- Students tour Forest Valley and 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.

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

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.

Ecological Footprints- Students take an introspective hike of Forest Valley and hone their observational skills while learning about the impact that our everyday consumption habits have on local and global systems.

Watersheds - Using the Don River as the focus of study, students learn about the geologic forces at play in the formation of the river system and the importance of watershed protection.

Geologic Forces - Students survey 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.

Leave No Trace: EcoTourism- 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.

Biodiversity: Protecting Species and Spaces: Students explore the breathtaking diversity of the forest, meadow and wetland ecosystems in this field-based inquiry into how humans are impacting species and systems.

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.

SCIENCE:

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.

Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecosystems: Students explore the diversity of habitats as they learn about the unique characteristics of ecosystems through a series of activities in the forest and wetland. They learn how to take action to protect these ecosystems.

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 Forest Valley landscape. They learn how to take action to protect plant diversity.

FAMILY STUDIES:

Urban Agriculture: Food security is an ever increasing issue. Students learn how to plan and implement a productive food garden using low input and sustainable techniques. They explore how the land can meet all of our nutritional needs.

HISTORY:

Learning from the Land - Indigenous Perspectives: Students visit Forest Valley through an Indigenous lens by connecting Seven Grandparent Teachings in an exploration of

the food forest. They investigate seasons and concepts of time through an exploration of the 13 moons.

CIVICS:

Environmental Citizenship: Think Globally, Act Locally: Students explore how to evaluate various stakeholder perspectives as they survey the Forest Valley landscape and participate in a debate on applying their ability to make environmentally conscious decisions.

ART:

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

Environmental Art: Students will collaborate with nature to create environmental art inspired by their surroundings and renowned artist Andy Goldsworthy. They will have the opportunity to create a work of art outdoors.

Nature Photography: Students practice 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.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

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

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.