



*Here at the Allan Brooks Nature Centre we are pleased to offer a variety of activities for students to experience! For your upcoming trip please select four stations out of the following list, or let us know if you would like a customized activity.*

### **Grassland Trail Walk**

Our most popular station, join us on a short walk through our rare and delicate grassland ecosystem! Learn about grassland plants and animals, and how they interact. Touch, smell, feel and even taste as we explore the wilderness all around us! In the spring, watch the residents of Marmot City with wonder. (Hibernating in the fall, sorry!)

*\*\*Must be paired with Pond Study\*\**

### **Pond Study**

With dip nets in hand, students will get down 'n dirty investigating the Allan Brooks Nature Centre pond. Collect macrobenthic invertebrates and learn what these critters can tell us about the water quality of the pond. Use simple tests to measure dissolved oxygen content, pH, turbidity and water temperature.

*\*\*Must be paired with Grassland Trail Walk\*\**

### **Art of Indigenous Plants**

Come learn about the Indigenous uses of Okanagan plants through art. Create artwork that you can take back with you! Explore First Peoples principles of interconnectedness and knowledge of sustainable practices. Discover the local First Nation knowledge through stories and art.

*Pairs well with the Grassland Trail station.*

### **Orienteering**

Could you find your way if you were lost in the wild? Learn how to navigate using a compass or GPS! Grab your navigation tool and a clipboard

as we split up and race to find hidden caches. *Teachers can choose between compasses or GPS units.*

## **Predators & Prey**

From the silently stalking cougar to the lightning-fast falcon, predators everywhere have to hunt and eat! Examine and touch real predator skulls, listen for the silent flapping of an owl surprising its prey and discuss the unique adaptations and hunting strategies used by different types of predators.

## **Eco Games (Outdoor Play Station)**

Run, jump, hide! This station allows students to expel their extra energy while playing ecology-themed games and activities. Students will play games that may have them acting out predator/ prey relationships, learning about carrying capacities of habitats, or learning about the dangers birds face in their annual migrations!

## **Honey Bees & Pollination**

What's the buzz about pollination? Get up close and personal with our live bee colony and learn about honey bees, pollination, and how plants rely on different animals, or even the wind, to be pollinated! Then, come outside for a game of Pollination Pursuit where you'll act as a bee in pursuit of nectar!

## **Bird Beak Adaptations**

Why do ducks have flat beaks? What's the point of a hummingbird's long bill? Bird beaks are strongly shaped by the food they eat! But don't take our word for it, join us in a series of hands-on experiments where we will determine what beaks are best shaped for what job, and why.

## **Owl Pellet Investigation**

Discover the WHOOO and why behind owl pellets! Students are introduced to the ecology and life history of owls while acting as 'field

biologists'. Using tools such as tweezers and magnifying lenses, students will dissect owl pellets and practice the skills of observation and classification by identifying and sorting the bones of the owls' rodent prey.

*\*Additional \$0.75 surcharge per student\**

### **Watershed Wonders**

Everyone in the world lives in a watershed! Using our hands-on model, students will learn what a watershed is and how it can be affected by humans. Students will know what watershed they live in, and take part in an activity to highlight the importance of water for all creatures.

### **Kokanee Salmon** *(At Coldstream Creek Park in collaboration with the Kingfisher Interpretive Centre)*

Learn about the life cycle of kokanee salmon and the role they play in the ecosystem. Learn about the restoration of salmon habitat and spawning channels. Play a game that demonstrates the hazards faced by spawning salmon. *\*Only offered in the Fall\**