

A photograph of several children running on a paved path outdoors. The children are wearing various colored shirts (red, orange, blue, green) and shorts. The background shows green foliage and trees. The text 'GET THEM' is overlaid on the top half of the image, with the letters filled with the background scene.

**GET THEM**

**OUTSIDE!**

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
FIELD TRIP GUIDE**



Toronto and Region  
**Conservation**  
for The Living City

# Inspire Students Through Exploration with TRCA

With over 60 years of experience in environmental conservation and education, Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) aims to foster sustainable citizenship through our educational and community-based programming at our sites and facilities throughout the GTA. Our vision of Building The Living City® is a new kind of community where human settlements can flourish forever as part of nature's beauty and diversity.

TRCA education provides hands-on learning opportunities for classes of all grades in relevant, authentic and local environments in the areas of nature, ecology and cultural heritage. By incorporating these experiences into education, students are encouraged to better understand environmental, sustainability and urban issues, as well as create a stronger sense of place.

Our environmental and educational professionals deliver exceptional curriculum-linked programming at our premier facilities and sites, and in combination with our vision for The Living City, this makes TRCA the ideal one-stop-shop for the Ontario educators outdoor, environmental, geography, science and cultural heritage needs.

This guide contains a sample of TRCA's valuable and exciting educational programs.



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### GRADE AND CURRICULUM LINKS

The following symbols will make it easy to select the right programs to fit your classroom needs and achieve your curriculum objectives. Look for them next to the program descriptions.

 <b>The Arts</b>	 <b>Language</b>	 <b>Seasonal/Specialty Program</b>
 <b>Geography</b>	 <b>Physical Education</b>	 <b>Local, Outdoor Environment Required</b>
 <b>History</b>	 <b>Science &amp; Technology</b>	
 <b>Mathematics</b>	 <b>Social Studies (K-6)</b>	

## FIELD TRIP PLANNING MADE EASY!

- 1 Use it!** The **sample itineraries** on pages 27 through 34 give you an idea of how to maximize your field trip experience. We also have a helpful **regional map** on pages 18 & 19 to outline which TRCA facility is most convenient for you!
- 2 Choose it!** You will find **grade & curriculum links** listed next to each program. When multiple grades are listed, this indicates that the program will be adapted to fit the specific needs and curriculum of your classroom. This guide presents only a sample of our most popular programs. Additional programming is available for all sites at [www.trca-education.ca](http://www.trca-education.ca).
- 3 Plan it!** Consult with your school calendar and use the **planning tips and templates** on pages 34 through 39 to help structure, organize and customize your field trip.
- 4 Book it!** Reach us at any of the points listed below to confirm your field trip!

### PHONE

416-667-6295

Monday–Friday, 8:30am–4:30pm

### EMAIL

[customerservice@trca.ca](mailto:customerservice@trca.ca)

### WEB

[www.trca-education.ca](http://www.trca-education.ca)



# DAY TRIPS

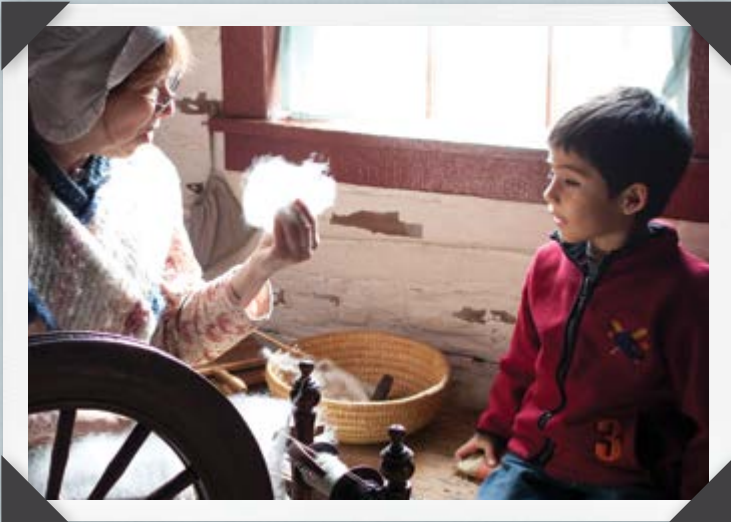
Toronto and Region Conservation's (TRCA) educational facilities at Kortright Centre for Conservation and Black Creek Pioneer Village specialize in delivering exciting, curriculum-linked, outdoor, environmental, cultural and historical programs in authentic environments. TRCA is also proud to bring nature education right to your classroom through our Outreach Education programs. Tailored for all age groups including ECE, primary, junior and intermediate classes, teachers will find the perfect field trip to complement their classroom at any of our premier educational facilities.

Single-day field trips are available at:

**BLACK CREEK PIONEER VILLAGE**

**KORTRIGHT CENTRE FOR CONSERVATION**

**YOUR SCHOOL** (led by TRCA's Outreach Education Team)



## *Winter Programming* at Black Creek Pioneer Village

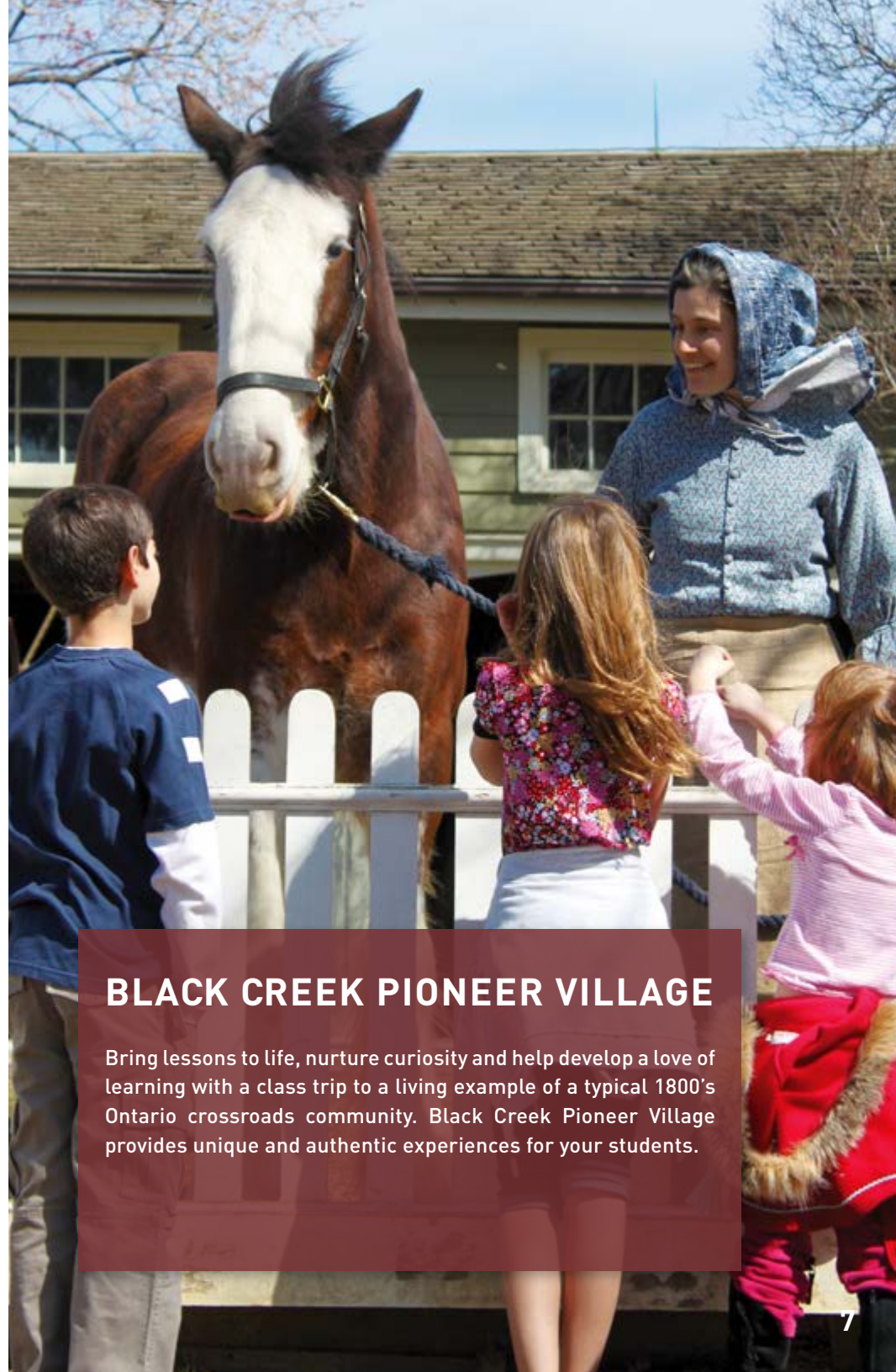


**For some winter fun, bring your class to  
Black Creek Pioneer Village!**

BACK TO SCHOOL • PARLOUR PLAY TIME  
PIONEER LIFE • WINTER IN THE VILLAGE



*All winter programming is available January to April, weather permitting.*



## **BLACK CREEK PIONEER VILLAGE**

Bring lessons to life, nurture curiosity and help develop a love of learning with a class trip to a living example of a typical 1800's Ontario crossroads community. Black Creek Pioneer Village provides unique and authentic experiences for your students.

## SENSORY ADVENTURES Pre-school to Grade 1

Students let their five senses guide them on a sensory journey through the Village. From meeting our farm animals and feeling sheep's wool as you try your hand at carding to smelling freshly baked bread and tasting a delicious historic treat, this program promises to be an exciting Sensory Adventure not to be missed!



Duration: **Half day (1.75 hours)**  
Available: **May to mid-November**

## CHRISTMAS PAST Pre-school to Grade 8

A special Christmas experience awaits students as they learn about the traditions and celebrations of the different cultures that make up the Village. Enjoy the plentiful and festive displays of Scottish, Irish, British and German-Pennsylvanian winter influences. Get into the holiday spirit by helping to make a traditional Christmas craft, try on pioneer winter clothes and play with Victorian Christmas toys!



Duration: **Half day (1.75 hours)**  
Available: **Mid-November to December**

## YESTERDAY'S CHILD Grade 1 and 3

Imagine being a child over 150 years ago! Help students relate to the lives of early settler children by comparing and contrasting through activities like trying on period clothing, practicing chores around the farm and trying their hand at 19th-century trades. Students may also learn how a doctor would make you feel better (or not) and experience toys and games from the 1860's!



Duration: **Half day (1.75 hours)**  
Available: **May to mid-November**

## BACK TO SCHOOL Grade 2 and 3

Spend some time in our 1860s schoolhouse where students are encouraged to understand the experience of early settlers by assuming the identities of children from a typical period community. A costumed school teacher leads the class through a variety of activities, including working on a slate, participating in a spelling bee, playing 19th-century games and practicing the 3Rs. *Back to School is a half day program providing exclusive use of the school house. It is recommended that you extend the program to a full day, providing students a half-day guided tour of the rest of the Village.*



Duration: **Half day (1.75 hours) or full day (3.5 hours)**  
Available: **January to April (full day recommended)**

## FARM LIFE Grade 2 to 6

New this year, experience Black Creek Pioneer Village's curriculum-linked and hands-on Farm Life program! The Village sets the tone for students as they grind grain in a quern, winnow wheat by hand and machine, plant seeds to take home, explore heritage gardens, investigate and examine artifacts and enjoy fresh bread and butter!



Duration: **Half day (1.75 hours)**  
Available: **May to mid-November**

## PIONEER LIFE Grade 3

Our authentic, heritage log house provides the perfect setting for students to get a taste of pioneer life! Hands-on tasks include cooking on a real wood stove, churning and preparing butter, carding wool and using a spinning wheel. A visit to our workshop offers opportunities to try woodworking and weaving on a barn loom. This program concludes with a 90-minute tour of the historic village.



Duration: **Full day (3.5 hours)**  
Available: **January to April**

## WINTER IN THE VILLAGE Grade 3 and 5

Bundle up and head to the Village this winter for some outdoor fun! Relive a part of Canadian history by learning to snowshoe and by playing traditional games once enjoyed by First Nations and early settlers. Students will also discover the origins of the many sports and games that are still played today.



Duration: **Half day (1.75 hours)**  
Available: **January to mid-March**

## REBELLION OF 1837 REVISITED Grade 7 and 8

Students take sides in the 1837 Rebellion to decide the future of Canada. They meet interpreted characters from the time period and collect information to examine key social and political issues that led to the rebellion. It culminates with a lively Town Hall debate where students must defend their position to see which side will emerge victorious!



Duration: **Half day (1.75 hours)**  
Available: **May to June, September to mid-November**

*Additional programs including secondary-level programming can be found at [www.blackcreek.ca](http://www.blackcreek.ca)*

# Tap into Spring

## Sugarbush Maple Syrup Festival at Kortright and Bruce's Mill

- Guided, curriculum-linked Maple Syrup walks
- Discussions on and demonstrations of the tools, methods and techniques used in Maple Syrup production
- Pre and/or post-visit materials
- Tasty treats!



**Bruce's Mill**  
Conservation Area

**Kortright**  
Centre for Conservation



For more information visit  
[www.maplesyrupfest.com](http://www.maplesyrupfest.com) or call 416-667-6295



## KORTRIGHT CENTRE FOR CONSERVATION

At Kortright Centre for Conservation students are immersed in a natural setting and provided an opportunity to learn, hands-on, about sustainable living, stewardship and the environment. Curriculum-linked programs build on in-class learning and invite students to connect with nature and better understand their relationship with and responsibility to the natural world around them.

## MAPLE SYRUP Pre-school to Grade 8

Enjoy the sweetness of springtime in Ontario! Come experience historic and modern methods of making maple syrup. Learn how to identify maple trees and see how they are tapped for sap. Students complete their visit with a taste of the sweet, end result.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **March to early-April**

## INSECTS Kindergarten to Grade 6

Students learn basic insect identification and classification skills appropriate to their grade level and then take to the field with bug-catchers in hand to collect different living organisms exploring at least two different habitats. Students compare their findings, examine the importance of invertebrates and learn about the fascinating life cycles of this important group of organisms.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **April to November**

## GROWTH AND CHANGE IN ANIMALS Grade 2

This hands-on program provides learners with an introduction to a variety of animals and their distinct characteristics. With the help of skins, antlers, feathers and additional natural items, students investigate the similarities and differences between mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish. They also have an opportunity to observe and explore animal life in several habitats around the Kortright property.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

## ART IN NATURE Grade 2 to 8

Students explore Ephemeral Art by working in groups to create a masterpiece using the natural materials provided by the landscape. Learners begin with a review of the basic elements of design - colour, texture, line, shape, form and space - to help guide their installation. A scenic location provides the backdrop for Kortright's "gallery without walls", where an appreciation of art and an understanding of the natural environment is fostered.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

## FORCES CAUSING MOVEMENT & KITE FLYING Grade 3

Students learn to identify the forces of gravity, magnetism, electrostatic force, wind, tension and friction through hands-on activities and experiments in this introduction to Forces Causing Movement program. Using investigative techniques, students are challenged to determine the effects of changing the amount of force applied to an object and observe natural forces in action. Extend this program to include making and flying kites!



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **April to October**

## HABITATS AND COMMUNITIES Grade 4

From forests and streams to wetlands and meadows, Kortright Centre boasts a rich variety of habitats for students to experience first-hand. Learners will identify producers, consumers and decomposers that form the communities in these areas and explore the natural environment that these species call home. The human dimension is considered in a discussion on the effects of human activities on resident plants and animals.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

## CONSERVATION OF ENERGY AND RESOURCES Grade 5

Kortright offers students a unique opportunity to observe and understand sustainable technology through renewable energy demonstrations. A hike along our Power Trip Trail displays practical, everyday, alternative energy sources. An appreciation of conservation is developed through hands-on exercises challenging students to produce the energy generated by solar panels and windmills through the use of a bike or hand pump.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

## WATER SYSTEMS Grade 7 and 8

Students examine both man-made and natural water systems at Kortright to increase their awareness that water is crucial to life and a valuable resource that needs to be managed sustainably. Activities include dipping for aquatic invertebrates and water quality testing that can reveal the health of the environment, and studying the water conservation measures currently employed at the Centre.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **April to November**

*Additional programs including secondary-level programming can be found at [www.trca-education.ca](http://www.trca-education.ca)*

## NEW at TOMMY THOMPSON PARK

Elementary-level environmental education field trips providing unique opportunities to experience the phenomenon of **Migration**, explore urban wildlife **Habitats** or take action by raising and planting **Aquatic Plants**, all in the heart of Toronto!



For further details, visit [TommyThompsonPark.ca](http://TommyThompsonPark.ca)  
or call 416-667-6295



## OUTREACH EDUCATION

Let us bring nature education to you! Our passionate, knowledgeable instructors come prepared with all the required tools and materials to deliver relevant, hands-on experiences to students through curriculum-linked programs and community-based action projects. Early registration is recommended, as these in-class programs fill up quickly.



### NEEDS OF LIVING THINGS Grade 1

Sensory games and hands-on activities deepen students' understanding of their senses and the many ways in which animals use theirs to meet their own needs.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

### LEAF LINKS Grade 3

Students learn about the important roles that trees play and have the opportunity to use simple identification keys to learn about the characteristics of local plant life and different tree species. Using the trees from your own community or school ground elicits prior knowledge and allows the learning to continue once we leave.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

### WETLAND ECOSYSTEMS Grade 3, 4 and 7

Through a variety of engaging and interactive activities, students learn about the important roles that wetlands play and explore the types of animals and plants living in Ontario's wetlands.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

### INSTINCTS FOR SURVIVAL Grade 4 and 7

Experience life on the wild side! Students assume the role of an indigenous species to simulate predator-prey relationships in an active, outdoor food-web game. This popular game reinforces the concepts of habitats and communities, provision of basic needs, food chains, trophic levels, energy flow and pyramid of numbers. It also looks at human impacts on animal survival.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

### CLIMATE CALAMITY Grade 5 and 7

When it comes to climate change, there is little time to waste. Students learn to separate fact from fiction by playing a greenhouse gas game and learning about human activities that accelerate the Earth's change in climate. Stewardship and what we can do to help is also discussed.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

### CLEAN WATER, CLEAR CHOICES Grade 7 and 8

A classroom experiment gets students thinking about different water filtration methods. Working in teams, they attempt to clean polluted water using miniature versions of water filtration items that represent equipment found in municipal waste water treatment facilities.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

### YELLOW FISH ROAD PROGRAM Grade 2 to 8, Community Groups

An indoor lesson and an interactive model help students learn how storm drains are linked to local water bodies. An outdoor component involves marking storm drains with yellow fish symbols and distributing educational leaflets to increase residents' awareness of storm water pollution.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **April to October**

### AQUATIC PLANTS PROGRAM Grade 3 to 8

Students will grow native aquatic plants from seed in your classroom and transplant them on a trip to a local wetland. This outdoor program includes engaging activity stations that help students to understand the value of wetland ecosystems and the important roles they play in maintaining the ecological health of our region. Students will have fun outdoors while learning to care for their environment!



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **May and June**

DUFFERIN

SIMCOE

# TRCA EDUCATION SITES

**LEGEND**

- TRCA boundary
- Regional municipal boundary
- Local municipal boundary
- Road

KILOMETRES

Glen Haffy Conservation Area

Albion Hills Field Centre and Conservation Area

KING

AURORA

WHITECHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

DURHAM

UXBRIDGE

Lake St. George Field Centre

CALEDON

YORK

PEEL

Kortright Centre for Conservation

VAUGHAN

RICHMOND HILL

Bruce's Mill Conservation Area

Claremont Field Centre

PICKERING

Heart Lake Conservation Area

Boyd Conservation Area

MARKHAM

BRAMPTON

Black Creek Pioneer Village

AJAX

Petticoat Creek Conservation Area

**WE CAN COME AND SEE YOU!**

Through our mobile Outreach Education programs we bring nature education to you. See pages 15 to 17 for more details.

TORONTO

Tommy Thompson Park

LAKE ONTARIO



HALTON

MISSISSAUGA

**SAMPLE OVERNIGHT TRIP ITINERARY**  
(for Lake St. George Field Centre)

Grade(s): 7 \_\_\_\_\_ # of students: 40 \_\_\_\_\_

<b>DAY 1</b>	ARRIVE	
	MORNING PROGRAM	<i>Check-in and meet centre staff</i>
	LUNCH	
	AFTERNOON PROGRAM	<i>Group Dynamics</i>
<b>DAY 2</b>	DINNER	
	EVENING PROGRAM	<i>Night Hike or Owl Prowl</i>
	BREAKFAST	
<b>DAY 3</b>	MORNING PROGRAM	<i>Cross-Country Skiing</i>
	LUNCH	
	AFTERNOON PROGRAM	<i>Wilderness Survival Skills</i>
	DINNER	
<b>DAY 4</b>	EVENING PROGRAM	<i>Legends of Lake St. George</i>
	BREAKFAST	
	MORNING PROGRAM	<i>Introduction to GPS Technology</i>
	DEPART (if 3-day trip) or LUNCH (if 5-day trip)	
<b>DAY 5</b>	AFTERNOON PROGRAM	<i>Instincts for Survival</i>
	DINNER	
	EVENING PROGRAM	<i>Astronomy</i>
	BREAKFAST	
<b>DAY 6</b>	MORNING PROGRAM	<i>Eco-footprint</i>
	LUNCH	
	AFTERNOON PROGRAM	<i>Coueurs De Bois: Fur Trading Game</i>
	DINNER	
<b>DAY 7</b>	EVENING PROGRAM	<i>Scavenger Hunt and Campfire</i>
	BREAKFAST	
	MORNING PROGRAM	<i>Nature Art or Nature Photography</i>
	LUNCH DEPART	

# OVERNIGHT PROGRAMS

Toronto and Region Conservation's (TRCA) educational, overnight programming at Lake St. George, Claremont and Albion Hills offers an exciting and distinctive opportunity for students to learn and to grow, both as individuals and as a member of the class. With access to unique environmental and geographic resources such as a kettle lake, solar-powered pontoon boat and endless hiking and skiing trails, students are provided the backdrop to build confidence, develop leadership skills and bond with one another. All excursions are curriculum-linked, customized to your groups' specific needs and delivered by our passionate and knowledgeable OCT-certified teachers.

Overnight programs are available at:

**ALBION HILLS FIELD CENTRE (Caledon)**

**CLAREMONT FIELD CENTRE (Pickering)**

**LAKE ST. GEORGE FIELD CENTRE (Richmond Hill)**

An ideal place to host your

## CROSS-COUNTRY RUN

*From regional to provincial meets, we've got the trails for you. Run sites are available at the following conservation areas:*

- **ALBION HILLS**, Caledon
- **BOYD**, Vaughan
- **BRUCE'S MILL**, Stouffville
- **HEART LAKE**, Brampton
- **PETTICOAT CREEK**, Pickering



[www.trca.on.ca](http://www.trca.on.ca)

Toronto and Region  
**Conservation**  
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## ALBION HILLS FIELD CENTRE

Creating memories and lasting impressions for over 50 years, Albion Hills is the Toronto and Region Conservation's (TRCA) residential field centre with both the longest history and the longest list of visitors! With OCT-certified teachers, immersive lessons and fantastic resources like our low-ropes course and cross-country paths, Albion Hills is the perfect site to bring your class!

## COUREURS DE BOIS: THE FUR TRADING GAME Grade 4 to 8

Relive an important part of Canadian history. This simulation game immerses students in the lifestyle of the “Runners of the Woods”, the early French settlers who paddled their canoes through Canadian waterways trading goods with First Nations for furs. Students learn how European contact changed the lives of First Nations People. Bartering and orienteering skills are developed as they travel among the villages.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **March to early April**

## CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING Grade 4 to 8

Explore the trails of Albion Hills with a Nordic twist. Skis, boots and poles are provided, followed by a group lesson on basic techniques and safety considerations. A ski tour of the property will follow to allow time for students to hone their skills.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **December to March (weather permitting)**

## INSTINCTS FOR SURVIVAL Grade 4 to 8

Experience life on the wild side! Students will assume the role of an indigenous species while fighting to maintain a place on the food chain. This predator-prey simulation teaches students about relationships within the food web and also looks at the human impact on animal survival while they play this active, outdoor adventure game.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

## NATURE ART Grade 4 to 8

Albion ArtFest! Awaken the creativity within by combining different artistic styles and techniques inspired by nature. Students take a short hike, observing the natural landscape through the eyes of an artist, searching for vistas and plants to be used in their art. A combination of solar prints, sketching, watercolour's and creative writing are explored to capture each student's unique artistic impression of Albion Hills.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

## STREAM STUDY Grade 4 to 8

An investigation of the Centreville Stream, a tributary to the Humber River, provides students with the opportunity to observe, measure, experiment with and collect biophysical data. An emphasis will be on exploring and identifying biodiversity using classification tools. Students analyze their findings to determine if the stream ecosystem is healthy and biologically diverse. Connections are made between the stream and other systems.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **March through September**

## WILDERNESS SURVIVAL SKILLS Grade 4 to 8

Survivor Albion! Working as a cooperative team in this simulation activity, students are challenged to engineer a shelter constructed from natural materials, build a small cooking fire to make hot chocolate, and signal for help. Safety and a no-trace philosophy are emphasized in this program.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

## GROUP DYNAMICS Grade 5 to 8

Students work in teams to solve a variety of active challenges in our low ropes course. Team success depends on a combination of cooperation, communication, physical and mental effort from all students. The emphasis is put on the process, and is designed to instill self-confidence, develop relationships and build trust and respect among team members.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

## ORIENTEERING Grade 4 to 8

You can choose from two different Orienteering programs. In Photo-Orienteering, students work cooperatively in pairs to analyze a series of photographs, determining the location of the photographer using accurate compass skills and deductive reasoning. Score-Orienteering also involves teamwork; however students are challenged to become experts in map interpretation and navigation by using a compass to find a series of hidden targets.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

# CALLING ALL SCOUTS, GUIDES, CAMPS, TEAMS, and SCHOOL RETREATS

Reconnect with one another and nature, earn badges, gain experiences to last a lifetime and enjoy the great outdoors at Toronto and Region Conservation Field Centres while we take care of the details. Weekend programming to suit any groups' needs, objectives or focus is available.

*Give your group an unforgettable experience.*

Call us: (416) 667- 6299 Visit us: [www.trca.on.ca/weekends](http://www.trca.on.ca/weekends)

**Lake St. George**  
FIELD CENTRE AT TRCA

**Claremont**  
FIELD CENTRE AT TRCA

**Albion Hills**  
FIELD CENTRE AT TRCA



 Toronto and Region  
**Conservation**  
for The Living City

## CLAREMONT FIELD CENTRE

Located just north of Toronto, Claremont Field Centre is a cedar log building with a wood burning fireplace that provides a cozy backdrop for your overnight, educational experiences. Our OCT certified teachers will share their passion with your students as they are immersed in engaging, environmental programming!

**INSTINCTS FOR SURVIVAL** Grade 4 to 8

Experience life on the wild side! Students will assume the role of an indigenous species while fighting to maintain a place on the food chain. This predator-prey simulation teaches students about relationships within the food web and also looks at the human impact on animal survival, while they play an active, outdoor adventure game.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **March through September**

**WILDERNESS SURVIVAL SKILLS** Grade 4 to 8

Working as a cooperative team in this simulation activity, students are challenged to engineer a shelter constructed from natural materials, build a small cooking fire to make hot chocolate, and signal for help. Safety and a no-trace philosophy are emphasized in this program.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

**CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING** Grade 4 to 8

Explore the trails of Claremont with a Nordic twist. Skis, boots and poles are provided, followed by a group lesson on basic techniques and safety considerations. A ski tour of the property will follow to allow time for students to hone their skills.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Winter**

**STREAM STUDY** Grade 4 to 8

An investigation of a local stream provides students with the opportunity to observe, measure, experiment, and collect biological and physical data. After interpreting the results, the young scientists will then determine if the stream ecosystem is healthy and biologically diverse.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Spring, Summer, Fall**

**POND STUDY** Grade 4 to 8

Ever wonder what lurks beneath the surface of local ponds? Students will explore the unknown by becoming acquainted with the characteristics of healthy pond ecosystems. Collecting and identifying pond organisms illustrates how these animals have adapted to their ecological habitat.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Spring, Summer, Fall**

**ABORIGINAL STUDIES** Grade 3 to 8

Students will first learn about the history of local First Nation's through discussions and an examination of actual artifacts. Hands-on activities like participating in historic games of skill, using a fire bow, pounding corn and baking Bannock help bring the history of the culture and people to life.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

**TREASURE MAPPING** Grade 6 to 8

'X' marks the spot! This activity introduces students to mapping. Participants are equipped with all of the necessary supplies to create a map and hide a treasure. Paces and bearings are used to develop a route, and clues are left as to the location of the treasure.



Duration: **Half day (2 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

**PHOTO ORIENTEERING** Grade 6 to 8

In this program students are introduced to, or have the opportunity to refine, their compass navigation skills. Working with a partner and using a booklet of photographs, accurate compass skills and deductive reasoning, students will determine the exact location of where each photograph was taken. They will be able to check their accuracy by recording the compass bearing of each site.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**



## ELEMENTARY TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

TRCA's nature-based PD courses build skills that support curriculum links through experiential learning and proven teaching methods, in authentic environments.

Offerings include:

- VOICES FROM THE LAND: ART & CULTURE IN NATURE
- TEACHING & LEARNING WITH MONARCH BUTTERFLIES
- CREATING MONARCH HABITATS
- GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEMS (GPS) CERTIFICATION

Full-day or half-day workshops are offered at fully equipped educational facilities. Certification and/or licencing are available in appropriate areas, upon completion.

For information on programs, dates and locations, visit:  
[www.trca-education.ca](http://www.trca-education.ca)



Monarch Teacher  
Network of Canada  
Le Réseau Canadien des  
Enseignants Monarques



Toronto and Region  
**Conservation**  
for The Living City

## LAKE ST. GEORGE FIELD CENTRE

Lake St. George provides an atmosphere reminiscent of cottage country, nestled within the city limits. This certified Eco-Centre is the perfect backdrop for class bonding and offers unparalleled educational resources. Extend your students' learning and development through exciting programming with our OCT certified teachers in a setting and experience they'll never forget!





**LAKE ECOLOGY** Grade 4 to 8

Take a ride on our solar-powered pontoon boat! Students have the unique opportunity to learn about glacial kettle lakes while enjoying a boat ride on Lake St. George. Participants will record data that allows them to create a profile of the lake. They will also be introduced to water sampling, perform chemical tests on water samples, and graph and interpret the results.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Spring, Summer, Fall**

**FISH MANAGEMENT** Grade 4 to 8

What varieties of fish species swim in Lake St. George? Students will answer that question by conducting an experiment, beginning with a fishing expedition using our 80-metre-long seine net. They will identify fish using identification keys and create drawings of the different species. Students will also be encouraged to weigh and measure the length of the fish before employing methods of “gentle release” back into the water.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Spring, Summer, Fall**

**INTRODUCTION TO GPS TECHNOLOGY** Grade 7 and 8

Students will learn how this technology works and relates to topographic maps. They will gain experience with the UTM (Universal Transverse Mercator) system using a handheld GPS unit and will be challenged to successfully navigate to various checkpoints in an orienteering challenge.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

**INSTINCTS FOR SURVIVAL** Grade 4 to 8

Experience life on the wild side! Students will assume the role of an indigenous species while fighting to maintain a place on the food chain. This predator-prey simulation teaches students about relationships within the food web and also looks at the human impact on animal survival, while they play an active, outdoor adventure game.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

**WILDERNESS SURVIVAL SKILLS** Grade 4 to 8

Working as a cooperative team in this simulation activity, students are challenged to engineer a shelter constructed from natural materials, build a small cooking fire to make hot chocolate, and signal for help. Safety and a no-trace philosophy are emphasized in this program.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

**CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING** Grade 4 to 8

Explore the trails of Lake St. George with a Nordic twist. Skis, boots and poles are provided, followed by a group lesson on basic techniques and safety considerations. A ski tour of the property will follow to allow time for students to hone their skills.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Winter**

**NIGHT HIKE** Grade 4 to 8

Explore the Lake St. George property under the cover of darkness while engaging all the senses to develop an appreciation for the specialization of the nocturnal world. With consideration given to theme, weather and time, possible activities include owl calling, moon mints, chalk sketching, storytelling and astronomy investigations.



Duration: **Evening program (1.5 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

**COUREURS DE BOIS: THE FUR TRADING GAME** Grade 4 to 8

Relive an important part of Canadian history. This simulation game immerses students in the lifestyle of the “Runners of the Woods”, the early French settlers who paddled their canoes through Canadian waterways trading goods with First Nations for furs. Students learn how European contact changed the lives of First Nations People. Bartering and orienteering skills are developed as they travel among the villages.



Duration: **Half day (2.5 hours)**  
Available: **Year-round**

## BRINGING NATURE EDUCATION TO YOUR SCHOOL:

Planning for an Outreach Education program

- **Registration opens on August 1** every year. Programs fill up quickly and they are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, so get your request in early!
- **To request a booking or inquire about programming**, call us at 416-661-6600 or email your inquiry to wow@trca.on.ca
- **Watershed on Wheels (WOW)** programs are delivered to four classes at your school. These classes can be varying grades and each class can choose whichever program is best suited to them - share the experience!
- **Program length can be adjusted to fit your requirements.** Inquire at time of booking.

## PLANNING A DAY TRIP

### DAY TRIP PLANNING CHECKLIST

- Coordinate school schedule with excursion dates.
- Make deposits with TRCA to secure preferred trip dates.
- Book your transportation.
- Communicate with Parents:
  - Price • Date(s) • Safety/ Permission Forms
- Confirm final numbers and settle balance with TRCA.

ENJOY YOUR TRIP!

## DAY TRIP PLANNING TEMPLATE

Grade(s): \_\_\_\_\_ # of students: \_\_\_\_\_

DAY TRIP	ARRIVE		
	MORNING PROGRAM		
	LUNCH. LITTER-LESS PACKED LUNCHES ARE ENCOURAGED.		
	AFTERNOON PROGRAM		
DEPART			

### SAMPLE DAY TRIP ITINERARY (for Kortright Centre for Conservation)

Grade(s): 4 # of students: 40

DAY TRIP	ARRIVE		
	MORNING PROGRAM	<i>Habitats and Communities</i>	
	LUNCH. LITTER-LESS PACKED LUNCHES ARE ENCOURAGED.		
	AFTERNOON PROGRAM	<i>Art in Nature</i>	
DEPART			

### HELPFUL HINTS

- **Inclusivity and equity are integral:** Field Centres can accommodate students with mobility concerns. Share your needs with us!
- Payments can be a hassle, but with TRCA you control the process (payments, collections, payment plans etc.) and **only two simple payments are required: deposit and balance.**
- Invite another class, or even another grade, to **help reduce the per student cost of expenses like transportation.** Visitor Services can assist you with booking different programs for each class or grade.

## PLANNING AN OVERNIGHT TRIP

### OVERNIGHT PLANNING CHECKLIST

- Coordinate school schedule with proposed overnight excursion dates.
- Make deposits with TRCA to secure preferred trip dates.
- Schedule site visit or phone session with Education Supervisor to review and select programs.
- Book your transportation.
- Communicate with Parents:
  - Price • Date(s) • Safety/ Permission Forms
  - Packing list/ expectations
- Complete dorm assignments, work groups and any other necessary forms.
- Confirm participant numbers with TRCA and make final payment.

ENJOY YOUR TRIP!

## OVERNIGHT PLANNING TEMPLATE

For 3-day or 5-day trip

Grade(s): \_\_\_\_\_

# of students: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>DAY 1</b>	ARRIVE	
	MORNING PROGRAM	
	LUNCH	
	AFTERNOON PROGRAM	
<b>DAY 1</b>	DINNER	
	EVENING PROGRAM	

<b>DAY 2</b>	BREAKFAST	
	MORNING PROGRAM	
	LUNCH	
	AFTERNOON PROGRAM	
<b>DAY 2</b>	DINNER	
	EVENING PROGRAM	

<b>DAY 3</b>	BREAKFAST	
	MORNING PROGRAM	
	DEPART (if 3-day trip) or LUNCH (if 5-day trip)	
	AFTERNOON PROGRAM	
<b>DAY 3</b>	DINNER	
	EVENING PROGRAM	

<b>DAY 4</b>	BREAKFAST	
	MORNING PROGRAM	
	LUNCH	
	AFTERNOON PROGRAM	
<b>DAY 4</b>	DINNER	
	EVENING PROGRAM	

<b>DAY 5</b>	BREAKFAST	
	MORNING PROGRAM	
	LUNCH DEPART	

## HOW TO REACH US

### INQUIRIES, BOOKINGS AND INFORMATION FOR:

Kortright Centre for Conservation, Black Creek Pioneer Village, Tommy Thompson Park, Educational Field Centres at Albion Hills, Claremont and Lake St. George

### PHONE

416-667-6295, follow prompts

### WEB

[www.trca-education.ca](http://www.trca-education.ca)

### EMAIL

[customerservice@trca.ca](mailto:customerservice@trca.ca)

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### BOOKING REQUESTS

for Watershed on Wheels and Outreach Education

### PHONE

Peel Region: 416-661-6600 ext. 5764

All Other Regions: 416-661-6600 ext. 5623

### EMAIL

[wow@trca.on.ca](mailto:wow@trca.on.ca)

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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Watershed on Wheels and Outreach Education

### WEB

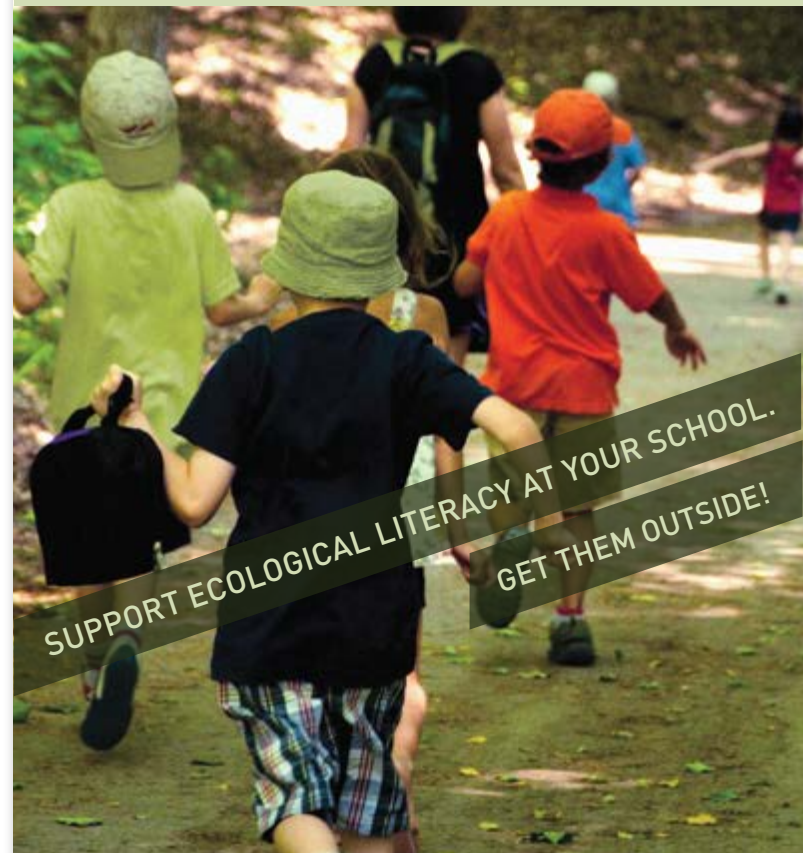
[wow@trca.on.ca](mailto:wow@trca.on.ca)

[www.trca-education.ca](http://www.trca-education.ca)

## Ontario EcoSchools...

Outdoor experiential learning and professional development supports the Curriculum and Teamwork & Leadership sections of your Ontario EcoSchools certification application.

Connect with your EcoTeam Lead to see how **YOU** and **YOUR CLASS** can contribute to your school's application.



For more information visit [www.ontarioecoschools.org](http://www.ontarioecoschools.org)

## OUR EDUCATION CENTRES AND PROGRAMS

### **Albion Hills Field Centre**

Caledon, Ontario

### **Black Creek Pioneer Village**

Toronto, Ontario

### **Bruce's Mill Conservation Area**

Stouffville, Ontario

### **Claremont Field Centre**

Claremont, Ontario

### **Kortright Centre for Conservation**

Vaughan, Ontario

### **Lake St. George Field Centre**

Richmond Hill, Ontario

### **Tommy Thompson Park**

Toronto, Ontario

### **Outreach Education**

Your School