

The Kids 'n Nature Program

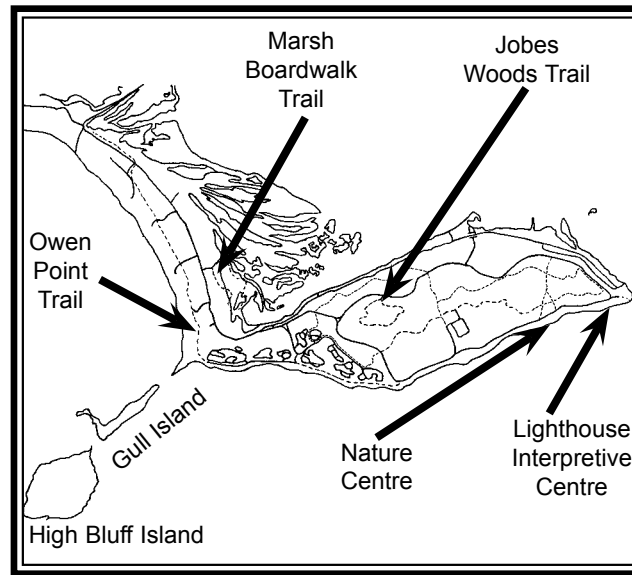
Kids 'n Nature is an exciting new approach to educational programming that will encourage children to understand biodiversity: how it works, why it is important and why its preservation affects humans collectively and individually.

A new element to the program is the problem-solving, hands-on teaching approach to address the new curriculum focus on the Science, Technology, Society and the Environment expectations in the revised Ontario Science and Technology curriculum.

The Kids 'n Nature program has been developed by the Friends of Presqu'ile in cooperation with Presqu'ile Provincial Park. The new program was inspired by 2010 being the International Year of Biodiversity and the recent rebuilding of Presqu'ile Provincial Park's famous Marsh Boardwalk.

Most in-park programs will take place on the Marsh Boardwalk, a one kilometre trail through the largest protected marsh on Lake Ontario. Each individual program will be linked to the grade-specific life science strand curriculum expectations.

Through the authentic, problem-based learning experience, students will take away a connection to nature and a positive outlook on the relationship between humans and the environment.



Presqu'ile Provincial Park

is located on the north shore of Lake Ontario, five minutes south of the town of Brighton. For more information about Presqu'ile or its programs, contact:

Presqu'ile Provincial Park
RR# 4, Brighton, ON K0K 1H0
Telephone: (613) 475-4324
Fax: (613) 475-2209
www.ontarioparks.com

The Friends of Presqu'ile Park

is a non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to supporting and enhancing the educational and interpretive aspects of Presqu'ile Provincial Park. For more information, contact:

The Friends of Presqu'ile Park
PO Box 1442, Brighton ON, K0K 1H0
Telephone: (613) 475-1688
www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca



Presqu'ile

Kids 'n Nature



2010 School Group Programs



Sponsored by
**The Friends
of Presqu'ile Park**

Program Delivery

The new Kids 'n Nature program aims to create an understanding of biodiversity through a rich problem-based learning experience for students in Grades 3, 4, 6 and 7 using two key elements.

First, an interpreter will visit the class during the in-school portion, to discover students' preconceptions and introduce them to specific content on biodiversity and Presqu'ile's marsh. Students will then be given a 'mission' to complete on their field trip to the park.

During the in-park visit, students will be guided by the interpreter to gather more information about the marsh through events such as a pond study. To complete their 'mission,' students must use their science literacy skills to evaluate the information collected in order to make an informed decision on a solution to the problem.

The in-park portion of the program lasts for approximately half a day and is offered during the academic year from September to June. Groups may choose to participate in only the in-park or in-class portion.

Students will be provided with worksheets to assist them with their mission during their visit to the park. Teachers may want to incorporate these into an authentic assessment for their students. Pre-visit and post-visit activity sheets are also available for groups to use in their classroom.

Program Topics

The 2010 Kids 'n Nature program currently focuses on the biodiversity of the Presqu'ile marsh within the following grades and topic areas:

Grade 3: Growth and Changes in Plants

Grade 4: Habitats and Communities

Grade 6: Diversity of Living Things

Grade 7: Marsh Ecology

Other grades are still welcome to participate in curriculum-based programs at Presqu'ile. Half-day, in-park programs, are available for the following topics:

Characteristics of Living Things

Grade 1

Discover the characteristics and special adaptations of insects found in the Presqu'ile marsh.

Growth and Changes in Animals

Grade 2

Explore the life cycles and seasonal changes of birds and butterflies at Presqu'ile or get into the marsh with a pond study.

Rocks and Minerals

Grade 4

Discover the park's fascinating fossils from the Ordovician period and explore the development of the rare tombolo landform.

Forest Ecology

Grade 7

Explore the relationships between organisms of the old growth forest and play a role in their survival.



Custom Programs

If you are unable to visit the park or none of the programs offered meet your requirements, contact Presqu'ile Provincial Park. We will attempt to accommodate your request. Classroom visits can be arranged.



How to Book

To book a park experience or have an interpreter visit your school, please contact:

David Bree

Natural Heritage Education Leader

Telephone: (613) 475-4324 ext. 225

Email: david.bree@ontario.ca

Fax: (613) 475-2209

Fee Structure

The Friends of Presqu'ile are generously sponsoring the Kids 'n Nature program in 2010, making your visit FREE!

Groups are responsible for providing their own transportation to, within and from Presqu'ile Provincial Park.