



# How to Spend a Day at Presqu'ile with Kids



Call Presqu'ile at 613-475-4324 or check the park's website for facility and activity availability:  
[www.ontarioparks.com/park/presquile](http://www.ontarioparks.com/park/presquile)

Find self-use resources like activity sheets and trail guides on the Friends of Presqu'ile website:  
<https://www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca/virtual-education-resources.php>

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**Summer:** Canada Day weekend to Labour Day weekend

1. Enjoy the **sandy beach**. Vault toilets available. No dogs allowed. No lifeguards on duty.
2. Take in the sights and sounds of the **Marsh Boardwalk Trail**. This 1km trail is stroller and wheelchair friendly, consisting mostly of wooden boardwalk. Interpretive signs on site.
3. Get a view of Presqu'ile's islands, breeding grounds to thousands of colonial water birds, along the 1km **Owen Point Trail**. Comfort station at entrance. Trail guide available online.
4. Make a stop at the **Park Store** for frozen treats or Ontario Parks merchandise. Open daily.
5. Have a **picnic**. The grassy Day Use areas along the southern shore have picnic tables and a reservable Picnic Shelter. Vault toilets available.
6. Swim at the **rocky beach**, on the southern shore. Water shoes are strongly suggested. Dogs are permitted. No lifeguards on duty.
7. Ride your **bicycle**: Use the bicycle lane on paved roads. Bicycles are not allowed on trails.
8. Grab a trail map and walk up the gravel road from the Group Camp parking lot. Continue along the forested **Newcastle Trail** (orange) or **Pioneer Trail** (yellow) if you like. While both these trails are long, you can exit the trail where it crosses the loop road. Look out for chickadees!
9. Tour the **Nature Centre**, open daily, with live **animals**, nature displays and Discovery staff to answer your questions.
10. Visit the **Lighthouse Interpretive Centre**, open daily. Check out the history displays and art gallery. Indoor washroom facilities available. Vault toilets are available in the parking lot.  
(2021: closed)
11. Support the Friends of Presqu'ile Park by shopping at the **Lighthouse Gift Shop**, featuring nature books, apparel and souvenirs. (2021: closed)
12. Walk around **Presqu'ile Point** to see the **lighthouse** and read historic plaques along the way. Skip stones or search for fossils along the rocky shore. Watch and listen for birds at the boardwalk lookout points. Kids activity sheets available online.
13. Take a detour down Atkins Lane to visit the **Calf Pasture** day use area. Use the lookout to view Presqu'ile Bay or have a picnic. Vault toilets available.
14. Walk **Jobs' Woods Trail**. This 1km walk takes you through Maple Beech forest, Black Ash Swamp and coniferous plantations. Wet areas are covered by boardwalks. Stroller and wheelchair friendly. Trail guide and kids activity sheet available online.



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15. Participate in a **Discovery Program**. The weekly schedule features children's programs, guided walks, evening program and Ask the Naturalist sessions. Get a copy of the schedule on social media (@PresquilePP, @FriendsofPresquile), the Friends website [www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca](http://www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca) and in the park.
  16. Attend a Special Event. **History Weekend**, on the August long weekend is packed with historical activities. **Monarchs & Migrants Weekend**, on Labour Day Weekend features Monarch tagging and bird banding.

## Fall

- While most facilities are closed in the fall, most campgrounds and comfort stations are open until mid-October.
- Go camping!
- Warm fall days are still great for picnics, bicycling, the beach and walking trails.
- See the colours change along forested trails.

## Winter

- Observe ice volcanoes along the southern shore. On a windy day, lake water may explode out the top. For your safety, always stay off the shelf ice along the shore.
- Attend **Waterfowl Weekend** in March to experience thousands of migrating ducks, geese and swans. Participate in indoor activities and outdoor waterfowl identification stations.
- Hit the trails: open for walking and cross-country skiing (not groomed)

## Spring

1. Go bird watching. Checklists and kids activity sheets available online.
2. Attend **Warblers & Whimbrels Weekend**, on Victoria Day weekend, which features bird identification walks and bird banding demonstrations.
3. Walk any forested trail or along the pannes beside the beach roads and look for life in the vernal pools.