



Youth / Nature 2023-2024



Bilingual and free, the Jeunes-Nature (Youth-Nature) program aims to allow all young people in the Brome-Missisquoi region to discover the Montagnes-Vertes Nature Reserve, this hidden treasure in their own backyard. Our goal is to establish an authentic connection between young people and their natural environments through both educational and sport hiking adventures.

2

outings per school year:
fall and spring



2

Format:
accompanied and
participatory

- Trip led by a professional nature interpreter (50% of the activity)
- Self-guided using interpretation tools provided by PENS (rest of the time)



Purely sporting outings are NO LONGER SUBSIDIZED OR GUIDED BY PARC SUTTON. However, during the off-peak period (September 1 to October 31), access to the trails remains free for one outing/class/year for all Brome-Missisquoi schools and preschools.

PEDAGOGICAL INTENTION FOR EACH SCHOOL CYCLE

EARLY CHILDHOOD AND K-5.... EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY

This activity will allow children to observe and discover what makes up a forest: the trees and the flora. Curiosity is encouraged to carry out hypotheses and to develop nature connections while using the senses (sight, smell, hearing, touch) in a safe way.

1ST CYCLE : FIRST AND SECOND GRADE... INTRO TO EXPLORATION OF THE LIVING UNIVERSE

Students are invited to connect with nature by observing and discovering animals, trees and flora. Throughout the outing the students will learn about living organisms, including the classification of living things, the anatomy and growth of plants and animals, and how living organisms adapt to their environment throughout the seasons.

2E CYCLE: THIRD AND FOURTH GRADES AND UP... DEEPENING THE LIVING WORLD

Students are invited to connect with nature by observing and discovering animals, trees and flora. Throughout the outing they will learn about living organisms, the classification of living things, the anatomy and growth of plants and animals, and how living organisms adapt to their environment throughout the seasons..





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Program Details

● Bilingual and free program

● Outing description:

Nature interpretation outings led by a park interpreter-guide (50% of the outing), and enriched by self-interpretation elements provided by the park for the rest of the itinerary.

● Hike duration:

Half day : 3 hours

Full day : 5 hours, including a lunch break around noon.

● Subsidized transportation:

Parc Sutton subsidizes 50% of the cost of one bus per school per season (spring, fall). The reservation must be organized and confirmed by the school, which is also responsible for cancelling the outing, if necessary, and reminding the transporter to split the invoice in two before sending it to both parties.

● Complementary use of buses:

Young people who are not participating in the interpretation activity can join the passengers of the subsidized buses, but they must be supervised by institution staff and volunteers and follow separate trails from the interpretation hikes, in order to not compromise the activity.

● Educational Resources:

In addition to the guide-animator, park volunteers accompany the outings as far as they are available to ensure that the principles of ethical hiking are respected, to answer questions during the hike and to help in case of emergency.

Conditions

● Express your interest before June 30th and register by September 1st, 2023.

● Be located in Brome-Missisquoi or in immediate proximity.

● Be interested in nature interpretation and commit to participating in the preparation, supervision, and follow-up of the outings.

● Minimum of 10 youth per outing. Maximum 20 kids for early childhood and preschool. Maximum of 26 youth for elementary and secondary levels

● Ratio of supervision to be provided by the school (in addition to the supervision of the PENS):

- Pre-school: 1 adult for every 6 children
- Primary: 1 adult for every 8 students
- Secondary: 1 adult for every 10 students

● Student supervision and discipline of the group remain the responsibility of the teachers and volunteers from the school.

● The person in charge undertakes to pass on the principles of ethical hiking to the students before the outing, **to ensure that all young people are properly shod and equipped**, and to heed the park's instructions.

● In the event of a complaint concerning non-compliance with the **Principles of Ethical Hike** and recommendations of the PENS, the PENS reserves the right to prohibit future visits for the group concerned.

