

For Younger Participants



Rocks and Minerals - This workshop includes a story on where rocks come from, handling actual rocks and minerals in our interactive game, and creating a 'pet rock' to take home. The presentation can be adapted for participants from Kindertaarten to Gr. 4.

Native Plants - Popular with our younger participants (up to about Gr. 3), this workshop allows children to learn about local forest plants through the examination of photos, cones, tree rings, and other props while taking an imaginary walk through the forest with puppets 'Gita' and 'Michael.' We end by playing our giant Native Plants board game.



Hibernation - Designed for Kindergarten and early primary school children this workshop includes our 'Guess Who Sleeps Here?' game, hibernation song and craft to teach children how some animals adapt to winter.



Animal Builders: A look at animals in this region and the structures that they build.

Outdoor Adventures

One of the best ways to learn about nature is to be outdoors in it!

Nature walks[†] may take place at a nearby natural area - e.g. forest, wetland, creek - or they may explore urban habitats around the participants' own homes. Nature journals are provided to record observations and learn how to view the world like a true naturalist.



Other Programs

At the IUE we like to be responsive to current issues as well as the needs of our workshop attendees. Although some workshops are most suitable to certain age groups, it is possible to adapt most for different audiences. Additionally, while this brochure outlines some of our most popular workshops, if there is a specific topic you would like covered, but which is not listed here, please contact us, and we will do our best to accommodate you.

[†]Except in cases of extreme conditions, outdoor programs are 'rain or shine'. Please instruct your participants to wear sturdy shoes and to dress appropriately for the weather.

To book a program, or for more information about the Institute, contact us at:

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Fax: (604) 527-5095

(Please mark faxes attn: IUE)

E-mail: iue@douglas.bc.ca

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The IUE would like to thank the sponsors for supporting this year's Ecological Education program:



Environmental Education Programs for Schools and Community Groups

Offered by
The Institute of Urban Ecology



Douglas College

Our Workshops

At the Institute of Urban Ecology (IUE) we believe that learning about nature should be interesting and exciting. This means we use a variety of pictures, games, songs, and props (among other things) to invite participants to have an active role in discovering things about the world around them, their relationship to it, and what we can all do to help protect local wildlife and habitats.



We come to your location, and, thanks to the support of our sponsors, we are also able to provide our workshops **FREE of charge** for this school year.



Because our workshops are very popular, and our staff time limited, please book well in advance to avoid disappointment.

Wildlife



Feathery Friends - A look at birds that are commonly found in the Lower Mainland and how they have adapted different niches. This workshop includes creating nesting bags or bird boxes for participants to keep.**

Night Wings: Bats of B.C. - Meet 'Betty the Bat', our expert puppet, who helps to debunk myths and shares secrets about these amazing flying mammals. This workshop may include the construction of bat boxes for participants to keep.**



Fantastic Frogs - Learn more about these amazing animals - What is an amphibian? Why do frogs sing? What is their life cycle? And more... Follow-up activities are chosen to be age-appropriate for participants.



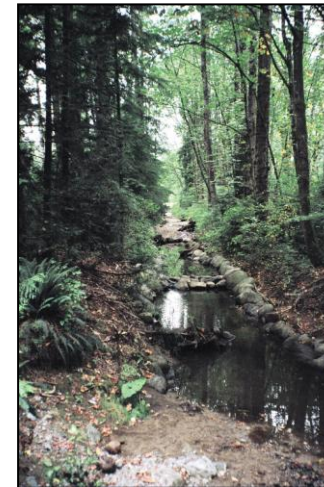
**Building bat and bird boxes with younger participants requires the support of older volunteer helpers. Please contact us for more information.

Habitats



Urban Habitats - Participants learn about the ways animals adapt and survive in the city while filling our 'Urban Habitat Tree' and playing our 'Who Am I?' game.

Life as a Creek - Using an interactive model, participants learn about riverine ecosystems: functioning, wildlife, plants, and the harmful and helpful impacts humans may have on them. Our Creek Trivia game tests 'lessons learned'.



Wild World of Wetlands - The class learns about the interdependence of life in a wetland while assembling our giant wetlands puzzle. Follow-up activities include a craft or game, depending on the age of the participants.



For Older Participants

Workshops in this section are designed for participants in Grade 5 or older‡.

Bioindicator Monitoring - Using ground beetles as indicator species and simple pitfall trapping methods, participants in this workshop will learn more about the health of a local forested ecosystem.



Water Quality and Chemistry - A look at a number of water quality parameters, e.g. pH, turbidity, and dissolved oxygen, with discussions on why these factors are important to stream and wildlife health.

This workshop may be done on its own or be used as a tool to predict results for the benthic invertebrate study below.

New! Benthic Invertebrate Study - this workshop examines an often overlooked part of aquatic ecosystems - the tiny critters that live on the bottom. Participants learn the importance of these animals, as well as what these critters tell us about the health of the water.

This workshop may be done on its own or in conjunction with the water quality workshop above.



‡Access to an appropriate habitat area is necessary for the success of these workshops.