

Wetlands- Program Highlights



Grade: 5 Length: 2 hours Number of volunteers requested: 3-4 Student Booklet: No

Please refer to www.tpet.ca for a complete list of SLE's covered in this field trip!

Activities

Whole group

What is a wetland? A watershed? An ecosystem? These questions and more are answered before the students journey through the five wetland stations with our wetland expert.

Station 1: Roles and Types of Wetlands

Presenter leads station

- Students will play a **guessing game** to discover the **5 different types of wetlands**.
- Students **do an experiment** to see how just how wetlands keep themselves clean.



Station 2: Wetland Zones

Volunteer English Language Proficiency: ★★★

- Students will look at materials that describe the **3 wetland zones** and the different kinds of vegetation found in each zone.
- Students are asked to **identify several mystery wetland plants using a wetland identification wheel**.
- Students **make and keep their own wetland wheel**.

Station 3: Incomplete vs. Complete

Volunteer English Language Proficiency: ★★

- Students look at the **two types of metamorphosis** (complete and incomplete) and **play a game that challenges them to identify different insect lifecycles**.
- Using **dichotomous keys and mystery cards**, students **identify examples of macro invertebrates** found in Alberta's wetlands.

Station 4: Adaptations

Volunteer English Language Proficiency: ★★★

- Plants and animals in Alberta's wetlands are **master adapters**. Students learn what some of these **awesome adaptations** are.
- Students do a challenging **experiment to find out why birds have different beaks**.



Station 5: Food Chains

Volunteer English Language Proficiency: ★

- Students create **food chains and food webs using magnets**.
- **Invasive species** are discussed and the students identify one very pesky problem for Alberta's wetlands.

Closing activity:

- As a whole group, students look at some **threats to the future of Alberta's wetlands**. Students strategize what they can do to help protect these vital natural resources!