

Teacher's Handbook

2012

To programs and field trips available at the BC Wildlife Park
or at your school!



BOOKING A FIELD TRIP

BOOKING PROCESS & GUIDELINES

- You must pre-register for all education programs. Payment in advance would be greatly appreciated.
- Requests will be processed in the order they are received. A confirmation letter will be sent to you via email or fax. If any details are inaccurate, please let us know as soon as possible. Your reservation is not complete until you have received confirmation
- If you have not received confirmation notification, contact the Education Department and make sure we've received your registration form.



The BC Wildlife Park was first established in 1966, and for the past 43 years we have been promoting our motto “Conservation through Education”. By booking an Educational Program with the BC Wildlife Park, you will not only have the opportunity to meet wildlife up close and personal, but your students will be learning more about the world around them, helping them to become ambassadors for their planet.

THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- One chaperone for every 3 students will be allowed to enter the Park for free and can enjoy the education program with the class. If you have any additional chaperones, please inform them that they will be required to either pay admission (they will receive a 20% discount if your group is 10 or more people) or show an annual pass.
 - Please note that annual passes are not applicable to education programs for students
- Please be at the designated meeting place 10 minutes prior to your program time. Your students will need to wash their hands before entering the classroom.

CANCELLATIONS AND CHANGES

- If you must cancel or postpone an education program, please call **250-573-3242 ext 228**

EDUCATION AT THE PARK

EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR 2012

We have three new programs – The Truth about Bears, Alien Invasions and Wise about Water! All of our educational programs are designed using the BC Ministry of Education Curriculum and are adaptable to all grade levels and needs which you can discuss with our Education Staff

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

We are able to deliver our educational programs at your school! Imagine learning about nature and wildlife in the comfort of your own classroom. We offer our outreach programs to you from September until April 30th. You can choose from our educational programs listed on the next page to be presented in your classroom.

GUIDED EDUCATIONAL TOUR

You want to see what the BC Wildlife Park has to offer, but a traditional class isn't your style? Have a guided educational tour with one of our knowledgeable staff. Please discuss your ideas or needs with our Educational Staff.

FEES

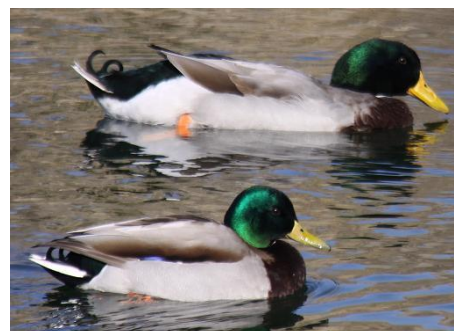
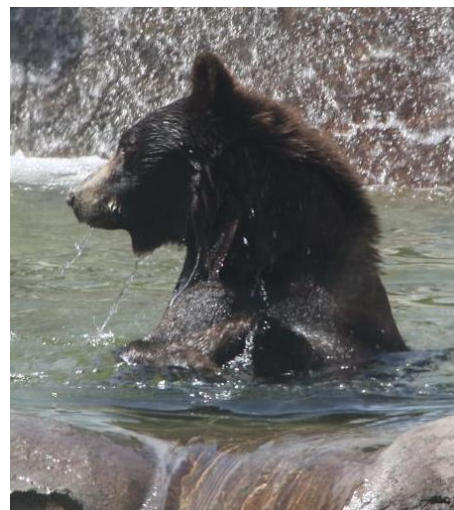
Education Programs or tours at the Park

\$5.00 per student September to April 30th – minimum \$80.00

\$6.00 per student May and June – minimum \$100.00

Outreach Programs

\$100.00 per program plus the cost of mileage to your school.



HOW TO BOOK A PROGRAM

If you are interested in booking a program or have questions you would like to ask, please call us at **250-573-3242, ext. 228**, or email us at **bookings@bczoo.org**. You can also go to our website at **www.BCzoo.org/atthepark.htm** to book a program online. We look forward to hearing from you.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS 2012

Program Lengths: 45-55 minutes. All programs can be adapted to your class needs. Ask us how!

The Truth about Bears – NEW!

Bears are curious and smart animals! Learn how to identify grizzly and black bears and how they are different. What they eat and when they eat it, that they are not true hibernators, and how to keep them out of our communities. Also students will get a chance to see our new grizzly cubs! (Weather permitting)

Wise about Water – NEW!

Every living thing needs water to live! Learn how we are all part of the earth's ecosystems and how our reliance on water is crucial to both ours and animals lives.

Alien Invasions – NEW!

Learn about different types of plant and animal invasive species. Learn how they impact our environment, how they were introduced and how to stop the spread of more alien species.

Snakes!

Snakes are fascinating creatures! Learn about their bodies, how they get food, and why they are important to the planet. A supplement is available for older grades which compares the anatomy of snakes to humans.

Awesome Adaptations

How do animals survive in different environments and habitats? What kinds of adaptations do they have to hunt and hide? This program covers adaptations.

Saving our Species

This very popular program covers what factors are causing populations of species to decline and what we can do to help endangered species. The class covers animal needs, habitats and the impact that humans have on the planet.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS 2012

Animals and their Environment

Learn how animals interact in their habitat and how everything is interconnected. This program focuses on food chains and the important links between lives in different ecosystems.

Raptor Research/Owls/Falcons/Hawks/Eagles

Meet some birds of prey up close and learn the differences between hawks, eagles, owls and falcons! How are they able to hunt and survive? What do raptors have that other birds don't and why are they so successful?

Salmon Life

One of the most important species in the planet's history is under extreme threat of becoming endangered. Learn why it is so hard to manage these animals, their life history, and how we can help them!

BATS!

Why do people fear these animals so much? Why should we respect and understand them instead of persecuting them? Learn about the only flying mammals in the world and their important place in the planets

Bees and Me

Learn about life cycles of the most important pollinator in the world! How they are born, what they do, how they do it. and how they are different from us!

Furs, Feathers and Talons

An Interactive, hands on experience for students to examine different types of furs, feathers and talons.

OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS

BURROWING OWL BREEDING PROGRAM

Prior to 1980, burrowing owls became extirpated (extinct in one place but found elsewhere) from the British Columbia Grasslands. Since 1990, the BC Wildlife Park has been involved with the BC Burrowing Owl Recovery Program as a breeding facility, and currently has the largest burrowing owl breeding facility in the world.

In 2004, The Park received an award of excellence from CAZA (Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums) for our captive breeding program.



WILDLIFE REHABILITATION HOSPITAL

The Park has been helping injured and orphaned wildlife from the beginning. We have an Animal Health Technician on staff whose job it is to help both the wild animals that are brought to us as well as our Park animals. We also have a local vet who comes in weekly to check out all animals at the Hospital and who is available to us all the time!

Our hospital sees over 300 animals each year that are in need of assistance. Whenever possible we release these animals back into the wild, and if they are too injured, these animals may be able to find a home at the Wildlife Park!





NEW ANIMALS AT THE PARK

In July the Park welcomed 2 orphaned grizzly cubs from the Yukon as new permanent residents! The cubs were found at the headwaters of Casino Creek in Whitehorse next to their mother who had been shot for reasons unknown. The cubs were shipped down to Vancouver courtesy of Northern Air, and picked up by Park staff from there. The cubs are currently growing very quickly, and within 2 months of coming to the Park had already doubled in size!



PHOTO CREDITS

We would like to thank Edna Park for donating her pictures for use in this booklet. Edna is one of the most dedicated volunteers who regularly donates her time to the Wildlife Park.