

Adventures Every Day Outdoor Learning Spring 2024

12 Fridays from March 22 to June 21

Not including Good Friday March 29 and HWDSB PA Day on June 7

Programme Overview

Adventures Every Day offers a drop-off nature immersion program to students 4 to 12 years old. Repeated access to trails and wooded areas will promote good physical, mental, social and emotional health, while teaching understanding of our place in the web of life. Students will build life skills such as resilience while being outdoors in all kinds of weather, spatial awareness while negotiating forest trails, social competency while practising sharing ideas and objects, and self confidence while assessing and taking risks in the physical environment. Forest School principles (<https://childnature.ca/about-forest-and-nature-school/>) including child-led free play in nature, awareness of our surroundings and thinking through the impacts of our actions will guide our sessions this spring.

All of these experiences will take place in the presence of at least one experienced and caring adult Forest and Nature School Practitioner. The maximum student to educator ratio is 6:1.

Pick-up and drop-off

Drop off is at 9:00 across Dundurn St. from Earl Kitchener School (300 Dundurn St. S).

Morning-only participants will be returned here for pick-up at 12:00 or brought to the school and dropped off into the building.

The afternoon portion of the program will vary but may include: field trips on HSR buses to natural areas in Hamilton; motor skills and creative practice with ropes, wood and other loose materials; spending time with plants and animals; stories; and time, materials and prompts for creativity.

Some of these activities will take place in the backyard of 366 Herkimer St. - (Christopher's residence). Access to the residence by participants will occur only for use of the bathroom or emergency shelter in dangerous weather.

3:30 pick-up spot will be 366 Herkimer St.

Sites

Our regular site will be the escarpment adjacent to the Bruce Trail between the Hillcrest reservoir and the Chedoke golf course. Walks and free play areas vary from week to week depending on the weather and the energy of the group. We have access to a bathroom at the Dundurn Market at 346 Dundurn St. S.

Registration and Refund Policy

Payment in full (\$480 for half-day / \$960 for full-day) is required on or before March 1st, 2024. Payment in two instalments (\$240/480 March 1, \$240/480 May 1) is available on request. There will be no refund for absences due to illness, injury or other spontaneously arising personal circumstances. Cancellations caused by weather will be refunded or credited. Long-term absences will be considered for refund or credit on a case-by-case basis. Students entering the class after March 1st will be charged a pro-rated fee of \$40/half day / \$80/full day) .

Safety Plan

I have up-to-date First Aid training and carry a stocked First-Aid kit with me. I have a cell phone with coverage in the areas I visit with kids and I make sure at least one child knows the lock code of my phone and can access it in an emergency. I have done site risk-assessments for the Highland Gardens/Bruce Trail/Chedoke woods and golf course and Churchill Park/RBG south shore sites and continue to monitor weather and environmental conditions and be mindful of risks to staff and participants.

