



OUTDOOR EDUCATION TRIP GUIDE

SEPT 2026 - JUNE 2027

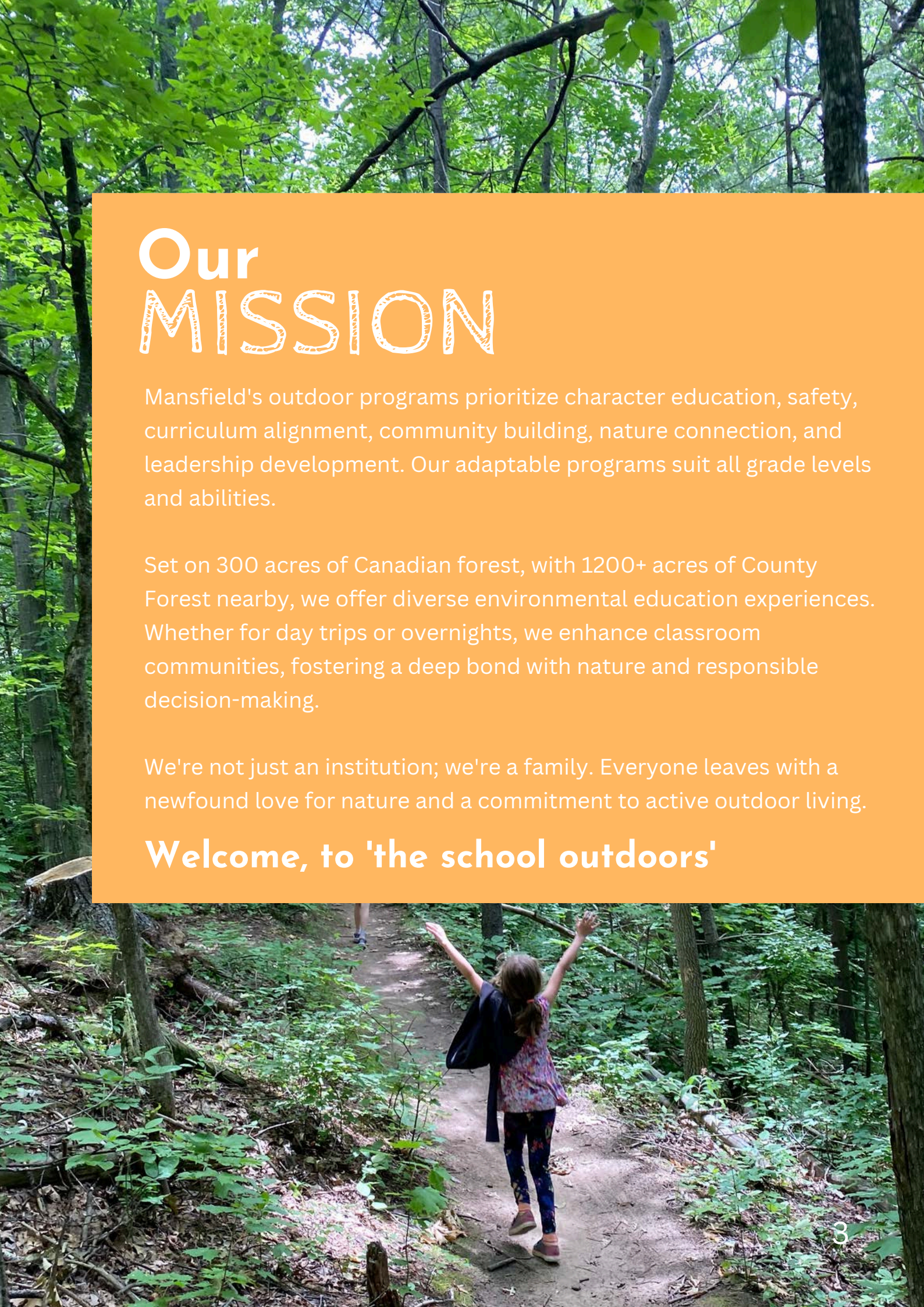
Welcome to the
THE SCHOOL,
OUTDOORS



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Our MISSION

Mansfield's outdoor programs prioritize character education, safety, curriculum alignment, community building, nature connection, and leadership development. Our adaptable programs suit all grade levels and abilities.

Set on 300 acres of Canadian forest, with 1200+ acres of County Forest nearby, we offer diverse environmental education experiences. Whether for day trips or overnights, we enhance classroom communities, fostering a deep bond with nature and responsible decision-making.

We're not just an institution; we're a family. Everyone leaves with a newfound love for nature and a commitment to active outdoor living.

Welcome, to 'the school outdoors'

BOOKING

Follow these simple steps:

1. Review this Booklet: Take a closer look at what your trip could be like and how to customize it to your group's needs.

2. Contact Us: Click the link below to send us an email at schools@mansfieldoutdoorcentre.ca.

In your email, kindly provide the following details:

- Trip Type (Day trip or Extended day trip, 3 days/2 nights, or 5 days/4 nights)
- Preferred Dates (2-3 options)
- Grade(s) of Students
- Number of Students and Staff
- Expected Arrival and Departure Times
- Facility Preference - Cabins or Field Centre (subject to availability)
- Program Selections

3. Confirmation and Customization: Once we receive your email application, we'll promptly reach out to confirm the details and work with you to create a tailored itinerary for your group.

We're eager to discuss your upcoming trip to the Mansfield Outdoor Centre and make it an unforgettable experience. Get in touch, and let's start planning your adventure today!



ABOUT US



Our Team

Our knowledgeable outdoor education instructors, with background checks and First Aid, CPR, and AED training, provide a secure learning space. Since 1984, Mansfield Outdoor Centre has excelled in outdoor education, aligning programs with the current Ontario Curriculum.



Field Centre

Welcome to your woodland retreat! The Field Centre offers your group access to the entire building; this includes a spacious dining hall, a classroom, a recreational room, as well as indoor washrooms with showers and dorm-style accommodations. For teachers, we provide three rooms with ensuite washrooms, ensuring comfort and convenience during your stay. With a capacity to accommodate up to 50 people, including teachers, the Field Centre is the perfect choice for a wide range of groups seeking an immersive woodland experience.



Cabins

Discover the classic Mansfield experience! Our rustic cabins can sleep up to 90 people, including teachers. With electricity, heating and insulation, they ensure year-round comfort. Conveniently located next to our 24-hour washroom and shower building, students have easy access to essential amenities. Teacher accommodations are equipped with private washrooms. Please note: You will have access to the Dining Hall area in the evenings as an indoor space for teacher-led programming. Bookings in the Cabins from September to March require contact with Mansfield Outdoor Centre prior to booking.



Food

We take pride in nourishing your group with wholesome homemade meals that fuel their adventures. Enjoy balanced homemade meals at Mansfield Outdoor Centre, prepared on-site by our certified kitchen staff. We understand the importance of balanced nutrition. That's why we include vegetables and a protein source in every meal, guaranteeing that your group gets the energy they need for our exciting programs. Every morning of your stay begins with a hot breakfast, setting the perfect tone for an active day ahead. As a nut-managed facility, we take safety seriously, and with prior notice, we can accommodate most dietary restrictions.



Outdoor Amenities

The Mansfield Outdoor Centre offers a variety of amenities for teacher-led activities or student free time. Your group can enjoy outdoor equipment, basketball and volleyball courts, gaga ball pits, a soccer field, and scenic nature trails. Additionally, you can gather around our campfire areas for a memorable bonding experience. Our facilities are designed to ensure that your stay is filled with adventure. Come and make the most of your time with us!

PROGRAMS

Eco Studies



WOLF PROWL

In this dynamic ecological role-playing simulation, students take on the roles of Wolves, White-Tailed Deer, Moose, or Beavers, experiencing firsthand the delicate balance of a food chain. By working together to meet their species' survival needs—whether hunting, foraging, or strategizing—students explore key ecological concepts such as predator-prey relationships, the flow of energy, and interdependence within ecosystems.

Students reflect on human impacts on wildlife populations and explore solutions for sustainable ecosystem management. This active learning experience fosters empathy for wildlife and deepens understanding of biodiversity and conservation efforts.

Inquiry Questions:

- How are ecosystems balanced?
- What happens when predators or prey disappear?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- *Science: Biology (Ecosystems, Interactions in the Environment)*
- *Geography: The Environment and Resource Management*
- *Health & Physical Education: Social-Emotional Learning Skills*

IB Alignment:

- *Theme: Sharing the Planet*
- *Key Concepts: Connection, Causation, Responsibility*
- *Learner Profile: Inquirers, Caring, Principled*
- *Approaches to Learning Skills: Critical Thinking, Collaboration*

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- *SDG 13: Climate Action*
- *SDG 15: Life on Land*
- *SDG 12: Responsible Consumption*

Montessori Connections:

- *Cosmic Education: Students see themselves in the web of life*
- *Supports 2nd Plane (9–12 yrs): Moral reasoning, systems thinking*
- *Encourages empathy and ecological stewardship*



WILDLIFE WALK

This guided nature walk immerses students in interactive activities and games that explore animal adaptations and survival strategies. Students experience echolocation like a bat, practice camouflage and stalking techniques like a predator, and observe how white-tailed deer populations are influenced by food, water, and shelter availability.

This program encourages active participation and sensory engagement, deepening students' understanding of ecological balance and the importance of sustainable resource management.

Inquiry Questions:

- How do animals survive seasonal changes?
- What happens when natural resources become limited?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- *Science: Life Systems*
- *Geography: People and Environments*
- *Health & Physical Education: Movement Competence*

IB Alignment:

- *Theme: Sharing the Planet*
- *Key Concepts: Function, Adaptation, Interdependence*
- *Learner Profile: Inquirers, Knowledgeable*
- *Approaches to Learning Skills: Communication, Observation*

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- *SDG 15: Life on Land*
- *SDG 12: Responsible Consumption*

Montessori Connections:

- *Supports movement-based observation for 6–9 yrs*
- *Connects to classification and zoology*
- *Encourages empathetic connection with animal life*

PROGRAMS

Eco Studies



INSTINCTS (SURVIVAL GAME)

In this high-energy simulation game, students embody local forest animals and navigate the challenges of survival: foraging for food and water, avoiding predators, and steering clear of disease.

Players experience the complexities of food webs and ecosystem interdependence while engaging in critical thinking and strategy. The game's debrief encourages reflection on biodiversity loss and the role of conservation in sustaining ecosystems for future generations.

Inquiry Questions:

- How do ecosystems self-regulate?
- What strategies help species survive adversity?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- Science: Biology (Population Dynamics)
- Geography: Resource Management
- Health & Physical Education: Movement & SEL Skills

IB Alignment:

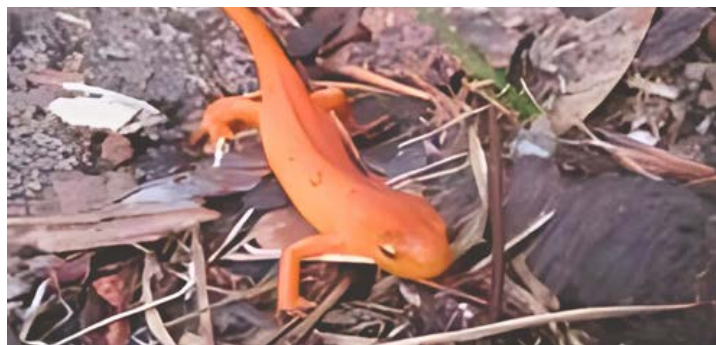
- Theme: Sharing the Planet
- Key Concepts: Causation, Systems, Perspective
- Learner Profile: Risk-Takers, Caring
- Approaches to Learning Skills: Collaboration, Strategic Thinking

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 13: Climate Action
- SDG 15: Life on Land

Montessori Connections:

- Embodies self-directed, role-based learning
- Encourages strategy and ethical thinking (9–12 yrs)
- Supports the 3rd Plane's need for role-play and challenge



SMALL CREATURES

Students explore the diverse ecosystems of Mansfield—forest, meadow, pond, river, and swamp—in search of small but essential creatures. Through hands-on observation, collection (catch-and-release), and ecosystem comparisons, learners develop an understanding of biodiversity, classification, and environmental impact.

This program deepens ecological awareness and encourages stewardship through direct experience.

Inquiry Questions:

- Why do small creatures matter in big ecosystems?
- How do ecosystems depend on the tiniest organisms?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- Science: Biology (Biodiversity, Classification)
- Geography: People and Environments
- Health & Physical Education: Movement Competence

IB Alignment:

- Theme: Sharing the Planet
- Key Concepts: Form, Change, Responsibility
- Learner Profile: Inquirers, Knowledgeable, Caring
- Approaches to Learning Skills: Observation, Research

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 14: Life Below Water
- SDG 15: Life on Land

Montessori Connections:

- Encourages direct observation and classification
- Hands-on work supports early research and ecology
- Integrates with science experiments and journaling work



INTERPRETIVE HIKES

Customizable hikes across Mansfield's diverse landscapes help learners engage in real-world inquiry into landforms, ecology, geology, water systems, and forest resources. These experiences include hands-on activities, games, storytelling, and reflection.

Each hike is designed to integrate curriculum, movement, and critical thinking, while fostering a meaningful connection to place.

Inquiry Questions:

- What does the land tell us about its history?
- How does walking help us understand place?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- Science: Earth & Space Systems
- Geography: Forces of Nature
- Health & Physical Education: Healthy Living

IB Alignment:

- Theme: Where We Are in Place and Time
- Key Concepts: Connection, Perspective, Function
- Learner Profile: Reflective, Communicators
- Approaches to Learning Skills: Communication, Mapping, Observing

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 13: Climate Action
- SDG 15: Life on Land

Montessori Connections:

- Ideal for Montessori adolescent "going out" trips
- Fosters independence, mapping, and nature journaling
- Connects with geology, botany, and local history studies

PROGRAMS

Character Development



LOW ROPES CHALLENGE COURSE

Our custom-built Low Ropes Challenge Course will give your students the opportunity to work through a series of challenges that will encourage trust, inclusivity, critical thinking, and creative problem solving.

Physical and emotional safety will be stressed throughout this activity. Our experienced facilitators will lead the students through debriefing discussions to consolidate the learning.

Inquiry Questions:

- What makes a team work well together?
- How does trust affect group performance?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- Health & Physical Education: Social-Emotional Learning Skills
- Cooperative Education

IB Alignment:

- Theme: Who We Are
- Key Concepts: Responsibility, Relationships
- Learner Profile: Balanced, Communicators, Reflective
- Approaches to Learning Skills: Social Skills, Self-Management

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
- SDG 16: Peace, Justice, Strong Institutions

Montessori Connections:

- Supports peace education, communication, and role balance
- Ideal for adolescent "community building"
- Encourages problem-solving without adult instruction



TEAM CHALLENGES

This active, fun program helps to build classroom communities through group games and guided discussions. Through a series of progressively more challenging activities students are encouraged to work together, think critically, be creative and communicate to find solutions. Elements of our custom-designed low ropes will be utilized to consolidate the learning of these critical life skills.

Inquiry Questions:

- How do we support others in a challenge?
- What does it mean to lead from behind?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- Health & Physical Education: Movement Competence, SEL
- Cooperative Education

IB Alignment:

- Theme: Who We Are
- Key Concepts: Relationships, Perspective
- Learner Profile: Open-Minded, Communicators
- Approaches to Learning Skills: Collaboration, Self-Reflection

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
- SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

Montessori Connections:

- Reinforces grace and courtesy in action
- Appeals to adolescents' need for meaningful peer engagement
- Helps students practice community contribution



PROGRAMS

Character Development



NATURE ART

This program features a nature scavenger hunt that sparks creativity, with students collecting elements from their environment to craft unique pieces of art. From tree bark etchings to nature-inspired mobiles, this activity not only fosters creativity but also allows students to express themselves through their creations, all while developing a lasting connection with the beauty of the natural world.

Inquiry Questions:

- How can art help us see nature more clearly?
- What stories do natural materials tell?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- The Arts: Visual Arts
- Social Studies: People and Environments

IB Alignment:

- Theme: How We Express Ourselves
- Key Concepts: Form, Connection
- Learner Profile: Reflective, Open-Minded
- Approaches to Learning Skills: Creativity, Observation

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 15: Life on Land
- SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

Montessori Connections:

- Encourages focused, mindful work
 - Reflects Montessori aesthetics and nature integration
- Supports Cosmic Education by connecting to beauty and order



WATERCOLOUR HIKE

This program merges hiking with watercolor painting. Students hike to a scenic lookout, creating watercolor art inspired by nature. This encourages sensory perception and observation skills, fostering a connection with the environment. It's an engaging opportunity for students to express themselves through art while deepening their understanding of the world around them.

Inquiry Questions:

- How can art show the soul of a place?
- What do we notice when we stop and look carefully?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- The Arts: Visual Arts
- Geography: People and Environments

IB Alignment:

- Theme: How We Express Ourselves
- Key Concepts: Perspective, Form
- Learner Profile: Reflective, Balanced
- Approaches to Learning Skills: Observation, Self-Expression

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
- SDG 15: Life on Land

Montessori Connections:

- Supports nature journaling and artistic representation
- Offers solitude, focus, and harmony in nature
- Perfect for Montessori art extensions and adolescent sensory work



PROGRAMS

Outdoor Skills



WOODLAND SKILLS

Through a discussion on the basic elements of survival, students will learn how to create their own shelters to simulate various scenarios. Students will learn how to build a variety of shelters using the resources available to them in the forest. A discussion of the dynamics of their group work on their finished shelter will underline the importance of working together. If time permits, the students will learn how to light a campfire and see if they have what it takes to keep their fire going.

Inquiry Questions:

- What basic needs do humans share in the wild?
- How do we adapt and collaborate under pressure?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- *Science & Tech: Earth and Space Systems*
- *Geography: Forces of Nature*
- *Health & Physical Education: Healthy Living*
- *Family Studies: Personal Life Management*

IB Alignment:

- *Theme: How We Organize Ourselves*
- *Key Concepts: Responsibility, Function*
- *Learner Profile: Risk-Takers, Principled*
- *Approaches to Learning Skills: Problem-Solving, Reflection*

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- *SDG 13: Climate Action*
- *SDG 11: Sustainable Communities*

Montessori Connections:

- *Erdkinder: Real work in nature*
- *Practical life applications with self-sufficiency focus*
- *Builds independence, leadership, and purpose*



ORIENTEERING

This active, fun program helps to build classroom communities through group games and guided discussions. Through a series of progressively more challenging activities students are encouraged to work together, think critically, be creative and communicate to find solutions.

Inquiry Questions:

- How can we find our way when lost?
- What helps us stay calm in a challenge?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- *Health & Physical Education: Active Living, Spatial Sense*
- *Geography: Regional Geography*

IB Alignment:

- *Theme: Who We Are*
- *Key Concepts: Change, Systems*
- *Learner Profile: Balanced, Risk-Takers*
- *Approaches to Learning Skills: Strategic Thinking, Resilience*

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- *SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being*
- *SDG 4: Quality Education*

Montessori Connections:

- *Combines movement with logic and self-reliance*
- *Ideal for 12-15 Erdkinder exploration*
- *Builds orientation in space and self-confidence*



PROGRAMS

Historical Simulations



SETTLERS

Students will learn the local history and hardships of European settlers and homesteaders in Central Ontario. Students will then apply basic Map Orienteering skills to participate in a simulation game where they will role play as Farmers, Sawyers and Millers to build their new lives, raise a family and prosper.

Inquiry Questions:

- What did settlers need to survive and thrive?
- How do we build fair and inclusive communities?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- *Social Studies: Heritage and Identity*
- *Geography: Regional Geography*
- *History: Origins and Citizenship*

IB Alignment:

- *Theme: Where We Are in Place and Time*
- *Key Concepts: Change, Responsibility*
- *Learner Profile: Reflective, Knowledgeable*
- *Approaches to Learning Skills: Perspective-Taking, Analysis*

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- *SDG 16: Peace, Justice, Strong Institutions*
- *SDG 4: Quality Education*

Montessori Connections:

- *Connects with Fundamental Needs of Humans*
- *Encourages empathy, planning, and economic understanding*
- *Supports group projects and simulation*



FUR TRADE

Students step into the roles of Courers de Bois, navigating the challenges and adventures of competing fur trading companies—the Northwest Trading Company and the Hudson's Bay Company. This immersive experience takes them on a historical journey, deepening their understanding of the frontier. As they traverse the forest, students engage in trading European goods with local Indigenous communities to collect valuable animal pelts. It's a hands-on exploration of history that brings the past to life, offering a unique perspective on the lives and challenges of those who shaped this pivotal period in North American exploration and trade.

Inquiry Questions:

- How did the fur trade shape Canada's history?
- What do fair trade and relationship-building mean today?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- *History: Canada's History, Indigenous Relations*
- *Geography: Issues in Canadian Geography*
- *Indigenous Studies*

IB Alignment:

- *Theme: Sharing the Planet*
- *Key Concepts: Perspective, Causation*
- *Learner Profile: Open-Minded, Caring*
- *Approaches to Learning Skills: Negotiation, Empathy, Historical Thinking*

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- *SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities*
- *SDG 16: Peace, Justice, Strong Institutions*

Montessori Connections:

- *Encourages respect for culture, trade systems, and ethical study*
- *Linked to adolescent understanding of economy and social justice*
- *Interactive storytelling supports long-form historical learning*

PROGRAMS

Evening



CAMPFIRE

Our staff is here to ensure your campfire is set up and ready to go. Our outdoor education experts will lead students through an engaging and informative campfire experience. Gather around the fire and savour the joy of roasting marshmallows, a timeless outdoor tradition. As the flames dance and crackle, take this opportunity to unwind and connect with the natural world. Let us provide the perfect setting for a memorable campfire adventure.

Inquiry Questions:

- How can we use stories and songs to express ourselves and connect with others?
- How does spending time in nature help us understand ourselves and the world around us?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- The Arts: Drama, Music
- Health & Physical Education: Social-Emotional Learning Skills, Movement, Recreation and Healthy Active Living Leadership

IB Alignment:

- Approaches to Learning Skills: Social skills, Communication skills
- Learner Profile: Communicator, Caring, Reflective
- Transdisciplinary Themes: How We Express Ourselves

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being
- SDG 4 – Quality Education
- SDG 15 – Life on Land

Montessori Connections:

- Grace and Courtesy: Respect for others in a group setting, taking turns speaking
- Cosmic Education: Understanding one's place in the world through connection to nature
- Practical Life: Fire safety awareness, responsibility in group activities



NIGHT HIKE

Experience the Mansfield forest at night! Go on a guided hike in the evening where students will discuss with outdoor education staff the effects of light pollution, review the phases of the moon, and discuss constellations. Our forest is a lively place to hear and maybe even see some evidence of nocturnal species.

Inquiry Questions:

- How does the forest change at night compared to during the day?
- Why do the phases of the moon occur?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Health & Physical Education: Movement Competence

- Mathematics: Spatial Sense
- Science & Technology: Earth and Space Systems
- Social Studies, History, and Geography: Heritage and Identity, People and Environments

IB Alignment:

- Approaches to Learning Skills: Thinking skills, Research skills
- Learner Profile Attributes: Inquirer, Knowledgeable, Reflective
- Transdisciplinary Themes: How the World Works

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being
- SDG 4 – Quality Education
- SDG 13 – Climate Action
- SDG 15 – Life on Land

Montessori Connections:

- Cosmic Education: Exploration of the universe, interdependence of life and the natural world
- Sensorial Work: Nighttime sensory experiences – sound, touch, and limited sight
- Practical Life: Developing independence and responsibility during a group hike

GROUP GAMES NIGHT

Are you looking for a fun evening program that encourages your students to work together? Look no further... Our Group Games Night will encourage your students to work together as they play team versions of Pictionary, Mansfield Jeopardy, Scattergories and more. This is a great alternative for a rainy evening. Let the Games Begin!

Inquiry Questions:

- How can we work together effectively in a group setting?
- How does play help us learn about communication and collaboration?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- Health & Physical Education: Social Emotional Learning Skills, Movement Competency
- The Arts: Drama, Visual Arts
- Language: Oral Communication

IB Alignment:

- Approaches to Learning Skills: Social skills, Communication skills, Thinking skills
- Learner Profile Attributes: Communicator, Thinker, Principled
- Transdisciplinary Themes: How We Organize Ourselves

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being
- SDG 4 – Quality Education
- SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Montessori Connections:

- Grace and Courtesy: Encourages respectful communication, turn-taking, and cooperation.
- Practical Life: Builds responsibility, leadership, and perseverance through group tasks.
- Social Development: Promotes empathy, collaboration, and community awareness



PROGRAMS

Winter



CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Buckle on your ski boots, strap on your skis, and learn the cross-country ski basics from our ski instructors. We will teach you how to confidently ski and take your group on some of our beautifully groomed ski trails. Experience the joys that winter offers on a pair of skis.

Inquiry Questions:

- What does winter teach us about resilience?
- How does movement affect well-being?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- *Health & Physical Education: Active Living, Healthy Living*

IB Alignment:

- *Theme: Who We Are*
- *Learner Profile: Balanced, Risk-Takers*
- *Approaches to Learning Skills: Physical Literacy, Goal Setting*

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- *SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being*
- *SDG 13: Climate Action*

Montessori Connections:

- *Fulfills Erdkinder needs for physical challenge*
- *Encourages self-pacing and discipline*
- *Connects with seasonal awareness*



SNOWSHOEING

Get some snowshoes on, it's a great program for everyone to get out there and enjoy winter at the Mansfield Outdoor Centre! Snowshoe together down scenic snowy trails and enjoy getting a fresh breath of crisp winter air. We will teach students how snowshoes work, how to put them on, and take them for a guided snowshoeing adventure.

Inquiry Questions:

- How does snow change the forest?
- How do animals and people adapt in winter?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- *Health & Physical Education: Active Living, Recreation*
- *Science: Earth and Space Systems*

IB Alignment:

- *Theme: Sharing the Planet*
- *Learner Profile: Balanced, Inquirers*
- *Approaches to Learning Skills: Environmental Literacy, Self-Reflection*

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- *SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being*
- *SDG 15: Life on Land*

Montessori Connections:

- *Deepens sensory and spatial awareness*
- *Encourages rhythm and nature immersion*
- *Ideal for winter nature journaling*

Please note: our winter programs are available January and February, snow conditions permitting.



PROGRAMS

Specialty



Image courtesy of Sitting Turtle (c)

INDIGENOUS TEACHINGS

This year-round outdoor education program connects participants to Indigenous teachings through seasonal activities and guest speakers.

Winter (Dec – Feb): Participants engage in storytelling, drumming, and singing, while learning breathwork and wind teachings. A guest speaker shares the cultural significance of winter traditions.

Spring (Mar – May): Hands-on experiences include building a sweat lodge, tapping maple trees, and learning creation teachings. A guest speaker discusses the cultural importance of maple syrup and traditional methods of production.

Summer (June – Aug): Participants craft medicine pouches and explore the four sacred medicines and water teachings. A guest speaker shares knowledge on water's sacred role and stewardship.

Fall (Sept – Nov): Focuses on the 7 Sacred Teachings, fasting, vision quests, and fire teachings. A guest speaker guides participants in the spiritual practices of fasting and ceremony. This program fosters a deep connection to Indigenous culture, the land, and personal growth through traditional teachings in a guest-led sessions.

Inquiry Questions:

- What can we learn from Indigenous ways of knowing?
- How do we build respectful relationships with land and culture?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- *Indigenous Studies, History, Social Studies*
- *Health & Physical Education: SEL, Leadership*

IB Alignment:

- *Theme: Who We Are / Sharing the Planet*
- *Key Concepts: Perspective, Connection*
- *Learner Profile: Open-Minded, Caring*
- *Approaches to Learning Skills: Cultural Understanding, Reflection*

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- *SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities*
- *SDG 16: Peace and Justice*
- *SDG 15: Life on Land*

Montessori Connections:

- *Peace Education and gratitude practices*
- *Integration with Fundamental Needs of Humans*
- *Honors oral tradition and seasonal cycles*



Please note: This program is subject to availability. Program is delivered in partnership with Indigenous community members. Extra fees apply.

PROGRAMS

Specialty



LORETTA GOULD. (2016). RESPECT [ORIGINAL ACRYLIC ON WHITE CANVAS]. DA VIC GALLERY, COQUITLAM, ON, CANADA.

INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES

Elevate your student's voice and deepen literary understanding through an immersive Poetry Workshop designed specifically for Grade 11 English (NBE3U).

Guided by a Haudenosaunee, Kanienke:ha writer from the Turtle Clan, Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, Jillian Morris. Students will engage in a powerful exploration of identity, voice, and storytelling.

Through close reading, mentor texts, and guided writing, participants examine how contemporary poetry reflects personal and cultural narratives while developing their own original pieces.

This program creates a space where students can take creative risks and refine their craft. Through spoken word, revision circles, and performance opportunities, students move beyond analysis into creation; building confidence in both written and oral communication. Rooted in Indigenous perspectives and ways of knowing, the workshop supports cross-curricular priorities such as truth and reconciliation, identity, and community connection, making it a meaningful and memorable extension of the NBE3U classroom.

Inquiry Questions:

- How can Indigenous storytelling and ways of knowing expand our understanding of literature?
- How can poetry become a way of exploring and expressing identity?

CURRICULUM LINKS

Ontario Curriculum (OSSD):

- *Indigenous Studies, History, Social Studies*
- *English: Oral Communication, Reading and Literature Studies, Writing*
- *Critical Literacy: Perspectives, Bias, Identity, Values, and Power*
- *Communication: Audience Awareness, Purpose, Voice, and Self-Expression*
- *Media Studies: Media Literacy, Representation, Audience, and Interpretation*

IB Alignment:

- *Learner Profile: Communicator, Thinker, Open-Minded, Reflective & Risk-Taker*
- *Key Concepts: Perspective, Communication, Identity, Culture & Connection*
- *Approaches to Learning Skills: Questioning, Exploration, Interpretation & Creation*

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- *SDG 4: Quality Education*
- *SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities*
- *SDG 16: Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions*

Montessori Connections:

- *Students make independent creative choices while developing their own authentic voice.*
- *Students actively learn through reading, writing, revision, spoken word, and performance.*
- *Students take ownership of their creative work through revision, peer feedback, self-assessment, and reflection.*



Please note: This program is subject to availability. Program is delivered in partnership with Indigenous community members. Extra fees apply.

EXAMPLE ITINERARIES

All outdoor education programs usually last 1.5-2 hours. Times are flexible and may differ depending on group size/needs. Please let us know if you would like any changes to be made for your group's trip.

Day Trip

Two outdoor education programs included.

Lunch: Hot lunch offered by Mansfield OR students bring their own.

DAY TRIP

9:30 am Arrival/Welcome to the Mansfield Outdoor

10:00 am Centre

12:00 pm **MORNING PROGRAM**

1:00 pm Lunch

1:30 pm Clean Up

3:30 pm **AFTERNOON PROGRAM**

Departure

Please note: we can adjust the schedule to accommodate your bus arrival & departure times.

Sample itinerary, times may vary.





EXAMPLE ITINERARIES

Extended Day Trip

Lunch and dinner provided by Mansfield.

Two outdoor education programs & evening campfire included.

EXTENDED DAY TRIP

9:30 am	Arrival/Welcome to the Mansfield Outdoor Centre
10:00 am	MORNING PROGRAM
12:00 pm	Lunch (provided by Mansfield)
1:00 pm	AFTERNOON PROGRAM
4:00pm	Student Free Time
5:00 pm	Dinner (provided by Mansfield)
6:30 pm	Campfire
7:30 pm	Departure

Please note: we can adjust the schedule to accommodate your bus arrival & departure times.
Sample itinerary, times may vary.

EXAMPLE ITINERARIES

Overnight Three Days/ Two Nights:

Five outdoor education programs included, seven meals and two night of accomodation.

DAY ONE

- 10:30 am Arrival/ Welcome to the Mansfield Outdoor Centre
- 11:00 am Getting Settled into Field Centre/Cabins
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Clean Up
- 1:30 pm **AFTERNOON PROGRAM**
- 4:00 pm Student Free Time
- 5:00 pm Dinner
- 6:00 pm Clean Up
- 6:30 pm **EVENING PROGRAM**
- 8:00 pm Bed Prep

DAY TWO

- 7:00 am Wake Up
- 8:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am Clean Up
- 9:30 am **MORNING PROGRAM**
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Clean Up
- 1:30 pm **AFTERNOON PROGRAM**
- 4:00 pm Student Free Time
- 5:00 pm Dinner
- 6:00 pm Clean Up
- 6:30 pm *TEACHER LED ACTIVITY*
- 8:00 pm Bed Prep

DAY THREE

- 7:00 am Wake Up/Pack
- 8:00 am Breakfast
- 9:00 am Clean Up
- 9:30 am **MORNING PROGRAM**
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Clean Up
- 1:30 pm Departure



Please note: we can adjust the schedule to accommodate your bus arrival & departure times.
Sample itinerary, times may vary.



What's on the MENU



Sample menu below (subject to change with season).

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE TRIP (three days/ two nights)

Day 1

Lunch: Pepperoni pizza, cheese pizza and fresh veggies with dip

Dinner: Meat lasagna, vegetable lasagna with salad

Freshly baked dessert (can be served at dinner or held for late night snack)

Day 2

Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, toast and breakfast sausage, fresh fruit and orange juice

Lunch: Beef tacos, meat alternative tacos, tomatoes, lettuce, cheese, soft and corn hard shells.

On the side, tortilla chips, salsa and fresh veggies & dip

Dinner: Chicken souvlaki and greek lettuce salad

Freshly baked dessert (can be served at dinner or held for late night snack)

Day 3

Breakfast: Breakfast burritos (scrambled egg, bacon and hash browns), fresh fruit and orange juice

Lunch: Turkey sandwiches and veggie soup



We are a nut-managed facility.

We require a list of all student and staff food allergies and dietary restrictions at least two weeks prior to your trip so we can create the menu for your trip and order food. If we receive this information less than two weeks prior to your trip, we will do our best to accommodate allergies and food restrictions, however in some rare instances it may not be possible.

Mansfield Outdoor Centre cannot prepare strict Kosher or Halal meals; however, we can offer vegetarian options in these circumstances.

Upgrades

An additional fee of \$3/item/student + HST applies for any of the following:

- Milk and cereal at breakfast
- Hot chocolate
- Smore's
- Grab and go snacks

PAYMENT, CANCELLATION AND OTHER POLICIES

Final confirmation: By booking a trip with us you are agreeing to the information listed in this booklet. You agree to confirm by email final student and staff numbers, allergies, dietary restrictions and medical conditions TWO WEEKS prior to your visit. Minimum charge is 20 students.

Payment: The school will be invoiced on the last day of your trip, with payment due 30 days after receipt. Invoices go to the primary contact email unless specified otherwise. We accept cheques (payable to "Mansfield Outdoor Centre") or EFT (info@mansfieldoutdoorcentre.ca). Charges are based on confirmed numbers from two weeks prior. Any additional attendees will be added to the invoice; unexpected absences will be handled case-by-case.

Overnight Trip Cancellation Policy: Cancellations received 8 weeks plus a day prior to the first day of the schools scheduled arrival date, no cancellation fee will apply. Cancellations received within 4-8 weeks of the first day of the schools scheduled arrival date, a \$500 cancellation will apply. Cancellations received less than 4 weeks: \$500 per day cancellation fee. Ex: 3 Day/2 Night trip = \$1,500 fee.

Day Trip Cancellation Policy: Cancellations received 6 weeks plus a day prior to the first day of the schools scheduled arrival date, no cancellation fee will apply. Cancellations received within 4-6 weeks of the first day of the schools scheduled arrival date, a \$250 cancellation will apply. Cancellations received less than 4 weeks of the first day of the schools scheduled date, a \$500 cancellation fee will apply.

If a replacement booking is made, the cancellation fee will be waived. No-shows will be invoiced in full. Weather may affect scheduling; the itinerary can be adjusted, or the trip rescheduled if possible.

Please Note: HST applies to all cancellation fees.

Damages

Schools are responsible to pay for any damages. If there are any damages this will be sent on a separate invoice.

Accessibility

Mansfield Outdoor Centre strives to offer an inclusive environment for students with special needs. Please note that while our Field Centre is wheelchair accessible, due to the nature of the trail network, wheelchairs may not be able to access all areas of the facility.

Supervision

Teachers are responsible for student supervision during Student Free Time, Teacher led activities, Overnight and any time that any students are in the dorms or cabins (for example, just before programs start).



What to include on PERMISSION FORMS

1 Waivers

All teachers, students, and volunteers planning to visit the Mansfield Outdoor Centre must complete electronic waivers. Please forward the following waiver links for approval to your principal. Once completed, parents will receive confirmation emails that should be forwarded to the booking teacher.

The Mansfield Outdoor Centre waiver links are as follows:

Minor (students): <https://mansfieldoutdoorcentre.ca/moc-waiver-minor>

Adults (teacher, staff and volunteers): <https://mansfieldoutdoorcentre.ca/moc-waiver-adult/>

If your school requires OSBIE consent forms, please consult with your school board.

2 Dietary Restrictions

Please include dietary restrictions on your school permission forms. Once collected, submit a list of dietary restrictions along with student names at least TWO WEEKS prior to arrival at MOC. This ensures we can accommodate or clarify restrictions.

3 Medical Emergencies/ Mobility/ Severe Allergies

To ensure our staff is prepared in case of an emergency, please inform us via email of any severe allergies or medical conditions. This information will be treated confidentially and will not be shared outside the office.

4 Note to Guardians

Please attach the [note to guardians](#) to permission forms (page 24).

5 Packing List

Please attach the [packing list](#) to permission forms (page 22).

6 COVID Protocol

Please provide the following COVID policy to families:

As has been the case throughout the pandemic, the evolution of the virus and resulting Public Health measures are difficult to predict. MOC will continue to follow all Public Health recommendations. It may become necessary to implement new COVID protocols quickly that may affect your booking. The Outdoor Centre will continue to monitor the situation and do everything we can to keep our guests and staff as safe as possible. We hope to see things continuing in a positive direction so that we can all enjoy social and engaging programming once again.

ARRIVAL PROCESS



1

Arriving

For groups staying in the Field Centre:

Turn left off the main gravel driveway. A Mansfield staff member will board the bus, welcome the group, and direct the students. Students will bring their belongings into the Field Centre, remove their shoes, and place them in a cubby. They will then bring their belongings upstairs to the lounge area and wait for further instructions.

For groups staying in the Cabins:

Have the bus go all the way down the gravel driveway past the barn to the Main Lodge. A Mansfield staff member will board the bus, welcome the group, and direct the students. Students will unload the bus and bring their belongings into the designated area, where they will wait for further instructions.



2

Welcome to Mansfield

Students will have an opportunity to use the washrooms before returning to meet the Mansfield Outdoor Centre staff. The staff will introduce themselves and provide an overview of the Mansfield Outdoor Centre. Students will learn about the activities planned for their trip and will receive important rules and boundaries to follow during their stay.



3

Room/Cabin Division

After students receive the "Welcome to Mansfield" greeting, students will find out what room/cabin they are in and who they are with. Everyone will have an opportunity to take their belongings to their room/cabin to unpack and get settled in. Prior to arrival, please use the Field Centre and the Cabin Rooming Layout to create a sleeping plan.

CLEANING DUTIES

Students will have certain cleaning responsibilities during their trip, contributing to keeping the facilities clean.

For meal clean-up, students will clear their dishes and wipe their tables. Each meal will have a designated clean-up crew responsible for more in-depth cleaning, such as sweeping the dining hall.

On the final day, students will contribute to the clean-up by sweeping their room or cabin, and disposing of any garbage. They will also be reminded to check under and beside their beds for any belongings they might have left behind.



PACKING LIST

STUDENTS WILL BE OUTSIDE IN ALL TYPES OF WEATHER.

Please dress using a three layer system. Pack and dress for the weather. Label belongings so that they can be returned to you.

For information regarding cell phones and other electronics, please refer to the electronic device policy on the next page.



Day Trip Packing List:

- Sweater / Light Jacket
- Extra pair of socks
- Lunch (if group is not purchasing food)
- We recommend packing an extra set of clothes
- Water Bottle (Please bring a reusable one)
- Sunglasses

Seasonal Wear for Day Trips and Overnight Trips:

Warm Weather Wear:

- Hat
- Running Shoes (no open toe shoes)
- Sunscreen
- Bugspray
- Sunglasses

Rain:

- Rain jacket
- Rubber Boots
- Umbrella

Snow Wear:

- Snow Pants
- Winter Jacket
- Winter boots
- Toque (1-2)
- Gloves/ Mittens (1-2)

Overnight Packing List:

- Sweaters / Light Jacket (1-3)
- Underwear (at least 1 each day)
- Socks (1-3 pairs per day)
- Short Sleeve Shirts (1-2 per day)
- Long Sleeve Shirts (1-2 per day)
- Long Pants (1-2 per day)
- Shorts (1-2 per day)
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Showering Toiletries
- Towel
- Pillow
- Sleeping Bag or Bedding
- Comfort Item (Stuffy)
- Indoor Shoes/ Slippers
- Water Bottle (reusable one)
- Flashlight
- Sunglasses
- Fan

Please be mindful that our surroundings are shared with the local wildlife. Snacks and other fragrant items can attract animals. For everyone's safety and to respect the environment:

PLEASE DO NOT BRING FOOD INTO YOUR CABIN OR DORM SPACE.



ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY



During your trip to Mansfield, we want to encourage connection with nature and each other and technology can interfere with this goal. The following policy has been created acknowledging that our devices have become a part of our lives. Please keep in mind that we are in a rural area and cell phone connectivity is not always reliable. There is no WIFI or landline access available for students.

We ask that all student technology (cell phones, tablets, game consoles etc.) be collected and securely stored by the school staff during your visit.

Technology can be returned to students for a specified amount of time (typically for 30 min, after dinner) to allow students to connect with family.



Students must use their technology in a common area, supervised by school staff. All technology should be collected and stored at the end of this time. Students should not have access to their technology unsupervised in their dormitory or cabin areas.

As your time here is considered a school excursion, technology should not be available to students or utilized during program times. We also ask that teachers and visiting staff be mindful and limit their technology use during program time.

Mansfield Outdoor Centre cannot accept any responsibility for lost, broken or missing technology





Note to GUARDIANS

Dear parents and guardians,

We are thrilled to welcome your child on this trip with us! We hope this experience will be as memorable for them as our trips to the Mansfield Outdoor Centre were for us when we were in school.

Thank you for giving your student the chance to explore Ontario forests and grow in nature with their peers. We understand that sending your child into the great outdoors can be daunting, but rest assured, they are in great hands!

Your child's teacher will be with them every step of the way, and our dedicated outdoor educators are committed to ensuring your student feels safe and comfortable. We strive to create a "home away from home" atmosphere, where your child can have fun and engage in hands-on learning in a safe environment. Our team is dedicated to keeping your child happy and healthy throughout their trip.

Thank you for trusting us with your child.
- Mansfield Outdoor Education Staff

TEACHER Particiaption

Teachers are expected to assist with student supervision throughout your stay, including during mealtimes, program times, student free time, and overnight.

Additionally, teachers will be responsible for planning and delivering the evening program on the second night. Mansfield staff are available to provide suggestions—just ask.

Teachers are also asked to help with classroom management and actively participate in programs and activities as needed.

If any issues arise during your time at MOC, please inform our staff immediately so we can work towards a prompt resolution. We are here to help!



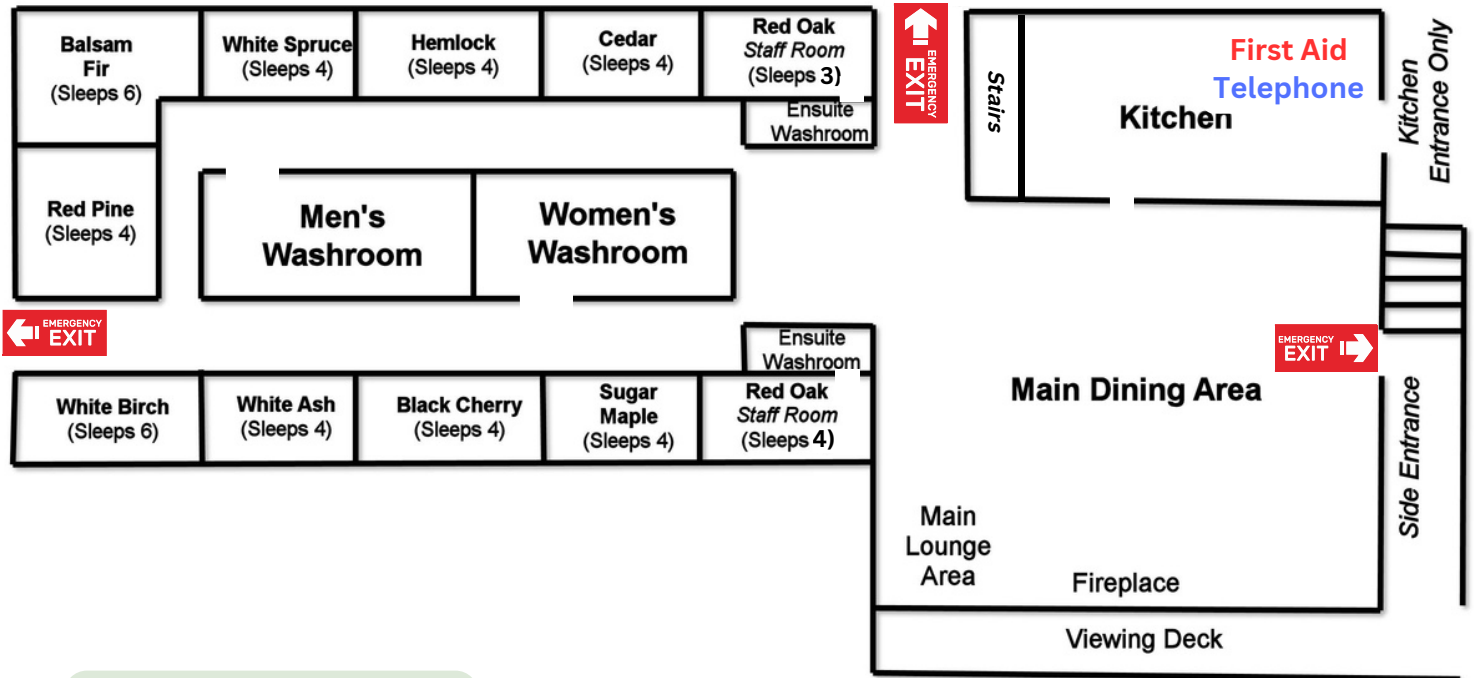
FIELD CENTRE

Area Map

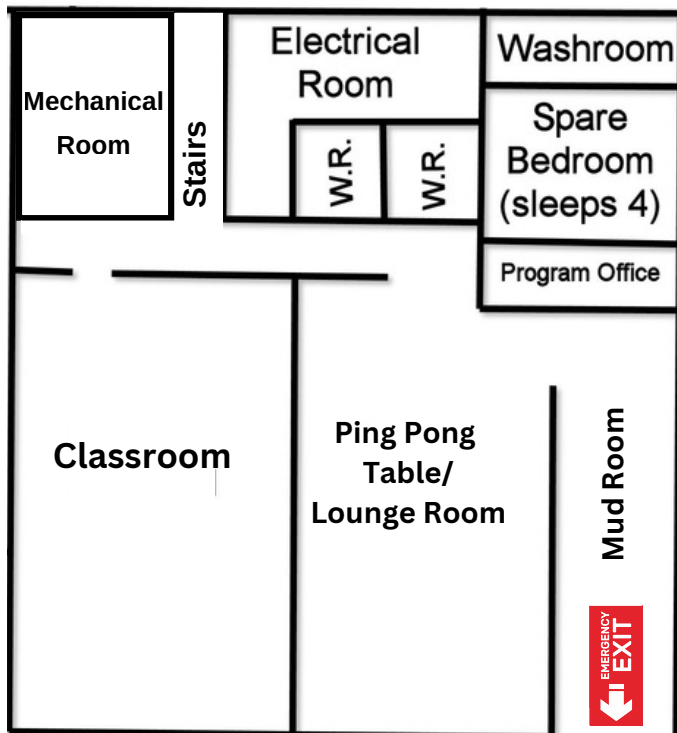


FIELD CENTRE Layout

MAIN FLOOR



LOWER LEVEL



MAIN
ENTRANCE



FIELD CENTRE Room Assignment

WHITE BIRCH Sleeps 6 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____		RED PINE Sleeps 4 1. _____ 3. _____ 2. _____ 4. _____	BALSAM FIR Sleeps 6 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____
WHITE ASH Sleeps 4 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____	<i>DORM DIVIDER CAN BE PLACED IN ANY OF THE FOUR SPOTS TO SEPERATE GENDERS</i> MENS WASHROOM  WOMENS WASHROOM 		WHITE SPRUCE Sleeps 4 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____
BLACK CHERRY Sleeps 4 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____			HEMLOCK Sleeps 4 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____
SUGAR MAPLE Sleeps 4 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____			CEDAR Sleeps 4 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____
RED OAK (STAFF ROOM) Sleeps 4 1. _____ 3. _____ 2. _____ 4. _____	To Dining Hall 	To Dining Hall 	RED OAK (STAFF ROOM) Sleeps 3 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Ensuite Washroom

Ensuite Washroom

**OVERFLOW ROOM
(IN BASEMENT)**
Sleeps 4

1. _____ 3. _____
2. _____ 4. _____

Ensuite Washroom

CABINS & Main Lodge Area Map



CABINS Room Assignment

CABIN 1

Sleeps 5

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

CABIN 2

Sleeps 5

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

CABIN 3

Sleeps 5

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

CABIN 4

Sleeps 5

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

CABIN 5

Sleeps 5

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

CABIN 6

Sleeps 5

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

CABIN 7

Sleeps 5

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

CABIN A

(Staff Room)

Ensuite Washroom

Sleeps 4

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

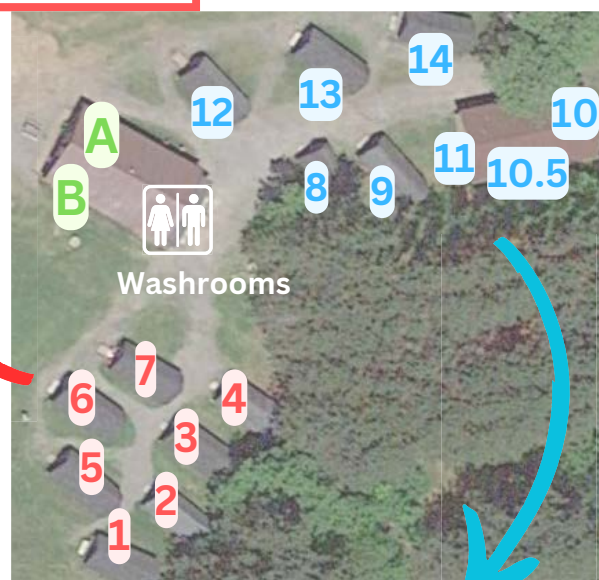
CABIN B

(Staff Room)

Ensuite Washroom

Sleeps 4

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____



CABIN 8

Sleeps 5

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

CABIN 9

Sleeps 5

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

CABIN 10

Sleeps 10

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

CABIN 10.5

Sleeps 4

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

CABIN 11

Sleeps 10

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

CABIN 12

Sleeps 5

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

CABIN 13

Sleeps 5

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

CABIN 14

Sleeps 5

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



CONTACT US:

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705-435-4479

schools@mansfieldoutdoorcentre.ca

www.mansfieldoutdoorcentre.ca

