

## **Brandon Enviro Expo 2018**

### **Workshop descriptions**

Below is a description of the workshops that will take place at the Enviro Expo. Each classroom will attend three workshops. Below is a description of the workshops that will take place at the Enviro Expo. Each classroom who is registered through the Expo Coordinator. (Registration is only open to Brandon School Division students grades 3-6, maximum is 14 classrooms. Up to 2 classrooms max. Can attend from a school.

*For registration purposes please choose your top 5 workshops.*

#### **Water Works**

The Conservation District program will be offering Critter Dipping in tubs, Groundwater Model, Stream table demonstrations. The critter dipping and stream table are hands on for the students. Keep in mind the students may get their shirts wet and or dirty with the stream table and critter dipping. This workshop is hosted by Assiniboine Hills Conservation District.

#### **Design your own earth-friendly car**

What would your earth-friendly car look like? How would it work? What would it be able to do? Students will work together in groups to come up with designs of their own, and then they will get to experience a hybrid car first-hand and can see and learn about how it works! \*\*\*Grades 4-6 only\*\*\*

#### **Birding 101**

Join us for this interactive workshop and learn about the many bird species in our area. Also learn about the many tree species and their importance to the birds and other creatures. This workshop is an excellent introduction to the activity of bird watching and identifying. Enjoy tons of activities including binocular skills, measuring your own wingspan, and getting active with some bird themed games!

## **Nature Conservancy Canada**

Title: Manitoba Animals and Habitats

Target ages: Grades 3-5

Themes and Concepts: Habitats, Biodiversity, Conservation, Adaptation

Activities:

1. Overview presentation on Manitoba habitats and what animals need to survive.
2. Hands-on touch of furs, skulls, teeth, etc. from Manitoba animals
3. Discussion on how habitats change and what we can do to help conserve animal habitats
4. Indoor scavenger hunt
5. Design a habitat activity: students will be given an animal and will draw/describe what is needed for that animal to have a habitat

## **Living in a Forest**

The trees around our homes, schools, streets, and throughout our parks are part of an urban forest. The urban forest is made up of trees and other vegetation within the built environment where we live, work, and play. It is influenced by people, vehicles, pavement, utility lines, buildings, wildlife, underground pipes, other plants, and of course, people.

Come learn about all the benefits of Brandon's Urban Forest. Students will participate in a hands on tree planting exercise at a nearby City facility. This workshop will be presented by City of Brandon's Parks Department.

## **Marquis Project Game Show Showdown**

Come learn about the Marquis Project and compete against your classmates in a fun environmentally themed Jeopardy and Bingo!

## **ACC geocaching.**

"Come and explore the fascinating world of the Global Positioning System and learn all about the popular high-tech scavenger hunt "Geocaching." This workshop is hosted by ACC." \*\*\*For grades 4-6 only. \*\*\*

## **Brandon University**

### **A ground squirrel's gotta eat – but so does a coyote!**

Have you ever wondered what a day in the life of a ground squirrel is like? Learn about the ecological role of ground squirrels in the food web then head outside to play a game of ground squirrel versus coyote! Students will play the roles of ground squirrels who are trying to collect enough food to store for the winter while eluding hungry coyotes. Students should be prepared to spend the majority of the session outside and are encouraged to wear running shoes and bring a water bottle.

### **Megawatts & Marbles – presented by Manitoba Hydro**

Did you know that the electricity you are using right now was generated only a moment ago in a power plant hundreds of kilometers away? Where do you want your electricity to come from? Join a fun, interactive game with marbles where you are the power plant and must work with other participants to meet the demand.

Megawatts & Marbles is a fun, interactive, multi-player game that demonstrates how different types of power generation behave and how these different types of generation are integrated into the electrical grid. Players experience the challenges of balancing generation and demand, hands-on, by taking on the roles of power plants who must work together to meet time-varying demand. Electricity, represented by marbles, is transmitted down a track to consumers – a model city. The challenge is to meet the demand for electricity and keep the lights on.

**Grades 5-6 only**

### **Indigenous Medicines**

Our connection to earth and the environment (hosted by Jason Gobeil and Frank Tacan Sr.)

Sage, Sweet grass, Cedar and Tobacco are all natural medicines grown from the earth...in this session we will learn the importance of Indigenous medicines and why we must respect the earth and environment that we live in. Indigenous cultures in Canada are still using medicines grown from the earth for healing and ceremony. We will have a focus on the tipi and its relationship with land and community. We will be creating small tipi's.

## **Burrowing Owls—it's a hoot!**

Learn about Burrowing Owls and the Manitoba Burrowing Owl Recovery Program. This presentation will discuss topics including endangered species, grassland conservation and biodiversity. We will also have our live education ambassador Burrowing Owl, Ko'ko, with us!

## **Fairy Miniature Garden Creations**

Using natural materials (plants, sticks, moss, rocks, etc.) and sculpting dough to create fruit and veggie gardens and homes in miniature sizes. This is a fun and engaging way to be creative and to think about how to use what we have and to repurpose or upcycle materials to use for the base of the gardens like trays or baskets or what have you and engage the kids in conversations about gardening and explore a wide variety of fruits and veggies and how they grow.

## **Help Save the Earth, by donating your used textiles to Diabetes Canada**

Title: Textiles – A Huge Waste Problem for our Planet

**Target ages: Grades 3-6**

**Over 1.3 Billion Kilograms** of textiles go to the landfill each year in Canada, that's the equivalent weight of more than **200,000 adult elephants!! WOW!**

Join Diabetes Canada's workshop to learn more on how you can help save the planet by donating your used shirts, pants, shoes, bedding, towels, belts, purses and so much more!

The workshop will include a presentation as well as a Q&A portion that will give students the opportunity to learn about the importance of keeping textiles out of the landfill.

There will also be a demonstration period using different common everyday items and textiles and asking a selected group of students to come up to the front and choose which items can go into a textile recycling bin.

At the end of the presentation there will be a short and fun quiz to see how much the students learned from the presentation.

## **All the Buzz about Bees**

Bees are in the news a lot these days and generally the news is not good - the bees need our help. But the solutions are not just designed to help honey bees. How many bees can you identify? Would you be shocked to learn that there are over 218 different kinds of bees in Manitoba? This session will cover information about the lives and challenges facing native Manitoba bees and domestic European honey bees. Students will learn to tell the difference between different kinds of pollinators and the resources they need to survive. We will build bee houses and learn how to set up their backyard as a haven for

bees. Don't worry about getting stung, we may see if we can spot some live bees but none will be invited to participate in the workshop!

### **Stop Emerald Ash Borer!**

Do you want to protect our trees from the deadly Emerald Ash Borer? Come to this session to become an EAB Detective this summer and help spread the word about emerald ash borer and the dangers of moving firewood.