

# Echo Valley Provincial Park

## 2022 Education Programs

*Guided school programs are offered in the spring and fall at Echo Valley Provincial Park and are a great opportunity to immerse students in nature while investigating and applying learning objectives. Sask Parks' guided school programming connects the Saskatchewan Curriculum to nature-based learning.*



### Booking:

Bookings are accepted starting on Tuesday, January 4, on a first-come, first-served basis. Please complete the attached form and return by email to [outdoorclassroom@gov.sk.ca](mailto:outdoorclassroom@gov.sk.ca).

### Cost:

School groups are no longer required to pay a program fee. A vehicle entry permit is required upon entry to the park for \$10/vehicle (buses and chaperone vehicles included). Permits are available for purchase from the entry gate and/or park office.

### Program Dates:

Monday to Friday, May 16 to June 24, 2022. Fall programs are available September 6 to early October, weather and park conditions permitting. Winter programs are available upon request.

### Park Quick Facts:

- Located 1 hour (75 km) east of Regina, or 15 minutes (13 km) north-west of Fort Qu'Appelle.
- Two sandy beaches and swimming areas with access to Pasqua Lake and Echo Lake.
- Scenic hiking trails.
- Large picnic area with fire barbecues.
- Group camping sites with lake access.

### In the Area:

- Town of Fort Qu'Appelle.
- Provincial Fish Hatchery, located on Highway 10 towards Fort Qu'Appelle Lake. Tours are available from May until September or upon request. Call (306) 332-3200 for more information.

### Programs

Most programs can be adapted for any grade level, however, suggested grades are included.

### Aquatic Programs

#### Snails, Pails and Cattails (Pre K-4)

Discover underwater life in the lake by catching critters and taking a close-up look at the creepy, cool and sometimes slimy water bugs. Rubber boots required, spare socks recommended.

**Location:** Echo Beach

**Duration:** 30 - 45 minutes

**Suggested Curriculum:** LTK, NSK, LT1, DS1, SE1, PE1, OM1, DS1, AN2, AW2, PE3, PL3, ES3, HC4

#### Wetland Adventures (Grade 5-7)

Discover the diversity of life in the lake. Using a large seine net, students will complete a hands-on study of aquatic organisms and

### Details cont'd.

shoreline plants to better understand the inter-relationships that exist within the lake ecosystem. Rubber boots required.

**Location:** Echo Beach

**Duration:** 30 - 45 minutes

**Suggested Curriculum:** LTK, NSK, LT1, OM1, PE1, DS1, LT1, SE1, AN2, AW2, AW2, PE3, PL3, ES3, HC4, RW5, DL6, IE7

### Guided Hikes

#### Interpretive Nature Hike (Grade K-5)

During this beginner interactive hike, students will discover the history of the Ice Age as they gaze their eyes over the vast valley, coulees and Qu'Appelle River. They will explore the plant and animals that call the park home and observe changes in ecosystems as they move from the valley floor up to the grasslands above. The hike is 1 km in length.

**Location:** Interpretive Trail at Hole in Wall



*Details cont'd.*

**Duration:** 45 minutes

**Suggested Curriculum:** LTK, NSK, PE1, LT1, PL3, OM1, SE1, DS1, AM2, AN2, PE3, ES3, PL3, PE4, HC4, PE5, RW5

### Scenic Valley Trek (Grade 6-12)

During this guided hike, students will gain in-depth knowledge about the glacial spillway that formed the Qu'Appelle Valley thousands of years ago. They will explore the changes in flora and fauna from the valley coulees all the way up to the prairie grassland at the top of the valley. Students will learn to identify some of the park's common species from birds and ungulates, to native and invasive grasses. The hike is 2.5 km.

**Location:** Mink Trail in Hole in Wall

**Duration:** 1 hour and 30 minutes

**Suggested Curriculum:** PE6, DL6, PE7, EC7, IE7, PE8, USC8, PE9, SCI10, PE20, PE30

### Games and Activities

#### Nature Scavenger Hunt (Grade K-3)

Students will explore an area of the park in a hunt for pieces of nature that range from flowers and insects to feathers and pebbles. As they make discoveries, they will learn about their findings and answer questions that grow their knowledge of the park's natural species and resources.

**Location:** Visitor Centre

**Duration:** 30 - 45 minute

**Suggested Curriculum:** LTK, LT1, PE2, PE3

### Skill Development Programs

#### Canoeing (Grade 6-12)

Learn basic canoe skills while exploring Echo Lake or Pasqua Lake. All program leaders are certified with Paddle Canada. Canoes, paddles and PFDs are supplied. The program is limited to 16-18 paddlers.

**Location:** Echo Beach

**Duration:** 1 hour and 30 minutes

**Suggested Curriculum:** PE6, PE7, IE7.2, PE8, PE9, PE20, PE30

#### Fire Starting (Grade 6-12)

A campfire program for those of you that plan to stay overnight in one of our great group camping areas. The program introduces students to the basics of campfire building and wilderness survival. Students always enjoy the fire-building group challenge! This program can be offered right at your campsite.

**Location:** To Be Discussed

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Suggested Curriculum:** PE6, PE7, PE8, PE9, PE20, PE30

#### Geocaching (Grade 5-12)

Students learn to navigate using Global Positioning System (GPS) to find hidden caches. This program is a basic introduction to Geocaching. Caches are set out in a closed area that will challenge the students and ensure their safety. This program contains a lot of walking. Please come prepared with proper footwear.

*Details cont'd.*

**Location:** Visitor Centre

**Duration:** 45 minutes - 1 hour

**Suggested Curriculum:** PE5, PE6, PE7, PE8, PE9, PE20, PE30

### Self-Guided Programs

#### Visitor Centre Scavenger Hunt (Grade 5-8)

Students will explore the Visitor Centre's interactive displays and exhibits in order to complete a variety of challenges and answer questions related to the parks ecology, geography, and history.

**Location:** Visitor Centre

**Duration:** 30 - 45 minute

**Suggested Curriculum:** WE5, RW5, DL6, EC7, IE7, WS8



### Booking Information

#### Educational Programming:

Please fill out the attached School Booking Request Form and email the completed form to [outdoorclassroom@gov.sk.ca](mailto:outdoorclassroom@gov.sk.ca).

#### Group Size:

Each program can accommodate 20-30 students. For larger group sizes, contact us at [outdoorclassroom@gov.sk.ca](mailto:outdoorclassroom@gov.sk.ca) to discuss program options.

#### Group Camping:

Group camping is available to school groups free of charge from September 7, 2021 to June 23, 2022. To book group campsites, please contact the park office at 306-332-3215. When reserving online, standard nightly group camping fees apply from June 24, 2022 until September 6, 2022, in addition to a \$12 non-refundable reservation fee. Visit [saskparks.com](http://saskparks.com) for standard nightly group rates. Valid vehicle entry permits are required.

# Know Before You Go

Note: teachers and chaperones are required to participate in all programs.

## Be Prepared for the Weather:

Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, warm and waterproof clothing. Rubber boots may also be required for your program.

## Cell Coverage:

There is good cell service at Echo Valley Provincial Park, though it may be limited in some lower areas. Wi-Fi is not available.

## Late Arrivals or Cancellations:

Programs are not usually cancelled due to weather unless requested by the school or in extreme/unsafe situations. Please phone us to let us know if you are arriving late. We will try to accommodate changes, however, late arrivals may result in program reduction or cancellation due to other school booking commitments.

## Campfires:

Campfires are allowed in the park. Please bring matches, roasting sticks and an axe. Wood is provided on site. Please discuss campfire needs during your booking. In the case of a fire restriction, campfires are prohibited. To find out if the park is under a fire restriction,, head to [saskparks.com](http://saskparks.com).

## Drinking Water:

Drinking water may not be available at your program location. Plan ahead and bring filled water bottles.

## Safety:

In case of medical or other emergencies, all groups must maintain their own transportation while visiting the park.

## In the Classroom:

Discuss with your students ways that they can reduce their impact — reduce packaging on food items, recycle materials and respect the natural environment during your visit.

## Further Information:

Learn more about Echo Valley Provincial Park at [www.saskparks.com](http://www.saskparks.com).



# Echo Valley Provincial Park

## Education Program Booking Form

You will receive a response within 10 business days to confirm your booking. Park Interpreters begin work in May and will contact you at that time to finalize details. If desired, group camping must be booked separately by contacting the park office at 306-332-3215.

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (contact person/teacher): \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of teacher(s) attending trip (if different than above): \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone number of teacher(s) attending trip: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade(s): \_\_\_\_\_ # of students: \_\_\_\_\_ # of chaperones: \_\_\_\_\_

Is your group staying the night? Yes No

*\*If yes, be sure to book a group campsite by contacting the park office at 306-577-2606.*

Preferred Program Date:

1st Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

3rd Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

Planned Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Select desired program(s):

*Snails, Pails and Cattails (Pre K - 4)*

*Scenic Valley Trek (Grade 6-12)*

*Fire Starting (Grade 6 - 12)*

*Wetland Adventures (Grade 5- 7)*

*Nature Scavenger Hunt (Grade K-3)*

*Geocaching (Grade 5-12)*

*Interpretive Nature Hike (Grade K- 5)*

*Canoeing (Grade 6-12)*

*Visitor Centre Scavenger Hunt (Grade 5-8)*

Please choose preferred time(s):

*9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.*

*11 a.m. - 12 p.m.*

*1 p.m.- 2 p.m.*

*2:30 p.m.- 3:30 p.m.*

Please list any other curriculum-based themes or inquiry-based learning questions that would help interpretive staff tailor the program to your group.

Are there any special considerations that your interpreter should be aware of (i.e. mobility issues, special needs, allergies, medications, etc.)?

Yes No

In most cases, programs can be adapted to better suit your group. Please discuss any special needs with a Park Interpreter ahead of time.

Please return completed form to: [outdoorclassroom@gov.sk.ca](mailto:outdoorclassroom@gov.sk.ca).

Submit