



Weaselhead Grade 3 Field Trip Teachers Guide Package “Animal Life Cycles”

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Thank you for your participation in our Grade 3 Weaselhead Education Program!

The following items have been enclosed in this Teacher’s Guide package:

- Field trip program outline
- Behavioural expectations
- Map of the Weaselhead

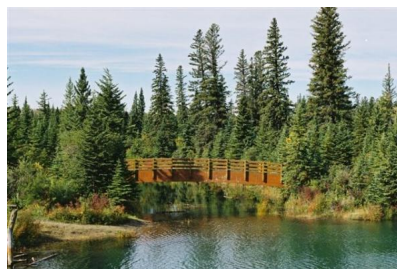
Pre-trip preparation:

- Please have the students broken into 4 or 5 groups per class prior to the field trip.
- Students should bring their own field journals.
- Assign one adult leader (parent volunteer) per student group.

Participants should bring:

- **Appropriate clothing for the weather. Snow boots or light hiking boots are essential if the weather is colder.**
- Water bottle
- Snack

Note: This entire program is held outside with no indoor facilities. An outdoor toilet is provided near the parking lot. Students and parents must be prepared for all weather conditions. They will be hiking approximately 1 km from the parking area to the bridge over the Elbow River and back.



Grade 3 Weaselhead Program Outline for Animal Life Cycles

The Weaselhead Natural Environment Area **North** Parking Lot is located on the West side of the **intersection of 66th Ave & 37 St SW**. Meet your Naturalist in the parking lot beside the grey shed found in the northwest corner of the lot. Please check with Education Coordinator for any changes to drop-off location due to construction.

Please note: Naturalist leaders may adapt this program outline to suit the weather and the students' needs. If there is more than one class participating, each class will have their own guide but may stagger their routes to avoid crowding. Please make sure each teacher has a first aid kit.

Parking Lot: 9:30 Unload bus

Introduction: 15 minutes

- o Picnic Tables: Introduction to Naturalists, behavioural expectations and rules of the Weaselhead
- o Outhouse opportunity (please note this is the only outhouse in the park)
- o North Escarpment Lookout: Weaselhead history and program introduction

Walk down the hill: 20 minutes

- o Exploration of animal and plant life
 - Identification and classification
 - Animal life cycles and adaptations
 - Observe insect galls, butterflies along the way

Elbow River: 15 minutes

- o Gravel bar below bridge
 - Identify Cliff Swallow nests and adaptations
 - Snack time

Walk to Beaver Lagoon Wetland and study: 30 minutes

- o Beaver Lagoon
 - Students participate in a pond study and look at small invertebrates in the water with magnifying boxes. Study life cycles of the invertebrates.
 - Journal time/sketching

Walk back to top of the hill : (approx. 20 minutes)

Top of the hill: 11:45: 15 minutes

- o Grassy field
 - GAME : *Migration or "Are you me game"*
 - Wrap-up and good-byes

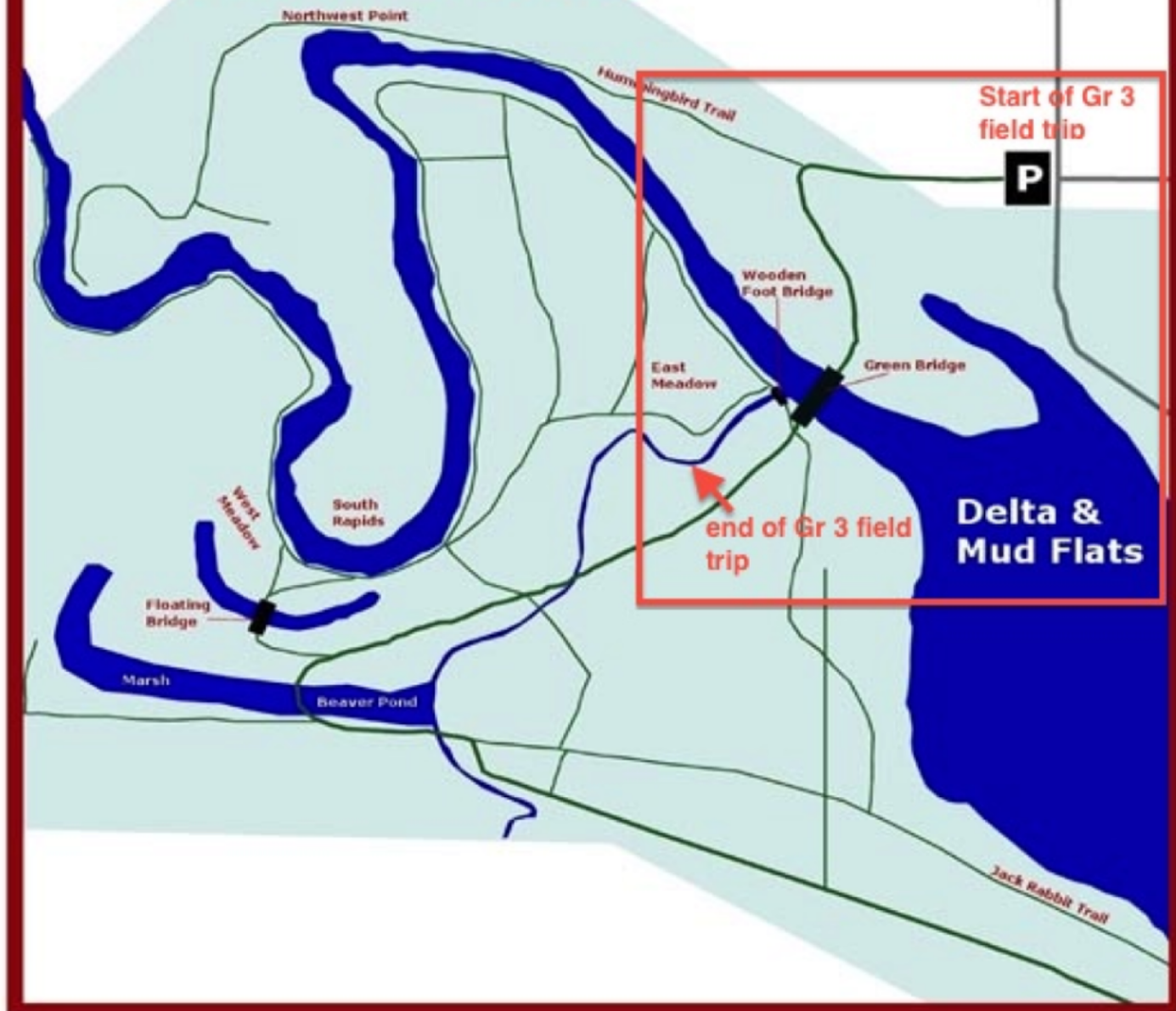
Parking Lot: 12:00 Load bus

Behavioural Expectations for all Group Members

- **The naturalist should be in the lead at all times when walking and an adult leader should be at the end of the group.**
- **The groups should stay in sight of the supervisors at all times when doing group activities.**
- **NEVER remove natural items from the area. Vegetation, insect, mammal, bird and amphibian life is to be respected and left in the natural habitat. We will talk about this at the beginning.**
- **Leave no trace of your visit. All litter must be brought out by you and put in the garbage containers at the top.**
- **Unsafe behaviour such as pushing or teasing is unacceptable.**
- **Cooperation by listening, observing and participating in the activities is expected during the field trips.**
- **Each adult is expected to set a good example by participating in the activities and to provide due safety and care for each of the students.**



Weaselhead Natural Environment Area



The parking lot is located at the corner 37 St and 66 Ave SW Calgary. If an alternate parking lot is used, the Education Coordinator will send you a new map.