

Living Prairie Museum

Environmental Education Programs 2025-2026

ABOUT US

Tall grass prairie once extended from Manitoba to Texas. This "sea of grass" was dominated by grasses, colourful wildflowers, and millions of bison. The prairie was and is cared for by many Indigenous peoples, but much has been lost in the past 150 years. Today, less than 1% of this endangered ecosystem remains.

The Living Prairie Museum is an urban nature preserve that protects tall grass prairie and welcomes people to visit this special habitat. We are located in west Winnipeg, and are accessible by car, bus, or active transportation. Our site includes:

- Trails through the prairie
- Interpretive Centre with interactive displays
- Medicine garden and demonstration prairie gardens
- Picnic areas, and Nature Playground

Self-guided visits are free. Please contact us to discuss any group visits. We also offer high-quality educational programs year-round.



Contact Us:
2795 Ness Ave.

204-832-0167
prairie@winnipeg.ca



SCHOOL and GROUP PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

Our environmental education programs introduce learners to the tall grass prairie with interactive and engaging activities. Our programs are:

- A mix of indoors and outdoors
- Available for ages 5 to adult
- 1.5 hours in length. (For longer visits, please book multiple programs, or contact us for options)
- Booked first-come, first-served. May and June are our busiest months
- \$3.50/participant (minimum charges may apply for smaller groups)
- Available at our site year-round, or at your location from November-March

Picnic tables and a nature playground are available on-site for groups wishing to use them before or after their programs.

Custom Programs: Looking for a topic approach, or age group you don't see here? Contact us to discuss other

SEE LAST PAGE FOR FULL DETAILS ON HOW TO BOOK EDUCATION PROGRAMS WITH US

Children's Programs at Living Prairie Museum

Kindergarten-Grade 2

OUR PRAIRIE HOME (Year-round)

What makes a prairie a prairie? Learn about the prairie and the plants and animals that call it home. Enjoy a fun presentation followed by a guided scavenger hunt on the prairie

Science Curriculum Learning Outcomes:

1-1-07 Recognize that plants, animals, and humans, as living things, have particular needs.

1-1-10 Describe how humans and other living things depend on their environment to meet their needs.

1-1-14 Show respect for living things in their immediate environment.

2-1-13 Describe and compare ways in which different animals care for their offspring.

2-1-17 Identify and describe ways in which humans help other animals.

2025 Pilot Curriculum

SCI.K.SK.4 and SCI.1.SK.10 Demonstrate an understanding that living things have basic needs

SCI.K.SK.5 and SCI.1.SK.11 Demonstrate an understanding of the large diversity of living things on Earth.

SCI.2.SK.7 Demonstrate an understanding that animals must obtain energy by eating plants or other animals.

SCI.2.SK.8 Demonstrate an understanding that plants are able to capture energy from the Sun to produce and store their own food.

SCOOP ON POOP (Year-round)

Why learn about poop!? Come and learn what poop can tell us, and keep your group giggling along the way. Take a guided walk after to find some poop clues on the prairie!

Science Curriculum Learning Outcomes:

1-1-06 Observe and identify similarities in life processes between themselves and other living things.

2-1-16 Observe and describe an animal's life processes.

2025 Pilot Curriculum

SCI.K.SK.4 and SCI.1.SK.10 Demonstrate an understanding that living things have basic needs

SCI.2.SK.7 Demonstrate an understanding that animals must obtain energy by eating plants or other animals.

ANIMALS IN WINTER (October - March)

Learn about how living things survive the prairie winter: hibernation, migration and adaptation. Outdoor activities follow an interactive presentation.

Science Curriculum Learning Outcomes:

K-1-05 Name and describe each of the four seasons.

1-1-10 Describe how humans and other living things depend on their environment to meet their needs.

2025 Pilot Curriculum

SCI.K.SK.4 and SCI.1.SK.10 Demonstrate an understanding that living things have basic needs

SCI.K.SK.5 and SCI.1.SK.11 Demonstrate an understanding of the large diversity of living things on Earth.

SCI.2.SK.7 Demonstrate an understanding that animals must obtain energy by eating plants or other animals.



Children's Programs at Living Prairie Museum

Grades 3-4

BUTTERFLIES AND BEES (May-September)

Learn about our native bees and butterflies, including their life cycles, where they live, what they eat, and how we can help keep them safe. This interactive program includes an outdoor pollinator habitat hunt activity.

Science Curriculum Learning Outcomes:

3-1-13 Describe ways that plants and animals depend on each other.

4-1-04 Identify physical and behavioural adaptations of animals and plants, and infer how these adaptations help them to survive in a specific habitat.

4-1-14 Investigate natural and human-caused changes to habitats, and identify resulting effects on plant and animal populations.

2025 Pilot Curriculum

SCI.3.SK.12 Demonstrate an understanding of the basic needs of living things.

SCI.3.SK.13 Demonstrate an understanding of the processes involved in the life cycles of most living things.

SCI.4.SK.15 Demonstrate an understanding of how plants and animals (including humans) rely on each other and the environment for survival.

POWER OF THE PRAIRIE (Year-round)

The prairie is an amazing place! Learn all about this special habitat, and how living things interact. Then take an outdoor guided walk to see in person.

Science Curriculum Learning Outcomes:

3-1-13 Describe ways that plants and animals depend on each other.

4-1-07 Investigate and describe a variety of local and regional habitats and their associated populations of plants and animals.

4-1-09 Recognize that plant and animal populations interact within a community.

2025 Pilot Curriculum

SCI.3.SK.12 Demonstrate an understanding of the basic needs of living things.

SCI.3.SK.13 Demonstrate an understanding of the processes involved in the life cycles of most living things.

SCI.4.SK.13 Demonstrate an understanding that every living thing is adapted to survive in a specific habitat.

SCI.4.SK.14 Demonstrate an understanding of the cycling of matter and flow of energy among living and nonliving parts of an ecosystem.

SCI.4.SK.15 Demonstrate an understanding of how plants and animals (including humans) rely on each other and the environment for survival.

FROM ROOT TO SHOOT (May-October)

Observe plant characteristics and become familiar with the variety of plant life on the prairie. Then take a guided walk to get up close and personal with some prairie plants.

Science Curriculum Learning Outcomes:

3-1-08 Explain how different adaptations of plants help them survive in particular environments.

3-1-13 Describe ways that plants and animals depend on each other.

4-1-07 Investigate and describe a variety of local and regional habitats and their associated populations of plants and animals.

2025 Pilot Curriculum

SCI.3.SK.12 Demonstrate an understanding of the basic needs of living things.

SCI.4.SK.13 Demonstrate an understanding that every living thing is adapted to survive in a specific habitat.

SCI.4.SK.14 Demonstrate an understanding of the cycling of matter and flow of energy among living and nonliving parts of an ecosystem.

GETTING THE DIRT ON SOIL (May-October)

Learn about what's underground, and how all living things are connected to the soil. This fun presentation is followed by hands-on soil science stations.

Science Curriculum Learning Outcomes:

3-4-08 Explain the importance of understanding the characteristics of different soils.

3-4-09 Identify animals found in soil and explain their importance to soil quality.

3-4-10 Describe ways to return organic matter to the soil.

2025 Pilot Curriculum

SCI.4.SK.9 Demonstrate an understanding of the nature and types of soil.

SCI.4.SK.10 Demonstrate an understanding of the properties of fertile soil.

SCI.4.SK.12 Demonstrate an understanding of weathering and erosion of rock and its relation to soil formation.

Getting the Dirt on Soil and From Root to Shoot make a great pairing for a full day of learning!



Youth Programs at Living Prairie Museum

Grades 6-8

PRAIRIE RELATIONSHIPS (Year-round)

On the prairie, everything is connected. Learn about the relationships that hold diverse prairie life together. Program includes outdoor activities to build relevant personal connections to the prairie ecosystem.

Science Curriculum Learning Outcomes:

6-1-08 Observe and describe the diversity of living things within the local environment.

7-1-03 Identify abiotic and biotic components of ecosystems that allow particular organisms to survive.

7-1-05 Identify and describe positive and negative examples of human interventions that have impact on ecological succession and the makeup of ecosystems

2025 Pilot Curriculum

SCI.6.SI.1, SCI.7.SI.1, SCI.8.SI.1: Develop a sense of agency, identity and belonging in science by building a personal connection to nature

SCI.7.SK.17 Demonstrate an understanding of the concept and nature of a self-sustaining ecosystem.

SCI.7.SK.20 Demonstrate an understanding of the roles of organisms at various trophic levels, and their importance in sustaining an ecosystem.

SCI.7.SK.23 Demonstrate an understanding of the potential affects on plants and animals in an ecosystem when conditions change.

SCI.8.NOS.7 Demonstrate an understanding that technologies that improve human life can have predictable as well as unforeseen detrimental consequences.

Grades 9-12

PRAIRIE INTRODUCTION (Year-round)

This prairie introduction covers prairie history, habitat changes, biodiversity, and conservation of tall grass prairie. After a presentation, an outdoor activity provides the chance to personally experience this endangered ecosystem.

Science Curriculum Learning Outcomes:

S2-1-08 Observe and document a range of organisms that illustrate the biodiversity within a local ecosystem.

B12-5-02 Describe strategies used to conserve biodiversity.

B12-5-04: Investigate an issue related to the conservation of biodiversity

2025 Pilot Curriculum

SCI.9.SK.24 Demonstrate an understanding of the role of natural and sexual selection in the evolution of life on Earth.

SCI.9.SK.27 Demonstrate an understanding that environmental changes cause changes in the selective pressures acting on populations.

SCI.10.SK.20 Demonstrate an understanding of the nature and functioning of resilient ecosystems.

SCI.10.SK.21 Demonstrate an understanding that many human activities have a detrimental effect on natural, healthy ecosystems.

Adult Programs at Living Prairie Museum

TALL GRASS PRAIRIE INTRODUCTION (Year-round)

An introduction to the prairie that is Winnipeg's natural legacy. This program shares prairie history, human relationships with prairie, and the processes and changes that shape our tall grass prairie today. It will also highlight the many unique plants and animals that make the tall grass prairie home. Program includes a guided walk to get up close and personal with the prairie.

MANITOBA'S NATIVE POLLINATORS (Year-round)

Explore the amazing diversity of Manitoba's native pollinators! Learn about the importance of bees, butterflies, and other insects, and consider how we can provide habitat and conservation of these important insects. Program includes an interactive presentation and recommendations for creating pollinator habitat in your community. If the weather is right, program also includes a guided walk to see pollinators on the prairie.

GUIDED WALK (Year-round)

Bring your group or team to visit this rare ecosystem with an experienced naturalist. This extended walk will introduce you to the history, living things, and conservation of the tall grass prairie.



For Fun Programs at Living Prairie- Ages 5-Adult

EAGER BEAVERS (Year-round)

Learn about how beavers shape their habitats and affect the world around them. Explore what is special about these keystone species, then build your own beaver dam!

OWL PROWL (October-March)

Learn about what makes owls unique, and about Manitoba's different owl species. Afterwards, go for an Owl Prowl hike to try to find nearby owls, or learn more about owls at our interactive activity stations.

SPECIAL WINTER PROGRAMS

SNOWSHOE EXCURSION

Learn how to snowshoe on the prairie! We cover snowshoe basics followed by a guided snowshoe excursion on the prairie. No experience required, this program is great for snowshoe beginners!

Available for schools and groups ages 5 to adult. Contact us for available sizes. Snowshoe programs depend on enough snow on the prairie preserve.

TRACKS AND BANNOCK

Look for real animal tracks and other signs of winter wildlife out on the prairie. Then cook your own bannock around a warm fire! Bannock, firewood, and roasting sticks included!



Nature Comes to You Programs

Living Prairie Museum naturalists hit the road and visit your school or location!

Available **November to April**, each one hour program includes an interactive presentation with hands-on learning or an outdoor activity.

Available Programs:

- Owl Prowl
- Eager Beavers
- Animals in Winter
- Our Prairie Home OR Power of the Prairie
- Tall Grass Prairie Introduction (Teen or Adult)
- Manitoba's Native Pollinators (Adult)

\$3.50 per participant per program
\$70 minimum charge per program

Interested in other topics?
Contact us for more outreach opportunities



PROGRAM BOOKING

Please request program bookings by email or phone.
prairie@winnipeg.ca or 204-832-0167

Bookings are first-come, first-served.

We book up quickly for May and June programs,
so please contact us as early as you can for bookings in those months.

PROGRAM FEES

On-site programs:

\$3.50 per participant per program (includes GST)
No charge for teachers, assistants, chaperones, or
parent volunteers.
\$40 minimum charge per program

Nature Comes to You programs

\$3.50 per participant per program (includes GST)
No charge for teachers, assistants, and parent
volunteers
\$70 minimum charge per 1 hour program

Programs at other nature parks

Programming at other Winnipeg Nature Park
Locations (Assiniboine Forest, Little Mountain Park,
LaBarriere Park) is dependent on staff availability.
Please contact us if you are interested in programs at
these locations.

\$3.50 per participant per program (includes GST)
No charge for teachers, assistants, chaperones or
parent volunteers
\$70 minimum charge per 1 hour program

ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION

Our programs on-site usually include the following:

- Indoor presentation with images, sounds and songs, with learners seated on floor or chairs in large groups,
- Guided walks on wood-chipped trails in all weather conditions,
- Movement between several different indoor and outdoor areas.

Please inform us in advance of your trip if any participants may require accommodation or alternate activities during your program. We will do our best to provide accommodations or alternate experiences so all can participate.



CONTACT US!

2795 Ness Ave
Winnipeg MB R3J 3S4

204-832-0167
prairie@winnipeg.ca
winnipeg.ca/livingprairie

Interpretive Centre Hours

May - June, September:
Saturdays 10-5
July and August: Tues.-Sun. 10-5
October - April by appointment

FIND US

We are located
in west Winnipeg,
along Ness Ave.,
west of Moray St.
We are next door
to Sturgeon Heights
Collegiate.

