

Winnipeg Nature Parks  
**Environmental Education**



**LIVING PRAIRIE MUSEUM**  
*Experience Winnipeg's Prairie Legacy*

**ABOUT LIVING PRAIRIE MUSEUM**

The Living Prairie Museum is a 13 hectare (32 acre) tall grass prairie preserve located inside the City of Winnipeg. This preserve is home to over 160 species of prairie plants and a great array of prairie wildlife. Our interpretive centre features information and hands-on activities that share prairie stories and ecology.

Prior to European settlement, tall grass prairie covered one million square kilometers in central North America, stretching from Texas to southern Manitoba. Less than 1% of this once vast ecosystem remains. The Living Prairie Museum is one of the few locations where high-quality, remnant prairie exists today.

Our goal is to create connection to prairie and other natural areas through environmental education and nature-based experiences. Visitors from Winnipeg and around the world come to enjoy the prairie and learn about its legacy.

**SCHOOL and GROUP PROGRAMS**

Our environmental education programs introduce learners to the tall grass prairie.

- All programs include an indoor and outdoor component.
- Programs are available for ages 5 and up. All programs are interactive, and age-appropriate.
- For Manitoba curriculum connections, see learning outcomes for each program.
- Programs are 1.5 hours in length. If you wish to explore longer, or book multiple programs, please contact us.
- Picnic tables and a nature playground are available on-site.
- We go outside rain or shine, so please dress for the conditions!
- Some programs are only available seasonally.

*Please see last page for fees and booking info*

**OUR PRAIRIE HOME (Year-round)**

What makes a prairie a prairie? Learn about the prairie and the plants and animals that call it home. Outdoor activities follow an interactive presentation.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.
- 2-1-12 Describe and classify a wide range of animals according to various characteristics and behaviours.

**POWER OF THE PRAIRIE (Year-round)**

The prairie is an amazing place! Learn all about this special habitat, and how living things interact. An outdoor guided hike follows an interactive presentation.

**Science Curriculum Learning Outcomes:**

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

**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 hike 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.

**GETTING THE DIRT ON SOIL (Year-round)**

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.

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

**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:**

- 2-1-11 Identify and describe constant and changing characteristics of an animals as it grows and develops.
- 2-1-16 Observe and describe and animal's life process.
- 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.

**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.

**Science Curriculum Learning Outcomes:**

- 2-1-16 Observe and describe an animal's life processes.
- 4-1-04 Identify physical and behavioural adaptations of animals and plants, and infer how these habitats help them to survive in a specific habitat.

**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!

**Science Curriculum Learning Outcomes:**

- 2-1-16 Observe and describe an animal's life processes.
- 3-1-13 Describe ways that plants & animals depend on each other.
- 4-1-04 Identify physical and behavioural adaptations of animals and plants, and infer how these habitats help them to survive in a specific habitat.

**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.
- 6-1-11 Compare and contrast adaptations of common arthropods, and describe how these adaptations enable them to live in particular habitats.
- 7-1-01 Students learn and use appropriate vocabulary related to their investigations of interactions within ecosystems.
- 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

**TALL GRASS 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 or regional ecosystem.
- S2-1-10 Investigate how human activities affect an ecosystem and use the decision-making process to propose a course of action to enhance its sustainability.
- B12-5-01 Discuss a variety of reasons for maintaining biodiversity
- B12-5-02 Describe strategies used to conserve biodiversity.
- B12-5-04 Investigate an issue related to the conservation of biodiversity.

## ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### 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.

This program is available on-site at Living Prairie Museum or can come to you! Programs at Living Prairie Museum include a guided walk to get up close and personal with 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.

### 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.



## 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.

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!

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:

- Animals in Winter
- Owl Prowl
- Eager Beavers
- Tall Grass Prairie Introduction (Teen or Adult)
- Manitoba's Native Pollinators (Adult)



Interested in other topics?  
Contact us for more outreach opportunities

## PROGRAM FEES

### **On-site programs:**

\$3.50 per participant per program (includes GST)  
No charge for teachers, assistants, and 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 program

### **Programs at other nature parks**

Contact us if you are interested in programming at other Winnipeg Nature Park Locations (Assiniboine Forest, Little Mountain Park, LaBarriere Park).

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

## PROGRAM BOOKING

**Please request program bookings by email or phone.**

**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.

## ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION

We will do our best to provide accommodations or alternate experiences so all can participate in our programs. Please contact us for information on our site and programs, or to discuss options.

## 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

Living Prairie Museum is located in Treaty One Territory, the home and traditional lands of the Anishinaabe (Ojibwe), Ininew (Cree), and Dakota peoples, and in the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. Our drinking water comes from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation, in Treaty Three Territory.

