

Outdoor Education Centre

2019 School Brochure

Where Friends Meet - Since 1966



Circle R has provided quality outdoor education and recreation programs for children, youth and adults for over 50 years. Operating year round, our education programs closely relate to the Ontario Curriculum; contributing to your character development needs.

Our mandate is to provide quality 'hands on' learning experiences in a safe environment for students from JK to grade 12. The result of a visit to Circle R can truly be both a memorable experience for the individual and the group.



Core Programs for Everyone

Team Building Initiative Tasks

Perseverance, Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Acceptance

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

1.5 hour program

Grades 3-12

This program is designed to enhance students' social skills and confidence levels while participating in a group. The mentally and physically challenging tasks (low ropes course) offer a fun and safe forum for the development of group cohesion / co-operative attitudes, providing students with tools to grow and learn. The unique and engaging activities are designed to develop, trust, communication, problem solving, respect, perseverance, and cooperation.



Please note: group leaders such as teachers, supervisors or parent volunteers are needed to help facilitate this program. (No charge for teachers, supervisors or parent volunteers)

Life System Programs

Respect, Honesty, Empathy, Perseverance

LIFE SYSTEMS; HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

1.5 hour program

Grades 3-12

Survival (Grade 4 - 12) : A predator-prey based game which examines food chains, hunting, and conservation. Students assume the roles of Herbivores, Omnivores and Carnivores in this physically active game. The effects of disease and human influence also play an important role in the outcome of the game.

Cycles (Grade 3 - 6): This game explores the flow of nutrients in the food chain and of the interdependency between producers, consumers and decomposers. The effect of Man on this cycle and an introduction to the four elements of life are also covered in this physically active game.



Orienteering and Map Reading

Integrity, Perseverance, Honesty, Acceptance

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Grades 3-12



Orienteering develops navigational and map reading skills, provides problem solving challenges, and enhances physical fitness and self-esteem. This program introduces the basics of orienteering, emphasizes map reading skills (scale, distance, direction, elevation, land formations) and concludes with a timed orienteering challenge.

Programs for Primary and Juniors

From Sheep to Mittens

Grades SK, 1 - 4

Acceptance, Responsibility, Empathy

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY / VISUAL ARTS / UNDERSTANDING LIFE SYSTEMS

Students will see and take part in the exciting process of how yarn is made from raw wool. Students will actively learn the process of shearing the sheep, spinning yarn, and producing mittens. Areas of focus will include: carding, spinning on a hand spindle and spinning wheel, dyeing with 'kool-aid, knitting and weaving. In small groups, students will team up and using their own simple "spinning tool" spin their own piece of yarn to take home. This is a great compliment to our Farm Animal Program.



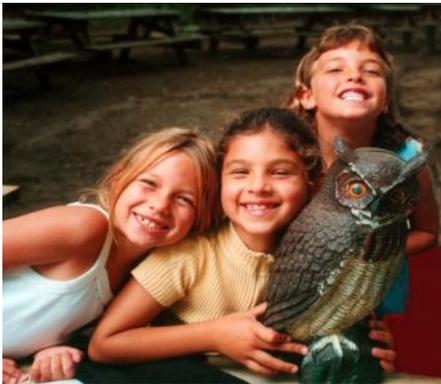
Owl Prowl

Grades JK/SK, 1-4

Caring, Integrity, Acceptance, Responsibility

UNDERSTANDING LIFE SYSTEMS / HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This active, outdoor activity uses a "hands-on" learning approach to help students understand owls and their specific habits. The program involves a discussion on behavior characteristics, predator-prey relationships, habitats, food, reproduction, hunting, as well as environmental and human influences on our local owl's survival. The students then play a stimulating game where they assume the role of an owl in the wild. They must search for food, water and shelter while avoiding natural and human elements.



Farm Animal Program

Grades JK/SK, 1-4

Empathy, Caring, Acceptance, Responsibility

UNDERSTANDING LIFE SYSTEMS / SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

This "hands-on", informative, interactive program is divided into 3 major components: the farm animal tour: sheep, pigs, goats, chickens; a tractor-drawn hayride, and a pony ride. Large classes will be split into smaller groups and will rotate through the 3 program areas. Adult accompaniment is most welcome and necessary to support the children when riding the ponies.



Signs of the Season (Spring/Fall/Winter)

Grades JK/SK, 1-4

Caring, Integrity, Respect, Acceptance, Responsibility

This program takes place in our beautiful Carolinian forest and our garden. During this interactive tour, students observe, investigate and identify living and non-living things in our environment. The students will learn how animals and plants adapt to the season by a guided walk through the forest, meadows and wetlands. Hands-on activities and a tractor driven hayride create an excellent compliment for student learning. Our staff will work directly with you to create a program that meets your specific requirements or highlights specific topics. Enhance your classroom unit this spring by visiting Circle R Ranch during this exciting season.



Programs for Juniors

Geology Rocks!

Grade 4

UNDERSTANDING EARTH AND SPACE SYSTEMS - ROCKS AND MINERALS

In this highly engaging interactive program, students examine the characteristics and properties of rocks and minerals in our natural environment. The session emphasizes inquiry-based teaching and incorporates literacy, numeracy and investigation skills. Through games, cooperative activities and experiments, students develop their awareness of the impact of human use of rocks and minerals on the environment. The unique nature of the Circle R setting and program stimulate higher level thinking experiences for all of the students involved. Come out and "Rock On" with Circle R's enthusiastic and knowledgeable staff!



Green Thumb's Up!

Grade 3

UNDERSTANDING LIFE SYSTEMS - GROWTH AND CHANGES IN PLANTS

Come and explore our "Permaculture Garden Centre" where students will investigate the distinct characteristics of a wide variety of plants. During this interactive program, students recognize the importance of taking an active role in caring for the precious plants in our environment. Highly motivating games teach students the parts of the plant and their function. Through investigation, students discover the range of plants native to the region. Literacy, numeracy and investigative skills are incorporated into all aspects of the program. For a memorable experience, come and enjoy this unique ecosystem.



Earthworm Power!

Grade 3

UNDERSTANDING EARTH AND SPACE SYSTEMS - SOILS IN THE ENVIRONMENT

Delve into Circle R's Vermiculture bin and follow the path of an earthworm through a wide range of different soil types. Through experimentation and observation, students discover how the composition, characteristics and condition of the soil affect its capacity to sustain life. Circle R's highly skilled staff inspire higher level reflection by the students while participating in this engaging experience. Who wouldn't want to plunge their hand into a tub of wiggling worms. What a way to make the study of soil come alive!



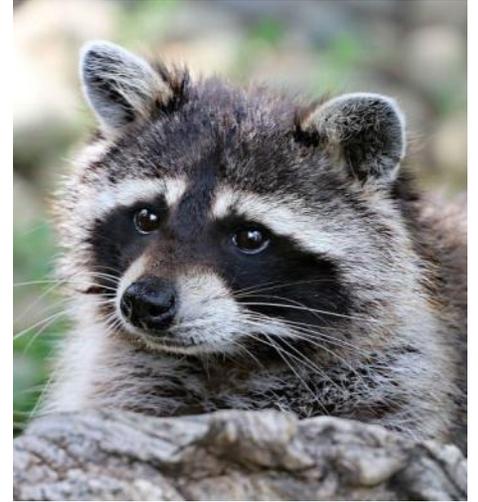
New WILD Programs

Walk with the Wild Ones!

JK/SK, Grade 1 and 2

UNDERSTANDING LIFE SYSTEMS

This program will acquaint children with the tools needed to pay attention and learn about our natural environment. Making use of fun sensory skills (Owl Eyes, Deer Ears, etc.) as well as games (play based learning) creates a memorable experience of the student's time in the wild spaces. Once a child is taught how to pay attention and ask questions (inquiry-based learning), they begin to develop a deepening connection with the self, each other and the environment. Also, by learning about the specific characteristics and needs of our local wild animals they develop and sense of empathy and care for the ecosystems and the planet we all share.



Where the Wild Ones Live!

Grade 4

UNDERSTANDING LIFE SYSTEMS - HABITATS AND COMMUNITIES

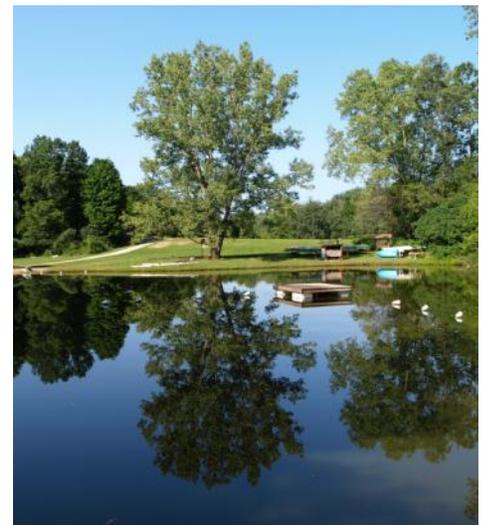
This program seeks to acquaint students with the experience of exploring and learning about several different habitats in an ecosystem. Through games and sensory skills they learn about the different characteristics and needs of wild animals and how a habitat can provide those needs. A guided hike on our diverse property offers the children first hand experience of where the wild ones live, the plants they eat and adaptations needed to survive. An explanation of the communities of plants and animals of our local Carolinian forests, fields and marshes.

Nature's Way: Bioblitz

Grade 6

UNDERSTANDING LIFE SYSTEMS: BIODIVERSITY IN THE ENVIRONMENT

This program seeks to inspire the naturalist in all of us. Through sensory skills, games and discussion children begin to understand the range of interactions and interrelationships happening in our local biosphere. A guided hike offers a range of information about what living things inhabit our forests, fields, and marshes. Then the children head out in groups to collect data on the many wild plants, animals and insects found in a small area. Through inquiry the students come to experience that studying the wonders of nature can inspire life-long learning.



Programs for Everyone

Spring & Fall Programs:

Archery Grades 3-12

Responsibility,
Respect, Perseverance

**HEALTH & PHYSICAL
EDUCATION**

Students are taught the basic skills of target archery on an outdoor range while discussing responsibility, respect and perseverance. Skills covered include: archery safety, stance, nocking, draw and release, aiming, parts of the bow and arrow, and equipment care.



Canoeing Grades 3-12

Responsibility,
Respect, Perseverance

**HEALTH & PHYSICAL
EDUCATION**

Basic strokes, canoe safety and skills are taught to prepare students for recreational canoeing. The small and calm pond provides an ideal situation for the novice canoeist to hone their skills. Personal Flotation Devices (P.F.D.'s) are required and supplied to all participants.

Games Festival Grades 1-12

Acceptance, Caring, Perseverance, Integrity
HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This "festival" format includes games that are active, and many that inspire co-operation within the group and de-emphasize competition. These fast-paced games allow participants to be active with a minimal amount of personal risk.



Overnight Camping/ Site Rental

Camp Sites are available for overnight trips. Please contact us directly at (519) 471-3799

for further information, available dates,



Programs for Everyone

Western Horseback Riding Grades 3-12

Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Empathy
HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This unique program develops self-confidence, balance, co-ordination, strength, respect, empathy and responsibility. Students receive a lesson covering horsemanship basics: horse control, signals to communicate to their horse, proper western riding position, safety on the trail and understanding horse language. They are assigned a horse best suited to their age and riding ability and are provided with a certified riding helmet. Guided by qualified instructors, students experience a pleasure horse ride on our beautiful trails. Hard-soled boots or shoes with a 2-4 cm heel and long pants are required attire.



L.E.A.D. - a dynamic program to enhance your school year **Leadership Education for Adolescent Development** **Recommended Grades: 6 - 8**

Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Acceptance
L.E.A.D. is a full-day program (4.5 hour program)

L.E.A.D. provides students with an opportunity to learn and practice leadership and communication skills, while fostering positive attitudes, problem-solving skills and group cohesion. Through co-operative games, low ropes and initiatives tasks, L.E.A.D. creates an environment which inspires students to succeed. The program engages the students in safe, yet challenging activities to plan, practice, evaluate and implement positive life skills. The students will develop a '**Full Value Contract**' for the classroom.

Note: Our LEAD program is offered September through May



When children come into contact with nature, they reveal their strength" - Marie Montessori

Programs for Everyone

Winter Programs:

Cross Country Skiing Grades 3 - 12

Responsibility, Respect, Perseverance

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION



The cross country skiing program is an excellent tool in improving physical fitness and increasing awareness of recreational activities available in the community.

- Over 15 km of carefully groomed and tracked trails for skiers of all levels
- 1.5 hour lesson including basic skills, uphill and downhill techniques, and diagonal stride
- Equipment rentals are available and include the most advanced equipment to provide the students with a safe and enjoyable winter experience.

Snowshoeing Grades 3 - 12

Responsibility,
Respect, Perseverance

**HEALTH & PHYSICAL
EDUCATION**

- 3km of snowshoeing trail, as well as off-path snowshoeing
- Learn about the history, use, and techniques of snowshoeing
- Lesson and trail guided by staff
- Program aligns with health and physical education and the social studies curriculum
- Hot lunch, snacks, and drinks available to purchase at main lodge



"I hear and I forget,
I see and I remember,
I do and I understand." ~Confucius

Curriculum-Based Maple Sugar Bush Tours for For JK/SK, Grades 1, 2 and 3

*Time to start thinking about a field trip in early spring...
Maple syrup season is just around the corner!*

March and April

Your class will enjoy our interactive, hands-on learning experience while you complete specific expectations of the Ontario curriculum

Our program covers a range of both overall and specific expectations from the strands in Science and Technology, Mathematics, Social Studies, Language, Personal and Social Development

- Identify a Sugar Maple Tree
- “Tap” a Maple tree – each child (instructor assisted) will use the ‘pioneer style’ brace and bit hand drill to drill a hole into the maple tree, attach the spile and hang the bucket
- Collect maple sap from the trees with their own sap bucket
- Understand the basic concept of making maple syrup at the evaporator in our Sugar Shack
- History of Maple Syrup production
- Taste a sample of the freshly made maple syrup
- Enjoy a tractor drawn hay ride through our sugar bush
- Compare and contrast tools and technologies, equipment and methods of processing maple syrup used by early settlers and first Nation people with present day tools and technologies
- Nature and ecology appreciation
- See, smell, hear, touch and taste (sensory experience)

All stations allow the students an up-close hands-on experience.

Our program is dynamic, age appropriate and adaptable to your specific group needs.

See our detailed curriculum connections outline for primary and juniors on our website ciclerranch.ca



Spring 2019 Program Fees for Schools

Core Programs - 1.5 hours in length; fees are

- Archery
- Canoeing
- Sheep to Mittens
- Farm Animal Program
- Games Festival
- Orienteering
- Team Building
- Bioblitz Program
- Where the Wild Ones Live
- Walk with the Wild Ones
- Owl Prowl
- Signs of the Season
- Survival
- Cycles
- Geology Rocks
- Green Thumb's Up
- Earthworm Power



One core program	\$16.00
Two core programs	\$32.00
Three core programs	\$48.00

All prices include 13% HST

<p style="text-align: center;">L.E.A.D.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Leadership Education for Adolescent Development</i> a dynamic program to enhance your school year This is a Full day program. (4.5 hours) \$50.00 per student</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Western Horseback Riding</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Fee per student</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">\$31.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Combine with one core program</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">\$47.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">With two core programs</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">\$61.00</td> </tr> </table>	Fee per student	\$31.00	Combine with one core program	\$47.00	With two core programs	\$61.00
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With two core programs	\$61.00						
<p style="text-align: center;">Cross-Country Skiing</p> <p>Half-Day (Morning or Afternoon) Program: \$29.00 per student includes mini lesson, rentals & trail fees</p> <p>Full-Day Program: \$34.00 per student includes 1.5 hour lesson, rentals & trail fees</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Snowshoeing</p> <p>Half-Day (Morning or Afternoon) Program: \$26.00 per student includes mini lesson, rentals & trail fees</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Skiing & Snowshoeing Package</p> <p>Full-Day Program: \$53.00 per student Half-day skiing and half-day snowshoeing, includes mini lessons, rentals & trail fees</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Maple Sugar Bush Tours</p> <p>Program Price: \$14.00 per student (no charge for teachers or adults) (HST included) Add a second 1.5 hour program to create an exciting full-day trip for \$30.00</p> <p>Length: 1.5 – 2 hour program Dates available: March 1 through to April 15</p> <p>Stay for lunch and enjoy our delicious pancakes with our real maple syrup</p> <p>Meal Price (Optional, includes tax): JK to Grade 5: \$5.00 per person Grade 6 +: \$5.65 per person</p>						

Policies & Reminders

How to Book Programs at Circle R Ranch

Please contact us by telephone at (519) 471-3799 or email: info@circlerranch.ca. Our staff will be pleased to discuss our programs with you and assist in organizing your field trip.

Lunch

Bag lunches are strongly suggested to maximize your activity time. Classes may use our indoor and outdoor lunch areas with picnic tables. Open fire pits or BBQ's for cookouts are also available. Please encourage students to bring a garbage-free lunch to reduce their waste.

Proper Clothing and Footwear is Important

The out-of-doors is an enjoyable place to learn if you are adequately prepared. Proper dress is extremely important. Participants should be advised that they will be outdoors and should dress for the weather. Dressing in layers ensures they will be able to adjust to weather and activity changes. On occasion they may need to bring extra clothing or footwear to be comfortable. All participants need to wear 'safe' footwear; for all programs, please wear close-toed footwear such as running shoes or hiking boots.

Remind students to bring:

- Closed toed shoes for all activities (ideally a 1-2cm heel for riding)
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Sunhat
- Raincoat
- Long pants for riding

Cancellation

We are prepared to operate our programs during most weather conditions. We understand there are circumstances that may prevent you from attending on the dates you have chosen and we will do everything possible to reschedule your program to an alternate date.

Payment

We require final numbers seven days prior to your field trip. Your final invoice will be based on either the final numbers given seven days prior or the number of participants, whichever is higher. There is no charge for teachers or parent volunteers (if parents wish to ride with the group there is a \$20 fee). We will adjust your invoice within 10% of the final numbers, but beyond that you will be charged for the number minus 10%. For your convenience you will be invoiced on the day of your field trip. *(Please note there is a \$125.00 minimum fee required for all school programs.)*



circle  ranch
Where Friends Meet

Our mission is to connect people with nature through outdoor recreation and experiential learning."



Circle R Ranch is located 8 km west of London

P: 519.471.3799 Toll-Free: 877.844.8738

F: 519.471.6282 Email: info@circlerranch.ca

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www.circlerranch.ca

