

Introduced Invaders

Teacher Information



Photo: Greg Ferguson

How do invasive species affect the balance of Stanley Park's delicate ecosystems?

Join us on a fun, fact-filled quest to find out what impact invasive plants have on biodiversity, and consider the role humans play in protecting our ecosystems. Put on some gloves and take direct action to remove invasive English ivy from Stanley Park.

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Phone

School Programs Office: 604-257-6908 ext. 103
School Programs Cell: 778-871-1215

On the Web

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Stanley Park Ecology Society, PO Box 5167, Vancouver, BC, V6B 4B2

Introduced Invaders Checklist

To Do Before Introduced Invaders

- Read this Teacher Information Package carefully
- Arrange transportation to arrive 15 minutes before your program start time
- Send Essential Parent Information home (page 6)
- Review Park Etiquette with students (page 5)
- Review 'What to Wear' with students (page 6)
- Send payment a minimum of two weeks prior to your program
- Ensure students return the Participant Consent Form (page 7)

Curriculum Connections

Introduced Invaders is a place-based program that relates to the grade 4-7 Science and Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies curricula. Below, you'll find some big ideas and curricular competencies that will be addressed.

You may contact us for a more detailed list for your grade if you wish.

Big Ideas:

Grade 4

- All living things and their environment are interdependent.

Grade 5

- Multicellular organisms have organ systems that enable them to survive and interact within their environment.

Grade 6

- Multicellular organisms rely on internal systems to survive, reproduce, and interact with their environment.

Grade 7

- The theory of evolution by natural selection provides an explanation for the diversity and survival of living things.

Curricular Competencies:

Grade 4 to 7

- Experience and interpret the local environment
- Use materials, tools, and technologies in a safe manner, and with an awareness of the safety of others, in both physical and digital environments
- Communicate ideas, explanations, and processes in a variety of ways
- Contribute to care for self, others, community, and world through personal or collaborative approaches



Essential Teacher Information

Payment

Payment is due a minimum of two weeks prior to your program date. Please make cheques out to the Stanley Park Ecology Society and mark them with your invoice number, school name and program date. A \$25 fee will be charged for all cheques returned NSF.

Cancellation Policy

Our programs are popular and space is limited. Where a cancellation is made less than two weeks in advance, the Stanley Park Ecology Society may retain the full program fee.

COVID-19 Cancellation: If the BC government introduces COVID-19 restrictions that impact our ability to deliver these programs, full refunds will be given.

Be Prepared

Our programs run rain or shine and are held entirely outside. Students will be learning through hands-on activities, getting a bit dirty and possibly wet (especially shoes). Please review the enclosed 'what to wear' list with your students prior to their park visit (see page 6). Due to the variable walking terrain, appropriate footwear is required.

Adult Assistance

We require the assistance of a minimum of two and a maximum of four adults. These adults are invited to participate in all activities and asked to help maintain discipline in the group. Please ensure adults turn off cell phones and refrain from having distracting conversations. Adults are also responsible to help manage the children in physical distancing required for COVID-19 safety.

Arriving for the Program

Please arrive 15 minutes before the program time in order to have a washroom break, snacks and division into groups. If you are running late, please call the School Programs cell phone at 778-871-1215 to let us know. Programs do not stop for washroom and snack breaks as there is no access to facilities during the program.

Continued on following page



Essential Teacher Information

Transportation and Meeting Site

Please stay tuned with our Environmental Educators for the site location and directions. Each class that visits Stanley Park to remove English Ivy is helping us tackle a part of the problem. As a result, site locations for Introduced Invaders will vary from program to program.

Photography

We recognize that photos are a great way for classes to document their fieldtrips, and so we allow photos during our programs; however it is our policy at SPES School Programs that no videos are to be taken of/during our programs.

Pay Parking

Pay parking is in effect at all times in Stanley Park. The rates from April 1 - September 30 are \$3.60 for 1 hour or \$13.25 per day per vehicle and from October 1 - March 31 are \$2.60 for 1 hour or \$7.15 per day. Rates are set by the Park Board and are subject to change. Cash and credit cards are accepted at the ticket machines.



Park Etiquette for Students

Stanley Park is a protected area that is home to many amazing living and nonliving things. We are lucky to be able to visit this area, but we must remember that Stanley Park is where these living things make their homes. As visitors to these organisms' homes we should tread carefully and act with respect.

To ensure the best possible experience for students and the Park's plants and animals, please take the time to review these guidelines with students before your Park visit.

1. Bring an open mind and your curiosity.

In our outdoor classroom, we'll engage all of our senses while exploring nature. There will be times for listening to instructions, when students will be invited to raise their hands and ask questions. There will also be times when students are given challenges to complete while exploring or sharing stories with their friends.

2. Take only photos and memories.

Every single leaf, flower, shell, stone and berry is an important part of the web of life in the Park. If we remove items from Stanley Park, we are removing potential shelter and food for living things. Students should leave everything as they find it.

3. Leave only soft footprints (not garbage).

The animals of the Park have all the food they need. Human food can make them sick, create dependence on humans, and lead to aggressive behaviour or overpopulation. Please ask students to ensure all garbage is disposed of properly. Even small crumbs shouldn't be left for animals to find.

4. Explore with respect.

Let us lead your adventure on and off trail in the Park; students should not be ahead of their leader. There will be opportunities to gently touch safe plants in the Park. You might be hugging trees, smelling leaves or just moving them to get a look from a different angle. However, birds and mammals like raccoons and squirrels, while cute and often accustomed to humans, should not be touched. These are still wild animals and we want them to stay that way.



Essential Parent Information

Field Trip Date: _____

Your child will be visiting Stanley Park for the Introduced Invaders program led by the Stanley Park Ecology Society.

During the *Introduced Invaders* program your child will help remove invasive English ivy in Stanley Park, while learning about our local forests. **The entire 2-hour program will be held outside, rain or shine.**

To help make this an exciting and memorable experience for your child, we strongly recommend that he/she wear the following items listed below. It is always colder in the forest, even on a sunny day. Your child should be prepared to get a bit dirty, and possibly wet, especially his or her shoes! If it is raining on the day of the program, it is especially important to dress well to keep the field trip fun! **Please ensure that you sign and return the Participant Consent Form.**

What to wear and bring to the Introduced Invaders program:

- T-shirt, long sleeved shirt and sweater.
- Long pants - no dresses please!
- Good walking shoes that you don't mind getting wet or muddy. NO flip flops or sandals!
- If sunny: sunscreen and hat.
- If raining: waterproof jacket with hood or hat.
- If cold: warm gloves and a hat.
- Refillable water bottle.
- Please, no umbrellas! In a large group, umbrellas can block the view for your child's classmates and can accidentally poke someone in the eye.
- Avoid clothes made of cotton on rainy days. Cotton can be very cold when wet. Wear wool or synthetic clothes whenever possible.

In addition to school programs, the Stanley Park Ecology Society also offers fun, interactive forest and wildlife walks as well as online programs for families and adults.

Visit us at www.stanleyparkecology.ca for more information about the work of the Stanley Park Ecology Society and becoming a member.



Participant Consent Form

This form is to be filled out by all participants and brought by the teacher to Stanley Park on the day of the field trip.

Please read the following and sign below.

- I permit my son or daughter to participate in the *Introduced Invaders* program, in which he / she will physically remove invasive plants which are currently threatening native species in the Park.

- I acknowledge that, while well supervised, the *Introduced Invaders* program is an active, outdoor experience. As with all active outdoor programs, I understand there is a possibility students may injure themselves or require medical attention.

- I acknowledge the program risks and allow my child to partake in program activities with the Stanley Park Ecology Society while being aware of these risks.

Child's name _____

School name _____

Field trip date _____

Parent/guardian name _____

Signature _____

