

STANLEY
PARK
ECOLOGY

Teacher Professional Development Workshop

Information Package



Photo: Frank Lin

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Land Acknowledgment

"Stanley Park" is on the ancestral and unceded lands of the x̣ẉməθḳẉáỵəm (Musqueam), Sḳẉx̣ẉú7mesh (Squamish), and sə́lilwə́təɫ (Tsleil-Waututh). These Nations have actively been the stewards of this land for thousands of years, before being forcibly removed by European settlers during colonization, who named this land "Stanley Park" just over a hundred years ago.

Through colonization, many parts of this land have changed. Stanley Park was once an island at high tide, before the Stanley Park Causeway was built. There were also many communities and villages that lived amongst these lands. Where Lumberman's Arch now stands, there was once a thriving Squamish community known as ̣ẉáỵ́way, with roots that go back over 700 generations and span thousands of years. The name ̣ẉáỵ́way means "a place for making masks" in Sḳẉx̣ẉú7mesh Snichim, the Squamish language, and this land holds deep cultural importance. Other village sites throughout the area included Chaythoos and Kanaka Ranch.

As you visit us for a School Program, we invite you to reflect on the many ways that settler colonialism has impacted this land, and to consider what you can do to acknowledge this history. We also ask that, during your visit, you respect and take care of this land.

Strengthen your outdoor experiential learning skills through an empowering workshop in Stanley Park.

Broaden your knowledge about the temperate rain forest we live in. Our Professional Development Workshops invite educators to cultivate their skills in outdoor experiential learning. Through identifying native species and interpreting the lifecycles and relationships within the forest ecosystem, this workshop emphasizes critical thinking, fostering curiosity and instilling a sense of stewardship to pass onwards to your students.

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Learning Objectives

Our Teacher Professional Workshops are place-based programs. They are adaptable to fit the needs of your group, whether you're a group of K-12 teachers, student teachers, or educators from different fields.

What to Expect

- Our Teacher Workshops invite your team of educators to cultivate your skills in inquiry-based learning and observation, encouraging you to explore the wonders of nature like never before.
- Through hands-on activities, you'll learn how to engage young minds in the art of investigation—through identifying native species and interpreting lifecycles and relationships within the forest ecosystem.
- Throughout the workshops, educators will engage in experiential learning, discovering effective strategies to teach outdoors and create meaningful connections between students and their environment.
- We cover types of outdoor activities you can do with your students, introduce you to an abundance of our resources, and also explain how to address barriers to working with students outdoors.
- Our programs are adaptable, ensuring that you can tailor your experience to fit the unique interests and needs of your group.



Length and Fees

We host either 2-hour or 4-hour workshops, that provide a wealth of resources and techniques you can apply immediately. With a focus on collaboration and sharing best practices, you'll leave inspired and equipped to lead your students in exploring the natural world.

2-Hour Workshop Fees

Group Size	Cost
1 - 15	\$225
16 - 30	\$375
31 - 45	\$550

4-Hour Workshop Fees

Group Size	Cost
1 - 15	\$300
16 - 30	\$500
31 - 45	\$750



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Essential Teacher Information

Payment

Payment is due a minimum of four weeks prior to your program date. We accept credit card, cash, or cheque. Please make cheques payable to 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. Cancellations made more than four weeks before the program date will receive a 50% refund. No refunds will be provided for cancellations within four weeks of the program date.

Be Prepared

Advise students on how to dress appropriately for the weather and for a long walk. Clothing layers are advisable any time of year and good walking shoes are essential. Students should bring water bottles and have a snack before heading out.

Pay Parking

Pay parking is in effect at all times in Stanley Park. The rates from April 1 - September 30 are \$4.25 per hour or \$15.50 per day, and from October 1 - March 31 are \$4.00 per hour or \$12 per day. Bus Parking rates range from \$22.75 - \$58.00 depending on bus size. Visit www.easypark.ca for specific pricing. Rates are set by the Park Board and are subject to change. Cash and credit cards are accepted at the ticket machines.



Essential Teacher Information

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 that no videos are to be taken of/during our programs.

Transportation and Meeting Site

The meeting location is at the Stanley Park Ecology office in the Stanley Park Dining Pavilion (see map on Page 4). The Stanley Park Ecology Society office is located upstairs and is accessed via the signed doorway on the northwest side of the building, across from the parking area. There is bus and car parking just past the Dining Pavilion, in the Miniature Railway parking area. The site is also easily accessed by the #19 Stanley Park bus.

Inclement Weather

Programs run rain or shine in Stanley Park, however during dangerous weather we occasionally have to cancel programs for safety reasons. Extreme weather events can be dangerous in the park due to falling trees, slippery conditions, etc. Government-issued weather advisories are also monitored for important recommendations. We will notify you by email if the program needs to be rescheduled. If rescheduling is not possible, refunds will be offered, subject to a 20% administration fee.



Etiquette for all visitors

As students join for their field trip here in “Stanley Park”, it is important to think about the ways we engage with the land. Our goal is to connect learners to the land to help them build relationship and foster kinship, while also being respectful and safe for themselves and others. Below are some considerations to pre-load learners with as we are on our field trip.

1. Bring an open mind and your curiosity

Using the Discovery Kit, we'll engage all of our senses while exploring nature. There will be times for listening to instructions and stories, and students will be invited to engage in all sorts of outdoor activities and lessons. Bring your curiosity!

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).

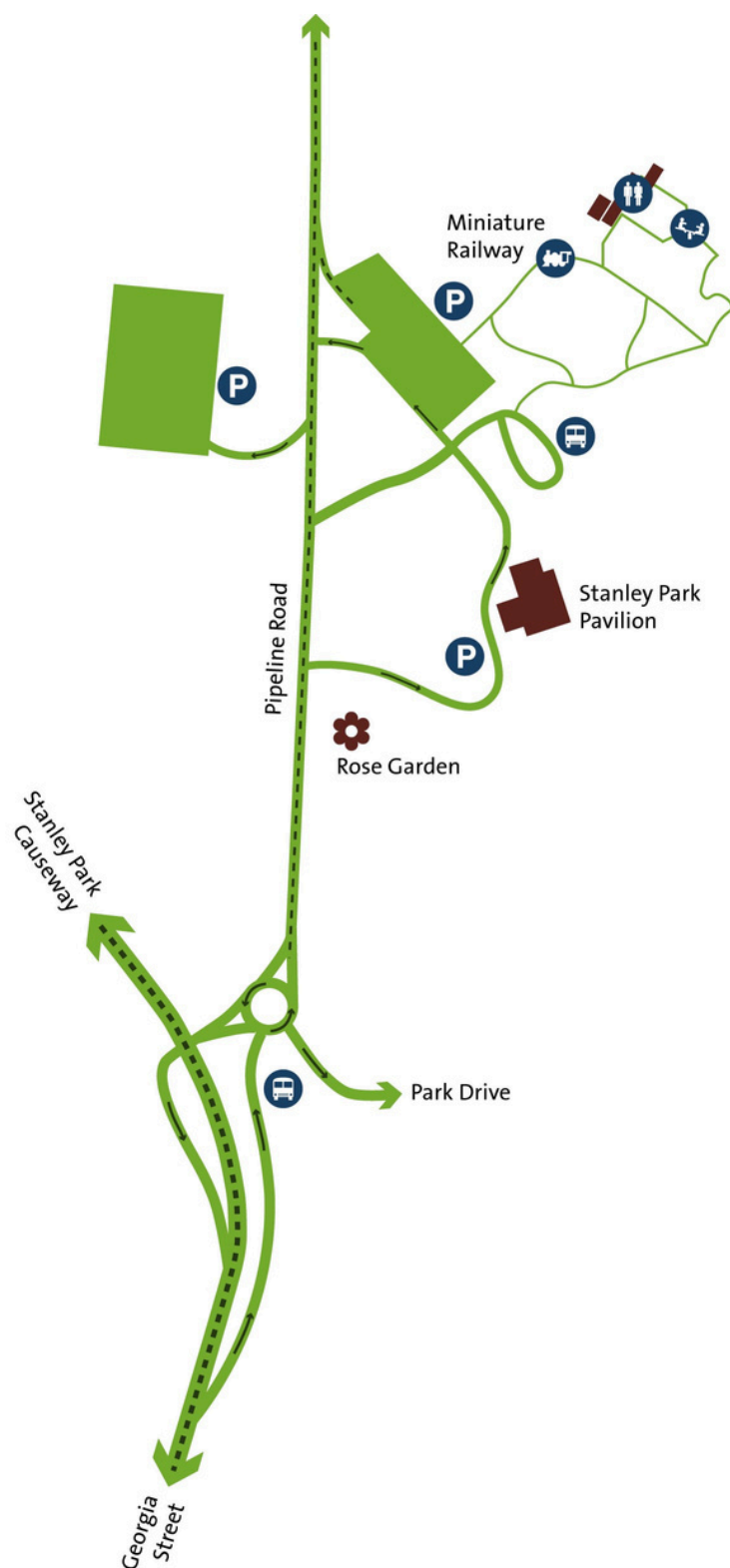
The animals of the Park have all the food they need. Human food can make them sick, create dependence on the humans, and lead to aggressive behaviour or overpopulation. Please ask students to ensure all garbage is disposed of properly. Even small crumbs shouldn't be left for animals to find.

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.



Map and Directions

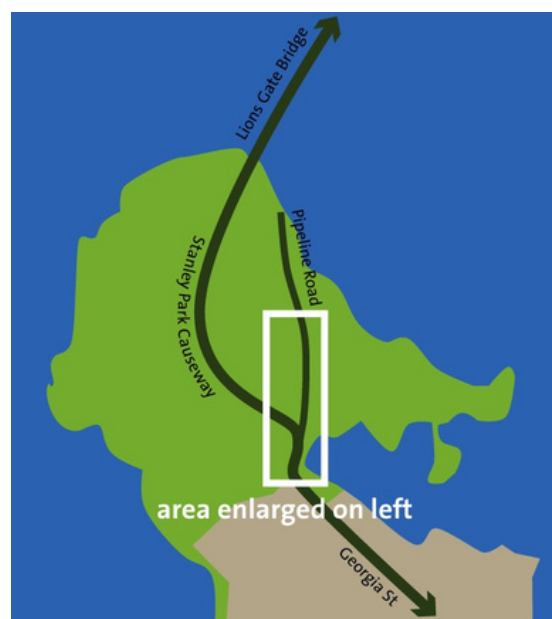


Driving Directions from Vancouver

- Travel northeast on Georgia St. past Denman St.
- Take the right lane exit into Stanley Park.
- Travel straight through the roundabout (take the second exit).
- Drive up the hill along Pipeline Road. Take your first right after the rose gardens.
- Follow this narrow road between the rose gardens and the trees to the Stanley Park Pavillion.

Public Transit Directions

- After you get off the #19 bus, walk south towards the Stanley Park Pavillion



Program Preparedness

Most of the program will be held outside, rain or shine. To help make this an exciting and memorable experience for yourself, we strongly recommend that you wear the following items listed below. It is always colder in the forest, even on a sunny day. You should be prepared to get a bit dirty and possibly wet, especially your shoes! If it is raining on the day of the program, it is especially important to dress well to keep the workshop fun.

What to wear and bring to a *Teacher Professional Development Workshop*:

- T-shirt, long sleeved shirt, and sweater.
- Long pants
- Good walking shoes that you don't mind getting wet or muddy. NO flip flops or sandals!
- If sunny: sunscreen and hat.
- If raining: rain pants and waterproof jacket with hood or hat.
- If cold: warm gloves and hat.
- Refillable water bottle.
- Insulated travel mug: we provide coffee and tea!
- 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 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.