



**Welcome to the Grade One Program
at the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park & Zoo!**

The Grade One program is a joint effort of the Saskatoon Zoo Society and the Saskatoon Public School Division. This program is intended to enhance student learning of the Needs and Characteristics of Living Things covered in the grade one science curriculum.

Registration is done online. The Out of School / Athletic Consultant will pay the program fee and will book and pay for your bus. Registration will take place from September 17th to September 21st. SSSAD will email out a link for you to use (in September) to go directly to our online registration portal. If you don't get that link, it will be available on <https://saskatoonzoosociety.ca/programs/education-programs/on-site-programs/> Scroll down to Grade one program and you will see the green bar for the registration link (opens on September 17th at 8:00 a.m.)

The Program will not be cancelled due to weather unless buses are not running. Rescheduling may be available, but you must confirm with the Saskatoon Zoo Society first to see if it's possible and then the Saskatoon Zoo Society will contact the SSSAD to change bus schedule.

For Programs Booked October through April:

Program Themes: *Meet the Creature, Birds of Prey & Carnivores, Porcupine Ecology*

Please divide your students into 2 groups. Students should **be prepared to go outside for a portion of the time.**

This is a combination of indoor and outdoor programming. Please ensure your students are dressed appropriately for the weather. In the event of inclement weather the program will be modified to indoor presentations. "Meet the Creature" looks at the various types of vertebrate animals (mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians) and their different characteristics and skin coverings. "Carnivores & Birds of Prey" is a close up look at the carnivores and birds of prey with help from some of animals the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo. "Porcupine Ecology" is a hands-on look at Saskatchewan's second largest rodent and its unique characteristics.

Zoo Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Program (October to April):

The **afternoon** program will start at 12:30 p.m. There is a snack (bring your own) break as we need this time to change over our room set-up. If you are planning on coming to the Zoo early for lunch (bus times will have to be arranged to accommodate this) and require a room to eat, please let the Saskatoon Zoo Society know so we can see if we can arrange a room (note: room is not always available).

- 12:30 p.m. to 12:35 p.m. Meet at front **outside** entrance to **Affinity Learning Centre (ALC)**
DO NOT ENTER THE ZOO.
- 12:35-12:55 p.m. Both groups – “porcupine ecology”
- 12:55-1:05 p.m. Both groups - snack (bring your own), water cups available
(See section on food below)
- 1:05-1:45 p.m. Group 1 “Meet the Creature”
Group 2 “Birds of Prey/Carnivores”
- 1:45 p.m.-2:25 p.m. Group 2 “Meet the Creature”
Group 1 “Birds of Prey/Carnivores”
- 2:25 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. All groups meet back at the ALC to prepare for bus departure.

No morning program offered in the months of October to April unless required for re-scheduling purposes.

For Programs booked in May and June:

Program Themes: *Meet the Creature, Birds of Prey & Carnivores*

Please divide your students into 2 groups. Students should **be prepared to go outside for a portion of the time.**

This is a combination of indoor and outdoor programming. Please ensure your students are dressed appropriately for the weather. “Meet the Creature” looks at the various types of vertebrate animals (mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians) and their different characteristics and skin coverings. “Carnivores & Birds of Prey” is a close up look at the carnivores and birds of prey with help from some of animals the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo. The Porcupine Ecology program is only offered in the mornings in May and June.

If you are staying all day at the Zoo in May or June, please note that we will be taking the children out to view the animals for part of the grade one program. Try to stick to the back part of the Zoo (hoofed stock area) and the Kinsmen Children’s Zoo area (building that houses the monkeys) to avoid the areas that the grade one program will be going to in the Zoo (animals that the grade one program typically views: wolves, cougars, meerkats, lynx, Bald Eagles and Bears when available).

Zoo Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The morning program will start at 9:30 a.m. There is a mandatory snack (bring your own) time so the Saskatoon Zoo Society can change out the room set-up.

- 9:30 a.m. to 9:35 a.m. Meet at **front outside entrance to Affinity Learning Centre (ALC)**
DO NOT ENTER THE ZOO.
- 9:35-9:55 a.m. Both groups – “porcupine ecology”
- 9:55-10:05 a.m. Both groups - snack (bring your own), water cups available
(see section on food below)

10:05-10:45 a.m. Group 1 "Meet the Creature"
 Group 2 "Birds of Prey/Carnivores"

10:45-11:25 a.m. Group 2 "Meet the Creature"
 Group 1 "Birds of Prey/Carnivores"

The afternoon program starts at 1:00 p.m. There is NO snack break scheduled. PORCUPINE IS NOT INCLUDED FOR THE AFTERNOON PROGRAM IN MAY AND JUNE

1:00 p.m. to 1:05 p.m. Meet at the **front entrance to Affinity Learning Centre (outside)**
Please re-group in front of the ALC if you have already been inside the Zoo.

1:05 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. Group 1 "Meet the Creature"
 Group 2 "Birds of Prey/Carnivores"

1:45 p.m. to 2:25 p.m. Group 2 "Meet the Creature"
 Group 1 "Birds of Prey/Carnivores"

The Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo is not a nut-free facility, however we ask that all snacks are nut-free. We encourage a waste-free snack, however that is not always possible, so please reinforce to your students that all garbage is placed in the garbage bins and all recycling is put into the recycling boxes located in the snack room. The Saskatoon Zoo Society will provide water cups for the students to use as there is no water fountain in the building.

Note: If your school is booking an a.m. and p.m. program for the same day and sharing busing please be aware that there are no indoor facilities available for lunch or teacher planned activities during the months of May and June. Please contact us if you require further information.

Transportation:

The bus will be booked by the Admin Assistant for the Athletics Consultant (8273) for your trip. Payment for the bus is covered by the SSSAD Athletics/Out of School Education Office. Please be on time for your bus.

In the event of an emergency: We recommend that a parent volunteer bring their personal vehicle so that a student can be transported to an emergency centre. (Schools buses do not make great vehicles for rushing a single child to an emergency centre).

Resources:

Curriculum materials are available by contacting your school librarian to book these resources. Resources are now being held at various school libraries (no information to date on the exact locations). There are three biofact (biological artifact) boxes available for loan.

Carnivore Biofact Box 1073482
Herbivore Biofact Box 1074679
Bird Biofact Box 1074685

Check out the Zoo Society website (www.saskatoonzoosociety.ca) for more information.

Allergies: Children will be in contact with animals. Please check with your students to ensure there are no **severe** allergies to animal fur, straw/hay, feathers, etc. The Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo is not a nut-free facility.

-Please note that we have an interpreter who is very sensitive to strong chemical scents. Please refrain from wearing perfume, cologne or scented lotions or sprays. Please inform parent

volunteers.

Wheelchair Access: The Affinity Learning Centre and the Forestry Farm Park Zoo is wheelchair accessible.

Parent Volunteers: No more than four parent helpers on this trip. Remember that your class will be divided into two groups, so you will need another adult to supervise the second group. The parents' job is to supervise the students and to ensure that they are on-task and listening to the Saskatoon Zoo Society educators. They are also responsible for ensuring that the students are with the group at all times and not wandering off or getting mixed up with other schools.

No pre-school children or siblings (that are not part of the class) allowed in the program.

Cell Phones/Video: Students, parents and teachers are reminded not to use video or audio recording devices while the Zoo Society educators are conducting a session. You may designate one responsible adult as the official photographer (photos only) for your class. We may be taking pictures of your class. These pictures may appear on annual report or on our website/social media pages (no names of the students will be printed). Please advise us if there are any restrictions on photographs with your students.

Food is allowed only in designated areas:

No food or drink is allowed while we are working with the animals. There is a designated area for snack time in the building and food/drink is restricted to this area for safety reasons. It is your responsibility to clean up after the snack break. Please wipe the tables down with the vinegar and water solution provided. Place cups and recyclables in the grey bus bin on the counter and place chairs in stacks of six.

Self-Guided Materials:

If you are visiting the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park & Zoo for the whole day and wish to see more of the Zoo, you can access a scavenger hunt question and answer sheet from the Saskatoon Zoo Society website (www.saskatoonzoosociety.ca). This requires parent assistance as some of the questions may be difficult for younger students.

If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail the Saskatoon Zoo Society educators at info@saskatoonzoosociety.ca

Regards,
Kathleen Zary, B.Ed
Cathy Bartsch, B.Ed