



Town of
East Gwillimbury



COMMUNITY
PARKS, RECREATION
& CULTURE
Active By Nature



NATURE DAY

Passport & Activity Guide

**LAUNCH DATE:
SEPTEMBER 19**
#EGNATUREDAY

**INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
WWW.EASTGWILLIMBURY.CA/NATUREDAY**

Thank you to our partners:



Lake Simcoe Region
conservation authority



**MOUNT ALBERT
LIONS**



NATURE DAY 2020

INFORMATION

Enjoy and Learn about East Gwillimbury's Nature Environment through fun and educational activities that celebrate nature.

The Fall 2020 Nature Activity initiative is a continuation of our Mount Albert Nature Day, which has been a community staple since 2016.

Due to COVID-19, this year is a bit different, but with the contribution of community groups and members that have come together to organize this year, Nature Day 2020 is a new exciting format.

The focus is for families, children, youth, adults, and individuals interested in nature. We encourage families to work together to complete the activities. We encourage all participants that take part to show us how you connect with Nature by using the hashtag #EGNatureDay.

NATURE DAY 2020

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

On behalf of Council, thank you for participating in the Town of East Gwillimbury's first virtual Nature Day celebration.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the EG Recreation Team continues to look for innovative ways to continue with our annual celebrations and I am very excited about our 2020 Nature Day activities.

This special backpack is filled with fun and educational activities that will teach you about our environment and how you can protect our beautiful land for you, and future generations, to enjoy.

As you complete your activities, please share them on social media using #EGNatureDay. I look forward to seeing how creative you can be with this year's special Nature Day event.

Enjoy the experience,



Mayor Virginia Hackson



NATURE DAY 2020

WELCOME

Aaniin and Greetings,

This year we find ourselves enjoying Nature Day remotely. Nature Day under usual circumstances takes place physically in the town of Mount Albert which is located on Williams Treaty Territory. On behalf of the Chippewas of Georgina Island, your closest Williams Treaty First Nation we would like to extend a warm welcome to Nature Day. As Anishinaabe people we have a strong spiritual and cultural connection to the land and we are pleased to support Nature Day as a way for others to find or rediscover that connection for themselves. We are all caretakers here on this earth and learning and discovering the beauty of nature is a way to share that responsibility. Enjoy the Day!

Lauri Hoeg, Band Councillor,
Chippewas of Georgina Island

NATURE DAY 2020

PARTNERS

Thank you to our partners who
contributed to Nature Day 2020!



Lake Simcoe Region
conservation authority



MOUNT ALBERT
LIONS



NATURE DAY 2020

BEFORE YOU START

Use the hashtag
#EGNATUREDAY to show us
how you connect with Nature

DOWNLOAD THE
FOLLOWING
APPS BEFORE
YOU GO TO USE
ON YOUR
ADVENTURE!



PLANTSNAP



WHOSE HOME



SEEK

NATURE DAY 2020

WHAT'S IN YOUR BACKPACK?



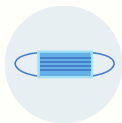
BALL



BANDANA



GOOGLY EYES



FACE MASK



**MAGNIFYING
GLASS**



FRISBEE



**WATER
BOTTLE**



ROPE



CRAYONS



ROCK



**ACTIVITY
BOOK**



FLASHLIGHT

Each item in your nature backpack can be used for multiple activities!
Images will be listed on each activity page.

WHAT TO BRING ON YOUR NATURE ADVENTURE

Below are some items we suggest to bring/wear on your nature adventure:



RUNNING SHOES



PHONE



SUNGLASSES



FIRST AID KIT



SNACKS



HAT



SUNSCREEN



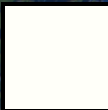
RAINCOAT



**CHECK OFF EACH
ACTIVITY
COMPLETED!**

ACTIVITY #1

HISTORY OF THE LAND



MATERIALS NEEDED:



As we begin, it is important to acknowledge whose land we live in. We all have family history as to how we came to be in this land at this time.

For many families, this land has always been home. This land is that of the Anishinaabe, Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee, and the land of the First Peoples of the Williams Treaties.

Refer to online resources to help you learn more about the history and culture of the First Peoples of this land.

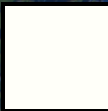
1. Use a the next page in the passport to reflect on what you have learned about the history of the land. What is one thing that stood out to you most? Share with your family members, and write down your thoughts!



USE THE HASHTAG #EGNATUREDAY TO
SHOW US HOW YOU CONNECT WITH
NATURE

ACTIVITY # 2

BANDANA



MATERIALS NEEDED:



Get ready to explore nature and personalize your bandana with materials from your home!

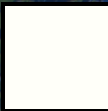
1. Do this activity before your adventure!
2. Use your plain bandana and let your creative side take over!
3. Personalize the bandana to look however you would like.
4. You can personalize using washable markers so you can continue to decorate it, or glue items on it!



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ACTIVITY #3

SCAVENGER SEEK



MATERIALS NEEDED:



Download “Seek” to your Smart Phone. It is a FREE app that doesn’t use data once you have it downloaded! If you are unable to download it, you can still do this activity without the app!

Time to be active and explore! Make sure you have all of the items ready!

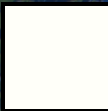
1. Throw the frisbee.
2. Wherever it lands, lay down the rope in a circle.
3. Use your magnifying glass to identify at different living things in the circle
4. Use “Seek” to identify the different things you found.
5. Draw what you found, and label your drawing
6. Then throw the frisbee and start again!



USE THE HASHTAG #EGNATUREDAY TO
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ACTIVITY #4

LEAF RUBBINGS



MATERIALS NEEDED:



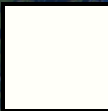
1. Have everyone find a special leaf.
2. Lay the leaves under a piece of paper or use a sheet of paper in the activity booklet that is in your nature backpack, then place the journal on a sturdy surface.
3. Use the crayons to rub over the top of the page, and watch the imprint of your special leaves magically appear on the page!



USE THE HASHTAG #EGNATUREDAY TO
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ACTIVITY #5

GRATITUDE ROCKS!



MATERIALS NEEDED:



Consider natural places in our community that your family likes to spend time. Where is that special place? Why is it special to you? Do you have a special memory there?

Share your thoughts with your family. Then use any craft material you have at home, sharpies or paint will work well, decorate the rock in your bag to represent that place. As you decorate your rock, think about the gratitude you have for this special place.

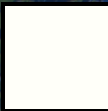
1. Go to the ROSS Family Complex and place your rock there!
2. Take a look at some of the other Gratitude Rocks placed at the Complex.



USE THE HASHTAG #EGNATUREDAY TO
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NATURE

ACTIVITY #6

MEMORY GAME



MATERIALS NEEDED:



Who has the best memory in your family? It's time to find out!

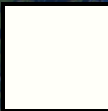
1. Choose one person to find at least 5 items in nature
2. Lay out the items on the ground, and give the rest of your family 30 seconds to look at the items.
3. Cover all of the items with the bandana, and see who can remember all of the items you found.
4. Take turns! Give everyone in the family a chance to find items and test everyone else's memory!



USE THE HASHTAG #EGNATUREDAY TO
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ACTIVITY #7

NATURE ART



MATERIALS NEEDED:



Sometimes we use paper and crayons to colour, but did you know you can also create art with nature?

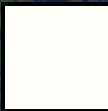
1. Collect as many special items in nature as you like from the ground.
2. Look for different shapes and different colours!
3. Bring your items together, and play with them.
4. What can you create with them? Can you use the googly eyes and create an animal?
5. Be creative, and see what you can make with your pieces of nature!
6. Remember to pack up your materials and reuse them when you are done!



USE THE HASHTAG #EGNATUREDAY TO
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ACTIVITY # 8

COLOURS



MATERIALS NEEDED:



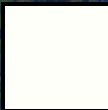
Nature is so unique, use your blown up beach ball to explore nature even more!

1. Toss your beach ball in the air and catch it!
2. Look at which colour your right hand lands on.
3. Find an item in nature that is the same colour!
4. Be creative, and search in nature.
5. Complete this as many times as you can!



USE THE HASHTAG #EGNATUREDAY TO
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TEACHING ACTIVITY # 9



MATERIALS NEEDED:



This teaching and activity comes from Lori Hoeg,
Band Councillor, Chippewas of Georgina Island

Nibi is Our Word for Water. We can't recognize Nature Day without honouring Mother Earth's most precious gift, Nibi (Water). As First Nation's people we know it is a responsibility given to us by Creator to pray for and care for the water. We conduct and participate in water ceremonies where we come together to offer those prayers and receive those most important teachings about Nibi. Nibi is our future, it is what sustains us and so we do not take her for granted. The Anishinaabe people have a special and sacred relationship with the water for we understand it is a living spirit. Nibi comforts us, feeds us, sustains us, it is our life.

Nibi IS life. Nibi is the blood that runs through the veins of Mother Earth which are the rivers and streams that flow replenishing all living things.

NIBI IS OUR WORD FOR WATER

Without Nibi life would cease to exist. The animals, fish and plant medicines live, move and grow in rhythm with Nibi; we would be wise to do the same. We are all interconnected; even our Grandmother moon is in sync with the earth's waters. This interconnectedness is sacred and when we upset the nature of things we fool with what is sacred. Polluting our waters is fooling with what is sacred and that is wrong. In celebration of Nature Day and in honour of Nibi, take the time to offer a little expression of gratitude.

- 1. Hold a little water in your hands and feel the spirit of the water and say "thank you Nibi for life".**



NATURE DAY

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING
IN OUR NATURE DAY ACTIVITIES**

On behalf of the Nature Day Committee, we encourage all participants to continue to explore nature throughout the seasons to experience the beauty of nature!

We would love to receive feedback and ideas for our planning for Nature Day 2021. The Nature Day committee values diversity as it allows us to understand the needs of our community, to join our 2021 planning committee please email dseverino@eastwillimbury.ca for further information.



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conservation authority



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