



Chatham-Kent & Lambton Children's Water Festival **Teacher's Planning Guide**

Festival Date: October 1-3, 2024

"Water is the basis of all life in the world. Without it, nothing lives, nothing grows".



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Purpose

Clean water and a healthy environment provide many ecological, social, and economic benefits. The Chatham-Kent & Lambton Children’s Water Festival (CKLCWF) will help improve our quality of life while maintaining sustainability in our community by fostering respect for water and encouraging environmental stewardship.

Introduction

Water plays an essential role in the economic, social and industrial development of our communities. Recent droughts and water contamination issues underline the importance and need for abundant, clean water. Educating our young people about water conservation practices and protection of our natural environment is essential to ensure a high quality water supply for future generations. The CKLCWF brings Grade 4 and 5 students outside the classroom, teaching them the importance of water conservation and protection in ways that they can easily understand and remember. Activities will be relevant to the Chatham-Kent and Lambton areas. Elementary students, high school volunteers, parents and teachers will develop pride of our natural resources and carry this to others in our community. By fostering respect for water and encouraging environmental stewardship, we can help maintain and improve the quality of life in Chatham-Kent and Lambton. This Planning Guide has been compiled to prepare classes for participation at the festival and to aid teachers in further developing water related lessons in the classroom. All activities:

- Reflect the beliefs that guide education in our region – accountability, quality, equity, partnerships and a safe environment.
- Are connected to the curriculum in ways that help students achieve the desired expectations (Science & Technology, Social Studies, Mathematics, and Physical Education).
- Are designed to be as hands-on and experiential as possible in order to enhance and personalize the learning.

Water Themes

Each of the activity centres are directly linked to the current Ontario Curriculum and have been organized into five categories. The categories are:

1. Water Science

- The physical science of surface water and groundwater.
- The hydrological (water) cycle.
- Watersheds.
- The role of water quality and quantity to aquatic life.

Activities that cover this theme	Something Fishy Going On Muddy Waters Great Water Race Ponds and Pollywogs Wetland Friends Water Cycle Madness Water, Vital to Life What's Up, Doc? Porosity and Permeability Protecting Your Drinking Water
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2. Water Technology

- The connection between water and technology in our daily lives.
- The methods for locating, extracting, treating, and distributing water.
- Using water to produce energy.

Activities that cover this theme	Simply Divine Treating Trash Where it Goes When I Go
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3. Water Conservation

- The importance of using less water in our homes, schools, and communities.
- Comparing conventional and water-saving methods for daily activities.
- Ways to reduce water consumption.

Activities that cover this theme	3 X's a Day A Drop in the Bucket Lather Up! Royal Flush We Use That Much? Water Footprints
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4. Water Protection

- The interdependence of people, plants, animals, soil, and water.
- Positive steps we can take to keep water and air clean.

Activities that cover this theme	Farmer and the Fish Glow Germ Go Deadly Links Poisonous Pollution Oil Slick! Rolling Through the Shed Run off or Recharge? Wildlife Wheel of Fortune Beach Postings Mean Green Algae Machine
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5. Water Attitude

- Comparing historical, present day, and future water utilization.
- Ways in which culture effects ideas and behaviours.
- Common misconceptions towards water and ways to improve current attitudes and consumption patterns.

Activities that cover this theme	Arsenic and Old Waste Bucket Brigade Doing the Laundry Saturday Night Bath Up on the Roof
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Pre- and Post-Festival Activities

We have included a series of simple pre- and post-festival activities related to water concepts and ideas.

Pre-Festival Activities: Water Ways and Watershed Journey

Post-Festival Activities: Recount Activity, Persuade Me, Water Savers, Water Pledge, Well Art, Thrill and Spills Board Game, Dripal Pursuit, Crossword and Wordsearch.

These activities are available on the CKLCWF website: www.cklwaterfestival.com

We have also prepared pre- and post-lesson plan ideas.

Pre-Lesson Plan Ideas:

- Discuss the purpose of the field trip to the festival and how it will relate to the current unit(s) of study.
- Introduce potentially new vocabulary words that will be used at the festival (aquatic, watershed, water cycle, ground water, etc).
- As a class, brainstorm a set of standards of conduct for the trip including gear for rainy weather.
- Discuss with students how to ask good questions and brainstorm a list of open-ended observation questions to gather information during their visit. Record questions on chart paper or in student field trip journals.
- Assign student groups “specialists” roles in one water theme (e.g. attitude, science, conservation, preservation and technology) that they will be learning about. Encourage students to share

observations, make sketches, and take notes about what they learned about their theme during the festival. The parent leaders can help with this.

- Have students think about a “water poem” and submit with their comments to the festival organizers. Encourage students to be creative, add artwork and get excited for the festival.

Post Lesson Plan Ideas:

- Provide time for students to share general observations and reactions to their field trip experience. Have student group “specialists” share specific observations or information they learned about their water theme while at the festival.
- Link field trip stations to multiple curricular areas. For example, students can develop vocabulary lists based on field trip observations; record field trip observations in a classroom journal, create a bulletin board about their experiences, etc.
- Create a short news report about what happened on the field trip. Publicize the trip via an article in your local newspaper, school bulletin board, trip presentation for parent’s night, or class web page.
- Have each student complete the “student evaluation” included in the Teachers Guide. Encourage them to include favorite objects or special information learned during the field trip.

Preparing for Your Visit

Planning will play an important part in the success of your visit to the CKLCWF. Review of this planning guide is vital and will assist you in your preparation.

The following checklist has been designed to help you prepare for your visit:

- Using your class list, divide students into small groups (5-6 students). Ensure that you have at least one adult supervisor per group.
- Advise all group supervisors that they are responsible for the behaviour of their group during the visit and that students must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
- Distribute copies of the attached Festival Scheduler and Site Map to all group leaders (teachers and parent volunteers) – additional copies of the site map and festival scheduler may be downloaded from our website: www.cklwaterfestival.com.
- Familiarize yourself with the site map and plan ahead by selecting activities which best suit your classes interests. A Festival Scheduler has been provided for your convenience. However, this is only a guideline and it does not need to be followed in order.
- Start each group from a different location to avoid congestion. Each activity centre has been described for planning and organization.
- Please note that the lunch period is from 11:35am to 12:00pm. During lunch, ALL activity centres at the festival will be shut down. Students will not be permitted to eat lunch in or around the activity centres. A lunch area with entertainment will be supplied. Have students pack litter-less lunches. This means any litter (wrappers, bottles, cans) generated from a lunch must be taken back with you. "Pack it in ... Pack it out!"
- You will not be able to purchase food at the festival.
- By planning ahead and preparing all supervisors for your visit, everyone can take an active role in this valuable learning experience.

Checklist

- **Sunny Day:** Hats, sunglasses, running shoes, sunscreen.
- **Rainy Day:** Rain coat, rubber boots, warm clothing.
- **Lunch Time:** Children are to bring a litter-less lunch with them. This means any litter – wrappers, bottles, cans – generated from a lunch must be taken back with you. “Pack it in, pack it out”. There are two drinking water fountains in the festival area so water bottles may be filled.
- **Site Map:** This will give your adult supervisors a good idea of the festival layout.
- **Festival Scheduler:** This will help your adult supervisors visit all the requested activities.
- **First Aid:** There will be a first aid station located at the festival headquarters. Trained staff will be on-hand to deal with any first aid issues.
- **Lost and Found:** There will be a lost and found located at the festival headquarters. If a backpack or other item is lost, this is where you may find it. Children who become separated from their group will also be brought here. Volunteers will ensure that they are reunited with their group.

Safety Protocol and Basic Rules

- First aid is available on site by the festival headquarters tent. The tent also serves as a lost and found area. Please refer to the site map.
- A 25-minute lunch from 11:35am to 12:00pm is scheduled each day under the lunch tent. Student groups or classes have the option to eat their lunch in the open grass areas outside of the lunch tent area.
- **Cancellation policy** – Many of the participating schools and most of the High School Volunteers who assist in the festival are based out of School Bus Zone 7/ 8. If buses are cancelled in Bus Zone 7/8 due to fog or any other unsafe weather conditions, the CKLWF will not run that day. Announcements of school bus cancellations will be as outlined in school board policy. There are no plans for rescheduled days lost due to cancellations.
- **Severe Sudden Weather Changes** – Although we will be monitoring weather conditions/warnings each day we have made provisions for severe sudden weather events such as lightning storms, extreme high wind conditions or other situations where it is not safe to remain on the site. If severe sudden weather appears imminent, we will provide notices to all activity leads for all stations to either return to the lunch tent area, board the buses or to seek shelter in the Childrens Safety Village. If we foresee severe weather conditions forecast the day before the event we may, in extreme circumstances, decide to cancel the event a day in advance. This decision would be made prior to 6:30am and all bus companies and school leads (the primary contact) will be notified by email.
- Should a child become separated from his or her group, they will be taken to the festival headquarters tent and a festival committee member will ensure they are reunited with their group.
- In the event of a serious health or accident emergency – call 911 and notify a festival committee member. Festival committee members will be wearing a red water festival vest. The on-site first aid will be deployed to the area immediately.
- In the event of a minor injury, direct the entire group involved to report to the Mobile St. Johns First Aid station at the headquarters tent - please refer to site map.
- The pond area, wooded areas, and parking area are off limits and unsupervised. The campground, hill area, and playground equipment area are off limits – ropes, flagging tape and signage will be in place as much as is practical to remind everyone about these restricted areas.

- The campground area will be open to the public for the duration of the festival. Please notify a festival committee member if you notice any suspicious persons within the festival area. Everyone except the children should be wearing a wrist band, vest, or name tag.
- Please direct any questions to water festival committee members.

Festival Day

The festival will be held rain or shine! Please ensure you have went over the checklists above so that you come prepared.

Upon arrival at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area, please have all students wait on the bus until a festival volunteer greets you and provides special instructions for the day. Proceed to the large lunch tent area. A space has been reserved for your school and a volunteer will provide you a brief orientation. You can leave your lunches and backpacks in your assigned area. This is the area you return to at lunch time and the end of the day to group together before you load your buses. Instructions will be given on bus loading procedures and locations of buses.

The festival ends at 1:15pm. All activity centres will shut down at that time. Some schools will leave prior to that time due to bussing considerations.

Please help us improve our services for future festivals by providing any comments and suggestions to the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority through Mariah Alexander, mariah.alexander@ltvca.ca.

Festival Scheduler

We suggest that you use the schedule organizer below for your class trip. Please check 10-15 activity centres that you would like your students to visit. Please note that the activity centres should be visited in random order and not in the order listed on the scheduler. Festival volunteers will assist in ensuring that wait times are minimized by suggesting that groups move to available, less busy activity centres.

We suggest that each of the adult supervisors complete the following for their group and have available for their reference and use:

School:

Teacher:

Group Supervisor:

Students in Group:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

Festival Scheduler

Festival Hours: 9:15am – 1:15pm. Lunch from 11:35am – 12pm (all activity centres close).

Note: For activity #20, Arsenic and Old Waste (a play about historical Chatham-Kent), there will be a sign up sheet at the festival headquarters tent as these presentations are at scheduled times for groups of 60 at each seating. This activity is located in the Barn Pavillion (see site map).

1. Bucket Brigade		21. Farmer and the Fish
2. Moo's Thirsty		23. A Drop in the Bucket
3. Up on the Roof		24. Farm Grow Bingo
4. Wetland Friends		25. Runoff or Recharge
5. Tangled Web		26. Oil Slick!
6. Ponds and Pollywogs		27. You're Mostly Water
7A. Glow Germ Go!		28. Something Fishy Going On
7B. Water Footprints		29. Simply Divine
7C. Never Give Up		30. We Use That Much
8. Doing the Laundry		31. Muddy Waters
9. Saturday Night Bath		32. Great Water Race
10. Porosity and Permeability		33. 3 X's a Day
11. Great Lakes Invaders		34. Royal Flush
12. Splish N' Splash Safety		35. Deadly Links
13. Water Cycle Madness		36. Lather Up!
14. Rolling Through the Shed		37. Water Vital to Life
15. Make it Rain (Virtual Reality Sandbox)		38. What's Up, Doc?
16. Protecting Your Drinking Water		39. Beach Postings
17. Poisonous Pollution		40. Where it Goes When I Go
18. Treating Trash		41. Learn to Fish
19. Wildlife Wheel of Fortune		42. Mean Green Algae Machine
20. Arsenic and Old Waste		