

# Wildlife in the Urban Forest

| Gr. 7 - Gr. 9 |

## Program Description

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This virtual program will introduce your students to the urban forest and how it provides safe, sustainable spaces for wildlife to thrive. We'll start by familiarizing ourselves with the history of Green Timbers Park and reforestation in B.C. Then, we'll focus on two local creatures and how their presence in the park indicates the success of our greening and restoration efforts.

## Behaviour Expectations – Virtual Environment

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Teachers are responsible for the behavior of all participants in their group. Please talk with your group about how they should behave during their virtual program. Students are expected to:

- demonstrate respect for all program participants and program educators.
- respect the differences in people, their ideas, and opinions.
- only use appropriate language, both verbally and in any chat features.

Those who do not meet the above expectations may be asked to leave the virtual program.

## Curriculum Focus Areas

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### Science Curricular Links

- Ecosystem health can be determined by biological indicators, a.k.a. “bioindicators”.
- Wildlife has evolved over time to survive and thrive within the urban environment.
- Characteristics of life: response to stimuli and adaptation through evolution.

### Social Studies Curricular Links

- Human responses to geographic challenges and opportunities and their impact on local wildlife.
- Exploration, expansion, colonization, and urban development.

## Vocabulary

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**Reforestation** – The process of replanting an area with trees to restore wildlife habitat.

**Bioindicator** – A living organism such as a plant, animal or microbe which are utilized to screen the health of the natural ecosystem in the environment.

**Generalist Species** – Animals or organisms that can consume a wide variety of resources and live in many different environmental conditions.

**Ecosystem** – A community of living organisms that live and interact with each other in a specific environment.

**Specialist Species** – Organisms that require unique resources, like a specific habitat or a limited diet.