

Grade Eight Resources

TRC's Education Program Director/Consultant, Dave Taylor, has put together a variety of resources for teachers and students that can be used to enhance the learning experience of field trips at Riverwood.

This document contains a list of recommended videos and questions to help guide discussion. These resources follow the appropriate curriculum for the various grades and will help your students to connect their time at Riverwood to their classroom learning.

Recommended Videos for Water Systems (Full Day) Field Trip

Title	Vimeo Ref #
Full Length Videos	
Canada The Wild Land 1867	https://vimeo.com/251389071
Bird Series	
Waterfowl Series	
Canada Goose	https://vimeo.com/139764575
Wood Duck	https://vimeo.com/136303259
Trumpeter Swans: Fall	https://vimeo.com/147677940
Mute Swan: New Life	https://vimeo.com/147805880
Long-tailed Duck: December	https://vimeo.com/149522781
American White Pelican	https://vimeo.com/228865047
Double Crested Cormorant	https://vimeo.com/138113983
Red-neck grebe I	https://vimeo.com/138113981
Red-neck grebe II	https://vimeo.com/138113982
Wading Bird Series	
Great Blue Heron	https://vimeo.com/138188085
Great Blue Heron: Nesting...	https://vimeo.com/140252114
Miscellaneous	
Common Loon: seasonal changes	https://vimeo.com/316845111
Mammal Series	
Carnivores:	
River Otter	https://vimeo.com/149074624
Raccoon: The Masked Bandit	https://vimeo.com/228866461
Rodent Series	
Muskrat Dawn	https://vimeo.com/147546097
Fish Series	
Salmon Series	
Credit River Salmon	https://vimeo.com/142070570
Fishing for Salmon	https://vimeo.com/142810905
Leaping Salmon	https://vimeo.com/142571891
Salmon Spawning (Underwater)	https://vimeo.com/143154590
Salmon Spawning (above)	https://vimeo.com/143171639
Chinook Salmon: Life Continues	https://vimeo.com/144807457
Brown Bear/ Red Salmon I	https://vimeo.com/144924550
Brown Bear/ Red Salmon II	https://vimeo.com/145041154
Brown Bear/Red Salmon III	https://vimeo.com/145126332
Salmon Story 2917 v2 Full Story	https://vimeo.com/236629272

Amphibian Series	
Time of the Toads	https://vimeo.com/136310291
Song of the Toads	https://vimeo.com/165717571
Some Frogs of Riverwood	https://vimeo.com/139878092
Spotted Salamander	https://vimeo.com/165057810
Reptile Series	
Snapping Turtle	https://vimeo.com/139764574
Snaggle-tooth: Bull Alligator	https://vimeo.com/149577993
Gator Gaits	https://vimeo.com/165717599
Green Sea Turtle underwater	https://vimeo.com/165057838
Habitat Series	
Wild Riverwood (no narration)	https://vimeo.com/247240424
Wild Riverwood (narration)	https://vimeo.com/246723815
The Credit River	https://vimeo.com/136302909
The Gardens of Riverwood	https://vimeo.com/139156254
The Marsh: Late Summer	https://vimeo.com/139921652
Water Falls	https://vimeo.com/141351235
Forest Wildlife in Summer	https://vimeo.com/140056479
Fall Comes to Riverwood	https://vimeo.com/143640179
Photographing Water	https://vimeo.com/168405948
Riverwood in Summer	https://vimeo.com/316859894
Africa Safari Videos	
Elephants in the Rain	https://vimeo.com/228869078
Serengeti	https://vimeo.com/228862548
Wildebeest and Crocodiles	https://vimeo.com/199820283
Nature: New Born Hippo	https://vimeo.com/292744028
New Born Hippo	https://vimeo.com/292748557

General Discussion Questions: Based on Grade 8 Understanding Earth and Space Systems: Water Systems

Q: Which species rely on water for their survival?

A: ALL.

Q: Which species nest in wetlands?

A: Red-necked Grebe, Canada Goose, Mallard duck, Green Heron, Great Blue Heron, Cormorant, Alligator, Muskrat

Q: Which species breed in wetlands?

A: Frogs, Toads, Fish, Waterfowl, Red-wing Blackbird, Turtles, Beaver, Muskrat, Mink, Otter, Alligator

Q: How does the changing availability of water effect the ecosystem? (I.e. Droughts, Floods, Seasonal Changes, Climate Change)

A: A lack of water (drought) can lead to loss of plant life and the wildlife that relies of in. Flooding can have a similar impact by drowning plant life or tearing it down with a loss of wildlife. Seasonal changes are part of the rhythm of nature and wildlife has the ability to adapt to it. The degree to which they can adapt however varies from species to species. Ethologists (scientists who study animal behaviour) speak in terms of how plastic a species response to change is. (Plastic refers to a species ability to change. Deer are quite adaptable and very plastic in their response. **Spring peepers** (extirpated from Riverwood in the last two decades) are very ridge and could not adapt to changes. They are not very plastic in their response. Evolutionary biologists also use the term genetic plasticity to describe this ability to respond to change. However major climate shifts or abrupt changes in weather patterns can stress the wildlife (plants and animals) to the point where they are negatively affected. **Chinook salmon** wait to migrate up their natal streams until a heavy rain raises the level of the river and washes the river's scent into Lake Ontario.

Q: How might human activities effect the water sources species need for their survival (give both positive and negative examples)?

A: **Negative:** human caused pollution can negatively stress the environment and lower water quality. Dams can increase deposition in some places, lower water level in others and cause a loss of nutrients downstream from the dam. Dams also alter the natural rhythm of the river by reducing seasonal flooding. Seasonal flooding can remove debris, carry nutrients into the water and improve the overall health of the river. Dam building on the Credit River in the 1800's was a major factor in the extirpation of the native salmon (Atlantic salmon). **Positive:** Planting trees along the shore to stabilize the banks and reduce erosion and sediment. The trees also provide shade which cools the river/water for cold-water loving fish like salmon. Reducing chemical treatments for lawns and gardens reduce the pollutants that reach the water. Cleaning up spills and other events that impact the water. Passing and enforcing regulation that help improve the environment.

Additional Resources

Dave Taylor Wildlife

www.DaveTaylorWildlife.com

Dave Taylor's Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZATOyhjleb9Tte9neU1CBQ>

About Dave Taylor

The videographer and creator of these resources is Dave Taylor, TRC's Education Director/Consultant. Dave is a retired Peel Teacher who for most of his 30 plus years taught science and geography to grade 7 & 8's. He was also a Science Resource Teacher and he spent two years at the Britannia School Farm when it first opened. He has written over 40 books on natural history including resource books for teachers.

He is one of Canada's best known wildlife photographers. His company, *J. D. Taylor "Senses of Wildness" Inc.* produces and holds the copyright on these productions. Schools may use them for educational purposes but no unauthorized use other than as stated above may be undertaken without the written consent of *J. D. Taylor "Senses of Wildness" Inc.* He can be reached via this website.

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