

Resource List

Websites

www.ducks.ca/resource/education/index.php - Ducks Unlimited Canada website has an Education section for parents and educators.

www.wetlandsalberta.ca – website dedicated to providing timely and relevant information that will help us all conserve and protect this vital resource and enjoy all that Alberta’s wetlands have to offer.

www.esrd.alberta.ca – Alberta Environment’s Education Section has a wealth of resources available on a variety of topics, integrated into various subject areas, including science, social and language arts. For a detailed listing visit: www.environment.gov.ab.ca/info/library/7553.pdf

Books

Lily Pad Pond by Bianca Lavies (1993)

A story of life on and in a pond accompanied by photographs of an actual pond.

Mosquito by Jennifer Coldrey and George Bernard (1997)

With only limited text but phenomenal, close-up photographs, we get a glimpse of the complete life cycle of a mosquito. Great factual information included.

Northern Refuge: A Story of a Canadian Boreal Forest by Audrey Fraggolosch, Judy Gitenstein and Crista Forest (1999)

From his wobbly first steps until he becomes a yearling on his own, the calf moose must learn many lessons from his mother if he wants to survive in the Canadian boreal forest.

One Duck by Hazel Hutchins and Ruth Ohi (1999)

One Duck follows the parallel lives of a mallard hen trying to hatch a clutch of eggs in a farmer’s field and the farmer who must work the land to feed his growing family.

One Small Square: Pond by Donald Silver and Patricia Wynne (1997)

This beautifully illustrated book encourages “young scientists” to select a small square at the edge of a pond and explore the diversity of plants and animals that live there.

Note: It is not a good idea to make a nest box out of cardboard as the book suggests. Please visit the Ducks Unlimited Canada website (www.ducks.ca) for proper building plans and information.

Our Wild Wetlands by Sheila Cowing (1980)

A comprehensive look at kinds of wetlands, stories that surround wetlands, and the function of wetlands

The Beaver: Nature's Master Builder by Frank Westcott & Juliana Hawke (2004)

The life work of two beaver colonies has been diligently recorded over an entire year. This book includes fascinating aspects about the beaver.

The Flight of the Snow Geese by Deborah King (1997)

This book follows the wonders of migration as it follows Snow geese from their nesting grounds in the Arctic to the Gulf of Mexico.

The Salamander Room by Anne Mazer (1994)

A young boy who brings a salamander into his room learns how the salamander is connected to everything else in its environment. Teaches about food webs, interactions, ecosystems in a very subtle way.

Water Dance by Thomas Locker (2002)

Poetic text and beautiful illustrations follow water as it moves through its never-ending cycle on earth.

Were You a Wild Duck Where Would You Go? by George Mendoza and Jane Osborn-Smith (1991)

Written in expressive, poetic text, this book sends a strong conservation message and encourages us to look after the wild areas that remain.

Wetlands by Matthews Downs (1994)

Describes different types of wetlands and the common plants and animals that live there.

Wetlands by Pamela Hickman (1993)

An informative book that includes easy-to-follow experiments and projects to let kids experience wetlands

Year on Muskrat Marsh by Berniece Freschet (1974)

A picture book that follows a season with muskrats in the marsh.

Fact Sheets and Brochures

Wetlands: Plunge In! A Look at Pond Life by Kananaskis Country (1999)

www.alms.ca/DwnldDocs/factsheets/plungint.pdf

Wetlands in Alberta by Alberta Environment (2003)

www.environment.gov.ab.ca/info/library/6157.pdf

Field Guides

Plants of the Western Boreal Forest & Aspen Parkland by Derek Johnson and Linda J. Kershaw (1995)

An Identification Guide to Alberta Aquatic Plants compiled by G. Robert Burland (1989)

Bugs of Alberta by John Acorn and Ian Sheldon (2000)

Marsh World Field Guide by Ducks Unlimited Canada (1996)

Golden Guide to Pond Life by George K. Reid (2001)

Films and Videos

Wetlands Wonderlands, John Robichaud Production (2004)

Great overview of wetland wonders and threats. Video is included in your package.

Water – Our Vanishing Wetlands, Ducks Unlimited Canada*

A fast paced, informative video about the importance of wetlands and DUC's commitment to conservation. Available to borrow from Ducks Unlimited Canada.

More than Ducks, Ducks Unlimited Canada*

Comical video geared towards younger viewers, which takes a creative look at wetland values and threat across Canada. Available to borrow from Ducks Unlimited Canada

If You Build It, Ducks Unlimited Canada*

Designed to supplement the grade 8 curriculum, this video demonstrates, in an interpretive way, what is meant by conserving, restoring and enhancing wetlands using examples from across Alberta. Available to borrow from Ducks Unlimited Canada

Life Cycle of Waterfowl, Ducks Unlimited Canada*

Designed to supplement the grade 8 curriculum, this video demonstrates, in an interpretive way, what is meant by conserving, restoring and enhancing wetlands using examples from across Alberta. Available to borrow from Ducks Unlimited Canada

***Visit www.ducks.ca/resource/general/video/index.html to browse the entire collection of films and videos offered by Ducks Unlimited Canada.**

Wetlands Wonderlands Video

The video entitled, *Wetlands Wonderland*, is included as part of the *Wetlands: Webbed Feet Not Required* package.

Video Summary

Prairie wetlands are among the most productive ecosystems on the planet. They provide critical habitat for an astounding diversity of plant and animal while playing an integral role in the purification of our water supply. Across North America the equivalent of a city block of wetlands is lost every minute of every day. Each of us can make a difference by taking an interest in wetlands and learning what we can do to help protect them. (Length 11:40 minutes)

Here are some ways to use the video in class.

Ask students to listen for key information throughout the video. Have them answer the following questions:

1. Five reasons why wetlands are important.
2. Percentage of waterfowl that depend on prairie wetlands at some point in their lives
3. The name for the region of wetlands that stretch across the prairies and into the United States.
4. List one major threat to wetlands.
5. Percentage of wetlands has been lost around the city of Calgary.

Identify these birds

Later on in the wetland unit, show the video again and see if students can identify any of the following wildlife:

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|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| - Fairy Shrimp | - American | - Northern |
| - Eared Grebe | Avocet Canada | Shoveler |
| - Redhead (duck) | Geese | - Muskrat |
| - Lesser Yellow Legs | - Backswimmer | - Kids with nets |
| - Dragonfly Nymph | - Blue-winged Teal (duck) | - Ruddy Duck |
| - American White Pelicans | - Pie-billed Grebe | - American Coot |
| | - Killdeer | - Common Snipe |
| | - Franklin's Gull | - Yellow-headed Blackbird |