



# **EDUCATIONAL KIT INFO**

**GUEST SERVICES**



## EDUCATIONAL KIT INFO

### **Purpose**

Safari Niagara's Educational Kits are curriculum-aligned learning resources available for daily rental by visiting school groups. These kits are designed to enhance field trip experiences through self-guided, inquiry-based learning that connects directly to Ontario Science curriculum expectations.

Each kit contains a self-guided tour script, lesson plan, and hands-on learning materials that help students make meaningful connections between classroom learning and real-world concepts related to animals, habitats, ecosystems, biodiversity, conservation, and environmental stewardship.

### **Educational Kits are available in the following topics:**

- Habitats and Shelters (Grades 1-4)
- Ecosystems (Grades 4-5)
- Biodiversity (Grades 6-7)
- Water Systems (Grade 8)

There are multiple copies of each kit available. Kits are identified by both topic and number, labelled on the top strap. (e.g., Habitats 1, Habitats 2, Habitats 3).

### **Special Note: Biodiversity Kits**

Biodiversity Kits were originally designed to include one owl pellet skeleton specimen per kit.

Due to current sourcing challenges, owl pellet skeletons are temporarily unavailable. In their place, an educational Owl Pellet Information Sheet has been included.

This substitution is intentional and does not indicate that materials are missing from the kit.



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### **Information for Teachers**

When providing an Educational Kit, please explain the following:

#### **Curriculum Alignment**

- All self-guided tour scripts are aligned with Ontario Science curriculum expectations.
- Lesson plans continue the curriculum connections while also incorporating cross-curricular learning opportunities where appropriate.
- Activities are inquiry-based and designed to support experiential outdoor learning.

#### **Flexible Use Throughout the Day**

On the first page of the booklet is a "How to Use" section for teachers. Please review this and become familiar with the use of the kit.

Teachers are not required to complete the tour and lesson plan in one continuous session.

They may:

- Complete the tour sequentially.
- Break the tour into smaller sections throughout the day.
- Incorporate animal viewing, lunch, rides, presentations, or other activities between tour stops.
- Adapt activities to suit student needs and learning goals.

The Educational Kits are designed to be flexible and adaptable to support a variety of teaching styles and schedules.



## **EDUCATIONAL KIT INFO**

### **Returns**

#### **Kit Return Procedure**

All Educational Kits must be returned to Guest Services before the group departs.

Teachers should return:

- The Educational Kit container.
- All lesson materials.
- All hands-on learning resources.
- All maps, scripts, and lesson plans.

#### **Material Verification**

Upon return:

1. Locate the booklet inside the kit.
2. Review the Materials Checklist located on the front page.
3. Verify that all materials listed have been returned.
4. Ensure all materials are accounted for before accepting the return.

#### **Cleaning and Sanitization**

After materials have been verified:

1. Sanitize all reusable materials using the approved sanitization spray and paper towel.
2. Allow materials to dry as required.
3. Repack all materials neatly and according to the checklist.
4. Ensure the kit is organized and ready for the next rental.

#### **Damage and Sign-Out Information**

The Guest Services Manager is responsible for providing staff with:

- Educational Kit sign-out procedures.
- Damage reporting procedures.
- Replacement and loss policies.
- Any applicable charges or follow-up processes.

Staff should document any missing, damaged, or excessively worn materials according to established procedures.