

The Pan-Canadian Biodiversity Best Practices/Case Studies Contest

Program: Brightwater Science and Environment Centre, Saskatoon Public Schools
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Imagine a place and educational program where youth learn about ecology by a creek or native prairie, collaborate on environmental stewardship projects and live together in community. This place is Brightwater Science and Environment Centre, a program for over 2000 middle years and secondary science students with Saskatoon Public Schools located on a creek surrounded by native prairie.

Whether youth are hiking trails to discover more about ethnobotany and archaeology, making the perfect digital picture by studying nature with a professional photographer, hearing stories of the land with a traditional knowledge keeper, weeding invasive plant species in collaboration with a shepherd and the sheep or engaging in watershed studies guided by a keen biologist, the focus is always on fun and ecological learning. Youth have created a multimedia installation at the Mendel Art Gallery about our place in nature, a book about the watershed of Brightwater Creek and will be launching a terrific Cd of music and song inspired by Brightwater, written and performed by students.

The camp setting gives youth, their teachers and parent volunteers time and space to create awareness about our natural environment, build connections with nature and take responsibility for our home place.

Word count of text: 197

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Submission reference:

For more information please contact Sarah Heiberg, RCEN National Caucus Coordinator, at sarah@cen-rce.org or at 514-833-9810.