

Toronto Island SUP Willow Walk – Grade 1 and 2

Social and Nature Studies with Julian Ganton and Tanya Golden

Topics

1. Canadian communities and our roles & responsibilities within them.
2. Family and community traditions.
3. Global communities.

Concepts

1. Significance – What roles do people of different ages play in our community? What are some celebrations or traditions that happen in your family and community? Why is community important and what elements make strong communities?
2. Cause and Consequence – What caused the flood of 2017? Did this hurt the community, the natural world? What is our impact on the natural world?
3. Continuity and Change – How has this community changed over the ages? How has your family changed? How does the natural world change over the seasons?
4. Patterns and Trends – What makes up a park? What is different from this park to a park you see in the city?
5. Interrelationships – Why is nature important? What is our relationship with nature? What is your relationship to your family? Your community?
6. Perspective – How does an understanding of unique individuals and groups help us appreciate the diversity in our community?

Itinerary

10:30 am

Meet group off of the ferry at Wards Island Dock and begin our introduction talk. We look back at the city and talk about the city and its communities.

Talk: What significance does the island have as a community of the city? Let's look at the big picture.

10:45 am

Wards Island neighborhood walk starting at Willow Square. This is where the community meets. Here we touch on how to build community and its importance within our society. There are many symbols, art and important plants within this square. Let's explore them!



Walk and talk: What are our traditions and cultural symbols? What ties our community together? What traditions does your family or community have?

11:00 am

The walk is continued through the neighborhood and into the nearby Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), Wards Meadow and Wards Beach area. Along the way, we will be identifying certain plants, trees and other objects that we may return to later for a scavenger hunt.

Talk and touch: Take a look at some of the trees and notice that some are not living. There was a flood in 2017 which killed some of the trees and created habitat for other plants and animals. What was the greater impact of the flood on flora, fauna, people?

11:30 am

Games: When we reach Wards Beach, we will start engaging the children in large group games which are not only fun but teach about teamwork and the natural world.

We then explain the rules for our last game, the scavenger hunt, which retraces the steps of some of the places we've been and tests the recalling ability of the students.

As the student groups filter back, their items are checked, discussed and they are free to investigate some of our natural artifacts which we've collected over the years.

12:30 pm

Lunch time! The children are free to find a spot on the beach and eat their packed lunches.

Following lunch, we walk your group back to the ferry docks and answer any questions you may have.

