

Guidelines for NatureKids BC Summer Gatherings - June 2020

Dr. Bonnie Henry: "Please, go outside."

We intend to fulfill our NatureKids BC mission in harmony with public health guidelines, to prevent the spread of COVID-19. As with previous summers, Nature Club activities will be led at the discretion of the individual Club Leader(s). There is no expectation that every NatureKids BC club host activities through the summer. Many, in fact, will be enjoying the outdoors informally while taking a restful, holiday break.

To organize a NatureKids BC summer Explorer Day event, Club Leader(s) are expected to:

- Prepare or modify an outdoor event plan to ensure that participants are able to maintain appropriate physical distancing throughout the event.
- Share the outdoor event plan with Executive Director and Program Coordinator in advance to review safety and health management plans
- Cancel, modify or postpone the event if any event volunteers are experiencing COVID-related symptoms (see listing within BC CDC link below)
- Promotion of the event: reinforce the event as capable of maintaining physical distancing and the family bubble; guardians/parents will be responsible for maintaining this at the event
- Promotion of the event: masks are invited/optional, not required
- Promotion of the event: participants should cancel their attendance if they, or anyone in their bubble, are ill
- At the event: Ensure Informed Consent Forms are signed by each adult present; contact information is crucial for contact tracing in the event of any reported exposure or illness
- At the event: Verbally check with full group that all are free of symptoms (COVID-related) and remind the kids: wash hands, don't touch your face, cough into your elbow.
 - Is handwashing available?
 - Are tools required for the activity? How will they be sanitized?
 - Club Leaders will have masks and gloves, if there is a need to hold a child
- Throughout the event: monitor participants for any COVID-related symptoms and respond with appropriate precautionary measures if any participant is exhibiting COVID-related symptoms.
- At the event conclusion: Remind adults to inform the Club Leader if they experience any COVID-related symptoms in the two weeks following the event, and vice versa will also occur.

NatureKids BC is grateful for leadership and volunteerism in connecting our community in safe and healthy ways. We continue to monitor public health guidelines in preparation for September programming. Further decisions and directions will be offered later in the summer.

Sample 2020 Summer Explorer Day suggestions that align with Physical Distancing guidelines:

- Hiking and other outdoor activities
- Shoreline or park cleanup (with extra precautions taken to sanitize equipment/tools)

References for Members & Club Leaders:

- [BC Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [BC Ministry of Health Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Age Children](#)

As per provincial government recommendations, children will not be required to maintain a 2-metre distance at all times. However, they will be encouraged to avoid touching and to maintain a bubble of space around them. Our leaders will use positive language to create routines that encourage children to leave space. Smaller group sizes will also facilitate distancing at this time.