



FALL 2021

STUDENT FOREST FIELD TRIPS

FRIP INED-01-001 | July - December, 2021

Seven weeks of experiential learning field trips for students to gain first-hand information about Alberta's forests at four different forest field sites across the province.

After a year and a half of pivoting forest education programming to fit into a virtual space, Inside Education was thrilled to get back to *in-person learning* and get outside with students from across Alberta with a return to forest field programming.

With many additional health and safety measures in place, Inside Education was able to provide interactive and hands-on forest field programming for students at four field sites across the province.

**Huestis Demonstration Forest,
Bunchberry Meadows Conservation Area,
Des Crossley Demonstration Forest,
Jumpingpound Demonstration Forest.**

This 2021 fall field season saw more than **2,100 students** attend programming at these four forest field sites. The ongoing pandemic was a factor in the number of classes who were able to come out with ongoing restrictions. Overall, there was a huge amount of interest and uptake for our forest field programs.

“It connected directly to our program as an outdoor and environmental education program. All of the activities were hands on which the students really enjoyed.”

JENNA SEAGROVE, TEACHER,
CRESCENT HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL



PARTICIPANTS AND PROGRAM IMPACT

104 different classes from **42 unique schools**, reaching a total of **2,193 students** from grade four to twelve attended forest field programming over the course of seven weeks. Each class received a program designed to meet and enhance grade level curriculum topics.

Curriculum Connections:

- Plant Growth and Changes
- Waste in Our World
- Alberta: A Sense of the Land
- Trees and Forests
- Evidence and Investigations
- Plants for Food and Fibre
- Interactions and Ecosystems

Forests and Forestry Themes:

- Traditional and modern uses of forest plants
- Tree measurements and age
- Tree and shrub identification
- Wildlife, careers in the forest
- Silvicultural (forestry) practices
- Sustainable resource management

The table below breaks down the statistics of students, classes, and grade level per site. Inside Education would also like to acknowledge the **349 teachers and adult volunteers** whose dedication and support helped make the programs a success.

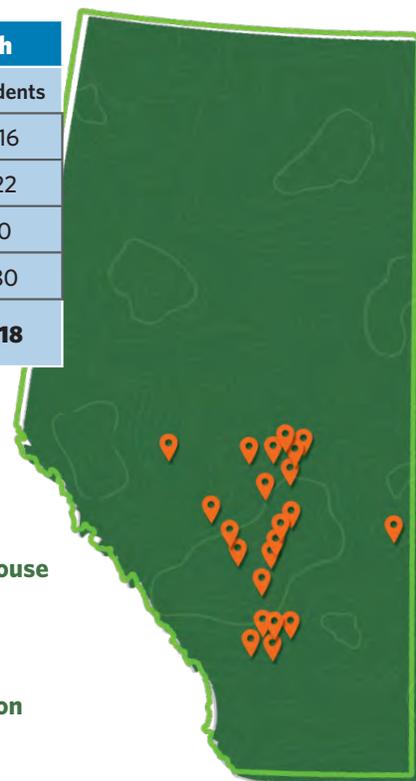
	Elementary		Junior High		Senior High	
	Classes	Students	Classes	Students	Classes	Students
Jumpingpound	29	685	10	164	9	116
Des Crossley	9	207	14	299	1	22
Huestis	5	102	0	0	0	0
Bunchberry	18	387	5	131	4	80
TOTAL	61	1381	29	594	14	218

Students attended our field sites from **22 different communities** across Alberta, which are listed below:

Calgary
 Caroline
 Chestermere
 Didsbury
 Edmonton
 Edson
 Foothills County
 Fort Saskatchewan

Hughenden
 Lacombe
 Leduc
 Millarville
 Penhold
 Pigeon Lake
 Ponoka

Red Deer
 Rocky Mountain House
 Spruce Grove
 St. Albert
 Strathmore
 Sunchild First Nation
 Wabamun

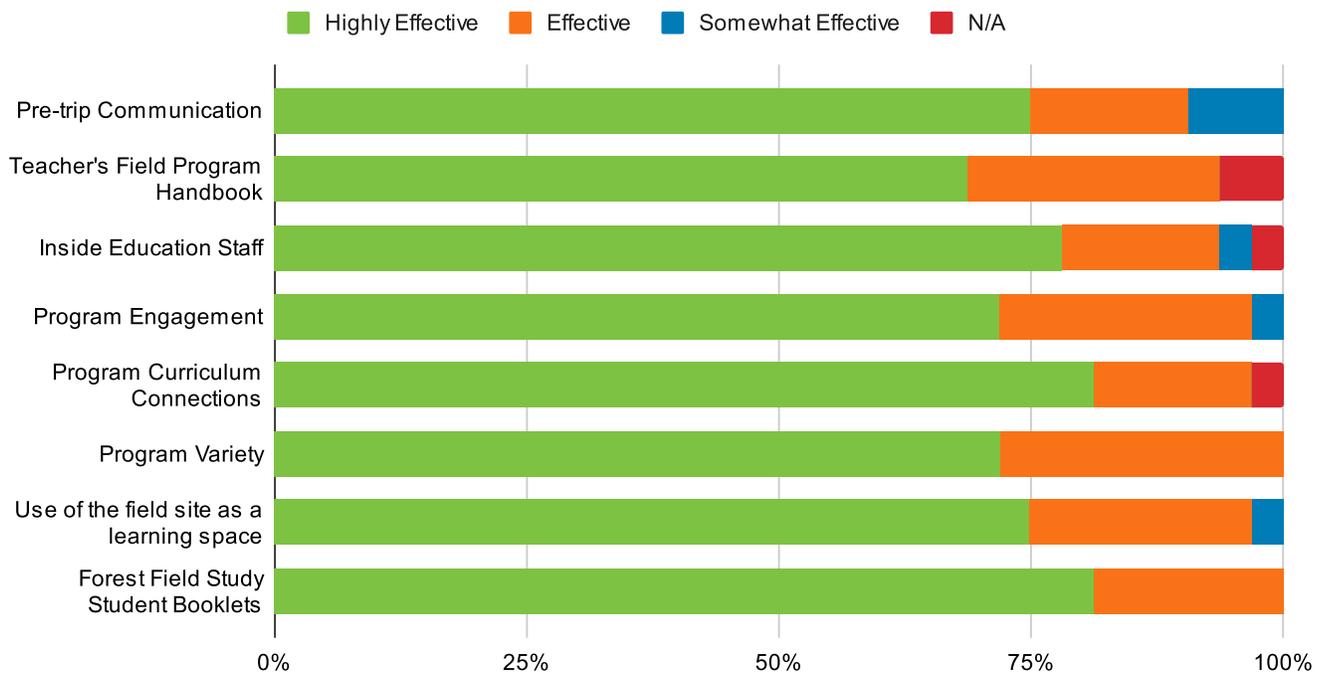


PROGRAM FEEDBACK

Inside Education is proud of the continued success the forest field programs, and of the overwhelmingly positive feedback received from teachers who responded to the post-program survey.

Surveys distributed after the field programs indicate that the forest field programs have continued to provide curriculum-linked, hands-on, and engaging forest field programming for students, and that the field staff and field site as a programming.

Please rate the effectiveness of the following program areas in providing an educational experience for your students or helping you coordinate the field program...



9.4/10

After participating in the program, teachers were asked to rate the overall value of the Inside Education field program - on average, responding teachers gave it a 9.4/10.



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

Inside Education would like to thank the many program partners whose generous contributions make these forest field programs possible!



In Kind



“This was an excellent opportunity for the students to have a hands-on learning experience which would be difficult/impossible to recreate in a classroom setting. The program was directly related to the curriculum and learning outcomes and was well organized from start to finish.”

**BRENDA KOSSMAN, TEACHER,
ST. PHILIP FINE ARTS SCHOOL**





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SUMMARY AND FUTURES

Inside Education has been thrilled with the opportunity to be back outside programming in-person with students. Feedback collected from students, teachers, and parents all indicated that interest and enthusiasm for place-based outdoor education has only increased over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic and that demand for hands-on and experiential learning is very much valued amongst Inside Education's audience.

Student forest field trips continues to be a flagship program area for Inside Education. We look forward to a continued return to normalcy in Spring 2022 with a full slate of field trips available to students across Alberta.

