

Program Structure

Each year 112 students are admitted to this enriched alternative education program. Students participate in two half-year terms, based at Prince of Wales Secondary School. Students must transfer to P.W. for the year. In the first term (September - January), 56 students will be "off-TREK", while the other 56 will be "on-TREK". In the second term (February - June), the student groups switch, thus completing both portions of the program. During the on-TREK term, students will be involved in a combination of outdoor activities, field studies, and classroom-based academics. In the off-TREK term, students complete an intensified academic curriculum. At the end of the year, all TREK students will have met the requirements for completion of Grade 10 (credit in English, Social Studies, Math, Science, P.E., Planning, a second language and Outdoor Education).

Equipment & Transportation

All wilderness travel and camping equipment is provided. Students must supply their own footwear, clothing and food (some clothing is available for loan). The program owns a school bus that is used to transport students between the school and trip locations.

Funding

The Vancouver School Board provides funds for teaching staff and instructional facilities. The TREK Program must generate funds through a \$650 course enrichment fee (bursaries available) and fundraising projects, to pay for equipment and field trip expenses. For successful fundraising to occur, both student and parent involvement is required.

Teaching Staff

The staff team at TREK is an important factor in helping students obtain the potential benefits of this program. Each member of our co-ed teaching team is certified by the B.C. College of Teachers. On-TREK teaching staff have safely taught and guided thousands of students in locations throughout British Columbia. In addition to specific areas of training and expertise (such as ocean kayaking, rock climbing, and back-country skiing), on-TREK staff members are trained in wilderness first aid and incident response procedures.

Application Procedures

Applicants must pass all Grade 8 and 9 core subjects with a minimum C+ average. Potential applicants, and their parents, are encouraged to attend one of two information meetings:

- Wednesday, November 2nd, 2011 @ 7:00 pm at Gladstone Secondary; or
- Monday, November 7th, 2011 @ 7:00 pm at Prince of Wales Secondary.

After the information meetings, and before Friday, January 20th, 2012, interested students must sign-up for an interview. Interviews take place January 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 2012.

For more information:

TREK Program

Prince of Wales Secondary School
2250 Eddington Drive
Vancouver, B.C. V6L 2E7

trekoutdoorprogram.ca

604-713-8974 (ext. TREK office)



Outdoor Education Program

*Enriched Education plus
Wilderness Adventures and
Education for Sustainability*

A program for Grade 10 Students



"An awesome, unforgettable year!"
(TREK student)

*"This program is outstanding!
We recommend it to everyone."*
(parent of a TREK student)

2012-2013 School Year (our 26th year)

Vancouver School Board

Adventure and Challenge

The TREK Program introduces each student to a variety of outdoor activities including:

- ☑ hiking and backpacking
- ☑ ocean kayaking
- ☑ canoeing
- ☑ rock climbing
- ☑ cycle touring
- ☑ back-country (Telemark) skiing
- ☑ cross-country (Nordic) skiing
- ☑ essential outdoor skills (minimum impact camping, outdoor cooking, first aid, map & compass, weather interpretation, snow shelter construction, avalanche assessment and risk reduction)

We provide instruction in the safe means of participating in each of these activities, and give students the basis for a lifetime of outdoor adventure. In addition, our trips (1 - 7 days in duration) enable us to examine a variety of ecosystems (e.g. alpine, intertidal, freshwater, bog, and temperate rainforest).



Education for Sustainability

Education about the natural environment and sustainability are fundamental components of the TREK Program. We believe that students should understand how the natural world has an impact on their daily lives, and in turn, what kind of impact their daily lives have on the environment. We provide students with opportunities to learn about the functioning of natural systems, consider a range of views, identify their beliefs and opinions, and ultimately make informed and responsible decisions.



Hands-on Learning

We believe that how you learn is as important as what you learn. That's why we provide a combination of active, informative and reflective experiences. We encourage first-hand learning through engaging educational experiences.



Character Development

The underlying purpose of the TREK Program is to provide experiences that help students learn about themselves. We create a physical and social environment that supports the development of positive character traits such as: respect, responsibility, compassion, independence, self-confidence, openness to new experiences, helpfulness, self-discipline, enthusiasm, courage, leadership, critical thinking, interpersonal skills, creativity, and concern for health and fitness.

Our aim is to enable students to choose wisely from among their choices, initiate action, turn dreams into reality and take personal responsibility for who they become.

*Join us, for an experience
that lasts a lifetime!*