



THE OUTSIDERS

Volume 2, Edition 4
February 1, 2023

LYNX Nature Inspired Programming

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UPCOMING

February 2023
Feb 11-20 - No School



Principal's Message



February is the month for Valentines Day. This holiday of love has been celebrated all over the world for over 1,500 years. We could all use to spread a little love around to others, however we need to remember to love ourselves as well. Be kind to yourself, take time to do something nice or spoil yourself a little.

Please remember that School is closed February 11-20 for Professional Development, Teacher Convention and Family Day, classes resume February 21.

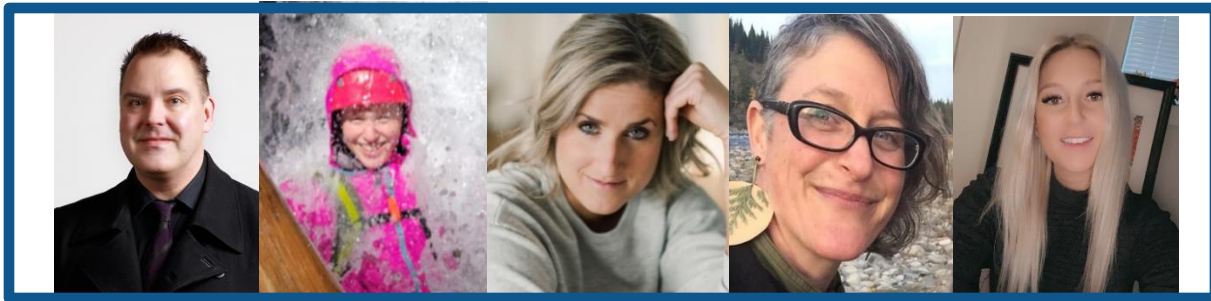
Joe Smith
Principal, LYNX

Be Kind, Be Good, Be Helpful and above all be Safe

We acknowledge that we are on traditional territories in Alberta of the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.



Your Student's Nature Inspired Instructors!



Jason Ash

Megan Baxter

Madison Fai

Lisa Dahlseide

Hailey Rubner

Cochrane LYNX

It's been great to be back outside! We have been spending time in our outdoor classrooms; Riverfront Park, Cochrane Ranch, and Mitford Pond. We practiced our financial literacy skills by estimating cost and tax when buying post-skating treats, then practiced bartering and trade when they wanted to exchange packaged treats. We also had a field trip to North Glenmore Park to try corkicurl, curling and skate through the trees for physical literacy. In Social Studies we learned about feudalism, the early renaissance and the Silk Road.

At Cochrane's Bootzana we learned about the history of Cochrane while trying our hand at making rope, lassoing cattle, checking cows for calves and creating our own livestock branding logo! In science we have been learning about weather and how elevation effects how we breath. In Social Studies are continuing to learn about civilizations and land forms.

We enjoyed our January field trips – swimming at West Side and Central Library where we learned about survivors of the holocaust from their living relatives.



Calgary LYNX

Students are curious how the increased water levels in the Glenmore Reservoir will affect ecosystems and vegetation. They have already observed localized die off of spruce trees as a result of the increased water levels and hypothesize that the tall shrub community east of the pedestrian bridge will die off completely over time due to the water inundation. They applied for the Jack Leslie Youth Environmental Grant to get funds to install a stand that cradles a phone to take the same image over time seen in the photo below to monitor and document the changes, but were unsuccessful receiving the grant. We will be further discussing with the City of Calgary's Park Ecologist how students can get involved in monitoring these changes. These long-term projects will tie Social and Science curricular connections together activating Citizen Science and contributing to ongoing projects that LYNX students can conduct over the years they are involved in LYNX, and maybe beyond.



By December we tackled the majority of the Social Studies Program of Studies for grades 1-6. Over the remaining months, we will cover the few missed topics while also building on the foundations of understanding to help develop Global Citizens with powerful critical thinking skills. Students continue to participate in LYNX Provincial Cabinet Meetings, they have explored how people live in various countries comparing life to here in Canada, and they have dived into history lessons.

Students recently finished studying “[What to Do When Your Temper Flares: A Kid's Guide to Overcoming Problems With Anger](#)” by Dawn Huebner. This book touched on many curricular links to our Health Program of Studies. Students are equipped with plenty of self-calming techniques and they know that they are the only ones who make them angry – a big secret that even most adults do not know!

In Science we have explored the “Building with a Variety of Materials” and “Testing Materials and Designs” units through student initiated bridge building. Surprisingly the students started

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building a bridge that became a berm, presenting an interesting link to the SW Calgary Ring Road design, which is a berm crossing the Elbow valley. They also had fun building bridges in the snow along the Elbow River. They discovered bounding tracks from an American Mink that crossed the frozen river and again interestingly tied well into their project and discussion as an American Mink was the only animal documented that utilized the wildlife corridor under the ring road along the Elbow during construction of the bridges.



In February, we plan to journal daily writing one thing we love about ourselves. This will be a challenging project for many students! We hope that it will spark life long recognition of the importance of self-love, something that many of us struggle to do. We will also be expanding on our Animal Study started before the Christmas break. If we end up having some cold indoor days at the west campus classroom, we will focus on the 'Rocks and Minerals' unit and start growing some crystals. We also have some special indoor Space lessons planned. We are prepared with several options that can be done inside, or modified for our outdoor learning.



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Poetry

MAY WE RAISE CHILDREN WHO LOVE THE UNLOVED THINGS

By Nicolette Sowder

May we raise children
who love the unloved
things – the dandelion, the
worms and spiderlings.
Children who sense
the rose needs the thorn

& run into rainswept days
the same way they
turn towards the sun...

And when they're gown &
someone has to speak for those
who have no voice

may they draw upon that
wilder bond, those days of
tender tender things

and be the ones.



Student Resources

IMPROVE TYPING SKILLS

Students can learn to type faster, easier and better: <https://www.typing.com/>

Student Highlight

Tidan

Tidan is an awesome addition to our LYNX crew. He was one of the first to join us and has been gracing us with his enthusiasm ever since. Tidan is always willing to participate in our class discussions, and he welcomes new students with open arms and includes them in the games that he and his friends play.

When Tidan isn't participating in class discussion, or befriending our new students, he can be seen climbing all the trees that the Weaselhead has to offer. He has recently been quoted as saying "climbing is my favourite exercise, if I don't do it I go crazy!!" Tidan also has a yellow belt in karate!

Thanks for adding so much enthusiasm to our program, Tidan!!

