



Nature School and Education Centre **Assumption of Risk Permission Form**

Thank you for your interest in Nature School and Education Centre programs. We are excited to share the adventure with your child(ren). All of our Forest School programs innately encourage and support participants in their exploration and investigation into the natural world.

Children will take risks, challenge themselves and possibly get wet and dirty when visiting us. For this reason, we require that children and adults be prepared for the weather. Please bring/wear:

Reusable water bottle	Extra mitts/ har (winter)
Extra socks	Long pants
Sturdy shoes/boots	Long sleeve shirts
Change of clothes	

Please dress for the weather; layers are best as we spend most of our time outside in inclement weather such as rain and cold.

See the Parent Handbook for more information on specific clothing and activities

Location:

Our Nature School and Education School programs are currently offered in St. Catharines and Grimsby. We are primarily based out of Beamer Falls Manor, 140 Ridge Road W, Grimsby, with a variety of programs in St. Catharines running out of Assumption School, Port Weller School, Grantham Lions Club and/or Port Weller Community Centre.

Please check our website and our Facebook page for more details and updates:

<http://www.natureschoolniagara.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/natureniagara/>

Assumption of Risk and Permission Form

Please Note: Completion of this form is required for your child's participation at Nature School and Education Centre

Summary

Participating at Nature School and Education Centre, an outdoor, nature-based program, includes inherent and foreseeable risks of harm. You are required to accept these and other risks as a condition of you and/or your child's participation. While the variety of risks is more than can be listed here, and keeping in mind that Nature School and Education Centre educators are trained, experienced and make a strong effort in supporting children to stay safe while learning and playing in nature, the following sections cover the main areas of risk that you are required to acknowledge and sign your name indicating permission to participate for your child and/or for yourself as a adult participant.

The Risk Assessment Summary is intended to enable you and your child to better understand and accept the various risks involved at Nature School and Education Centre. It is your responsibility to weigh and evaluate the risks on behalf of your child. Your child is under no obligation to participate in all activities at Nature School, and may choose not to participate at any time after you sign this form.

Section 1 : Although we do everything we can to prevent injury, including completion of all Forest School Canada (FSC) risk assessments, Nature School and Education Centre is an outdoor program and therefore there is an inherent level of risk. We encourage children to take supported risks in order to learn how to navigate and manage risk in a responsible manner. Risk/benefit assessments are completed on every activity, every day and the risk of outdoor activity is reviewed regularly. We have a low student teacher ratio 5:1, for Seedlings, and 8:1 for Investigators/camp, plus volunteers.

I acknowledge that a Forest School program carries with it elements of risk and the possibility of injury including, but not limited to; cuts, scrapes, bruises, insect bites, poison ivy, as well as more serious injuries. I understand that injuries sustained during outdoor activities have the potential to be severe and in very rare cases, even fatal.

Parent/Guardian signature:

Date:

Section 2: Your child will be taught fire safety rules. Children will not be permitted to participate in fire preparations unless the safety procedures are followed. The teachers reserve the right to exclude children whom they deem are not well prepared. Before children actually have a fire or use tools, hours are spent in preparation. Before any class is allowed to have a fire, safety procedures around fire are taught and practised.

I understand that fires and open fire cooking are activities at Nature School and Education Centre and I acknowledge the risk of injury involved in such activities.

Parent/Guardian signature:

Date:

Section 3 : Your child may be using tools such as hammers, knives and hand drills after being well prepared and only when closely supervised. Tools are used on a 1:1 basis. This means that no child will use a tool unless they are being closely supervised by a Nature School Educator or appointed Volunteer. Children are taught correct tool use and before children use tools, hours are spent in preparation.

I understand that children and adults will be using tools at Nature School and Education Centre and I acknowledge the risk of injury involved in such activities.

Parent/Guardian signature:

Date:

Section 4:

In case of an injury to my child or myself while in the care, custody, or control of Nature School and Education Centre, I will hereby waive all claims against NSEC, its Directors, Facilitators, Teachers, Volunteers, and Members of all responsibility for any injury, loss, or damage which I or my child might sustain while participating in any NSEC activity.

Parent/Guardian signature:

Date: