The CPAWS Manitoba Outdoor Learning Program gets kids outside and teaches them to appreciate the wonders of nature through games and activities that spark their curiosity.

It was developed by Environmental Educator Avery Kash, who has a decade of experience working with children and youth aged 5 to 18 as both a high school science teacher and a camp director.

A total of 8,594 students and children benefited from 428 CPAWS Manitoba outdoor learning workshops and classroom activities from May 2021 to March 2023.

We look forward to helping many more children connect to nature in the months and years to come.

- **216** School workshops & activities
- **4,360** Students participated
- **140** Daycare & camp workshops
- **2,368** Children participated
- **72** After school program sessions
- **1,866** Cumulative attendance at after school program sessions
- **538** Educators in our outdoor learning outreach database
- **8,199** Extra hours spent outside

Learn more at cpawsmmb.org
Outdoor Learning Program
feedback from teachers

School Workshops and Activities
CPAWS Manitoba school workshops were launched in May 2021 to support teachers with remote learning opportunities as schools were shutting down due to pandemic restrictions. We were able to begin providing workshops in schoolyards beginning in October 2021.

Here is some feedback from teachers.

"The kids loved it."

“I think that our students do not get nearly as much outdoor, free play time away from recess at school. This is a great way to have them connect authentically to the outdoors.”

“Getting to be outside and explore nature was fantastic. It made them see their surroundings in a different way and they spent recess searching for and identifying bugs!”

“The workshop goes PERFECTLY with grade 4 curriculum of Habitats and Communities. Another huge benefit is that the workshop is offered outside. It’s also not often students have the opportunity to have a guest work with them outdoors.”

“Excellent description and interactive nature of animals that stay, fly away or hibernate. Students loved looking for prints and they used this knowledge when we went to Birds Hill park the following day.”

“We learned something new about trees. Students got a chance to use a magnifying glass, and they had never before.”

Learn more at cpawsmb.org
More Feedback About School Workshops

“The students loved learning about local Manitoba trees and were so proud to share their own experiences with the presenter. The programs were interactive, encouraged movement and the visuals were age-appropriate and captivated the students' attention.”

“Engaging activities/games at the students’ ability level about Manitoba and outdoors. It was great to see some real excitement about exploring their environment and the world around them.”

“The students loved to move around and be outside.”

“I feel the information was relevant. It was interesting, it allowed for questions, reflections... It allows for children to make informed decisions about their environment.”

“Excellent description and interactive nature of animals that stay, fly away or hibernate. Students loved looking for prints and they used this knowledge when we went to Birds Hill park the following day.”

“The students loved to move around and be outside.”

“My students loved our workshops with CPAWS. They were engaged and participated throughout the duration of the workshop. Even through remote learning, Avery offered a virtual program which she made interesting, engaging and fun for my students. She got them moving with games and activities that were informative. I would love to see this programming secure funding. I think this is a great opportunity for both the students and teachers. Through covid, having guests in the school wasn’t permitted and going on field trips was very difficult. This program offered all their programs outdoors which created a sense of going on "field trip" but did not have to leave the school.”
Environmental After School Program
feedback from parents

CPAWS Manitoba Environmental After School Program
The CPAWS Manitoba Environmental After School Program was launched in May 2022 at three schools in Winnipeg: Montrose School, Ecole Constable Edward Finney and Windsor School. Seven more schools hosted the program in the fall.

Students spend 90 minutes playing games and learning about Manitoba’s animals, plants, climate, trees, soil and more in their school yards. The six-week outdoor program incorporates inquiry and exploration-based learning, stations, group games, and crafts for students to take home.

Here is some feedback from parents:

- "I was hoping to foster a love of nature in my child. This was absolutely achieved!"
- "Great program and hopefully it will be available each year!"
- "I feel children need to be well rounded. I was excited to see something not sports driven offered."
- "The after school model is so convenient. I was really impressed that the kids were learning skills like water testing, as well."
- My daughter has autism. I appreciate Avery helping and supporting about my daughter’s condition. Thanks to her thoughtful and inclusive attitude, my whole family are glad for this program.

What their children enjoyed:

- "Staying outside in nature, gaming about nature and running on the ground."
- "Growing plants and crafts."
- "Everything, he loved it."
- She loves it and has been asking if I can enroll her in more CPAWS!
- She was very reluctant to participate in any extracurriculars (perhaps a pandemic relic), so I was so relieved when she embraced the program.

Learn more at cpawsmmb.org
CPAWS Manitoba is grateful to the following organizations and agencies for supporting the Outdoor Learning Program since its inception in 2020.

Learn more at cpaawsmmb.org