

CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDS NATIONAL PARK



ABOUT THE PARK:

The headlands and cliffs of Cape Breton Highland tower over the rich, natural heritage that is all around. Home to the famous Cabot Trail, the land is blessed with spectacular scenery, abundant wildlife and a human history that stretches back to the last Ice Age. The park offers many accessible treasures and experiences remarkable in their diversity, beauty, and wonder.

HOW TO BOOK A VISIT:

To book a visit, call 902-224-2306 or email Marie.Stradeski@pc.gc.ca.

THE PROGRAM: LAKE SAFARI

The Lake Safari program is an onsite field trip for Cape Breton students in the fall to one of Cape Breton Highlands National Park's many lake ecosystems. The interpretive program allows students to get up close and personal with some of the many inhabitants of these freshwater ecosystems. Students learn the importance of freshwater environments and how Parks Canada monitors the health of this ecosystem. The program was based around the C.A.B.I.N. freshwater monitoring protocol and focused on ecosystem health and interactions between biotic and abiotic factors. The highlight and focal point of this program is the use of kick nets and the study of benthic invertebrates, to which many students have little exposure. Benthic invertebrates allow us to explore many different subjects such as: ecosystem health based on the tolerance to pollution of various aquatic species, freshwater food chains and webs, ecosystem connection, insect life cycles, and the importance of healthy freshwater ecosystems in maintaining ecological integrity.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS:

Grade 8 Science

- 311-8: Analyse factors that affect productivity and species distribution in marine and fresh water environments
- 432: Be sensitive and responsible in maintaining a balance between the needs of humans and a sustainable environment.



Parks Canada
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