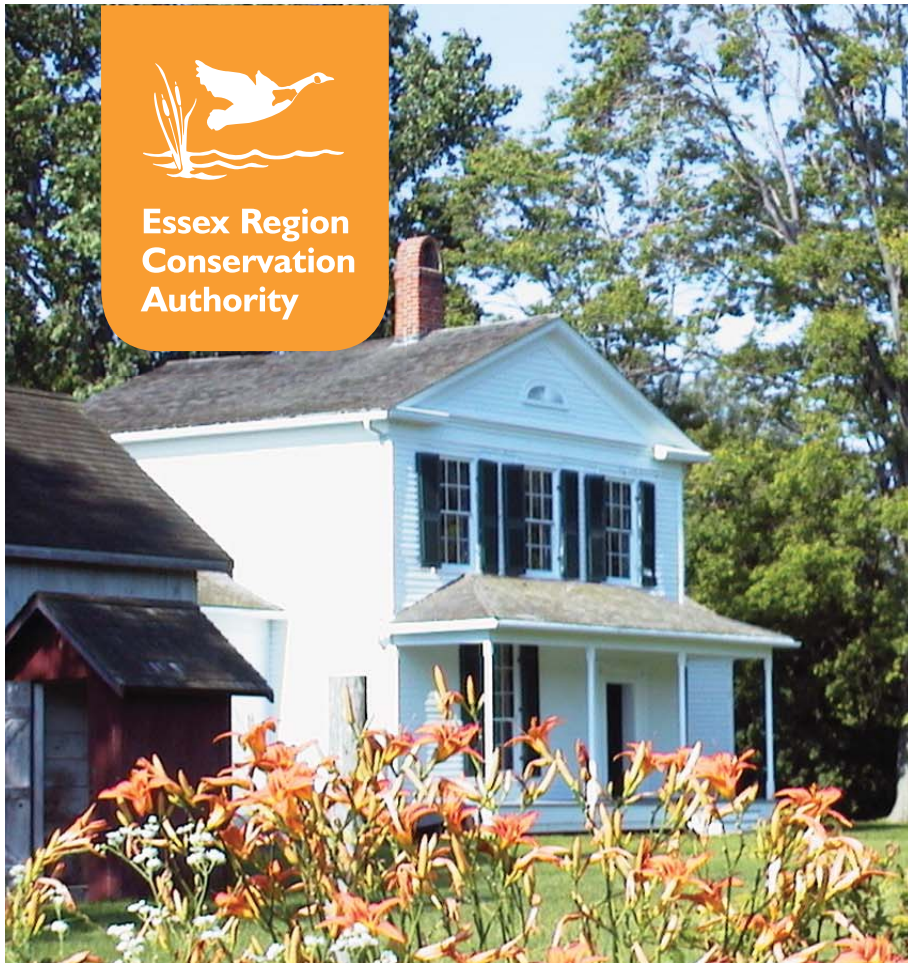




Essex Region
Conservation
Authority



John R. Park Homestead Conservation Area Education Programs 2011 / 2012

Unlike most museums, we change our programs seasonally ensuring that each visit is unique. The Park Family's house, barns, working kitchen and forge take you back to the mid 1800s. Visit the changing exhibit areas, gift shop and the modern visitor centre with auditorium and washrooms. The nineteen acre Conservation Area also features a shaded picnic area, lakeshore boardwalk and nature trail. Indoor lunch rooms are available in case of bad weather. Bring your class to the Homestead to experience our local heritage in an enjoyable hands-on program. Programs are conducted by trained museum staff in period costumes. Our activities are tailored to fit the Ontario Curriculum for Science, Social Studies, History and Geography.

Pioneer Participation

Time 2 hrs, Max 90 students. **Year-round.** Choose one hands-on activity for a 1/2 day program or 3 for a full day: fireplace cooking, butter making, candle dipping, black-smithing, woodworking, weaving or 19th century games.

Early Technologies - Grade 5

Time: 2 hrs, Max 90 students. **Year-round.** A visit to the Homestead illustrates how early civilizations used basic technologies to produce food, clothing and shelter. Try spinning, weaving, farm chores and wood working.

Great Lakes Shipping - Grade 6

Year-round. Schooners & Steamers - Learn about life on the Great Lakes. Communicate with Semaphore and Morse code. Try your hand at rigging and more. Examine the lucrative international trade business of the Parks.

Holiday Celebrations

Time: 2 hrs, Max 90 students. Note: *May be combined with Pioneer Participation to make a full day visit.* Make popcorn and gingerbread cookies on the fireplace, craft an old-fashioned paper ornament, learn about winter travel and keeping warm. Compare past & present celebrations, with an emphasis on diversity. Gr K-2 students view a puppet show. Grades 3 & up see a movie about holidays in a pioneer settlement.

Maple Syrup - the First Taste of Spring!

Time: 1.5 hrs, Max 90 students.

Mid-February - March. Celebrate local traditional methods of maple sugaring from pioneer and Aboriginal Peoples. 'Cabane à Sucre' and Francophone culture can also be emphasized.

Food from the Maple

Time: 1.5 hrs, Max 90 students.

Mid-February - March.

Note: this program is only offered in conjunction with the Maple Syrup program to make a full day visit.

Growth & changes of the maple tree and its role as food for wildlife. Make a plant press and take part in a Food Web game.

Wetlands Life Cycles

Time 2 hrs, Max 90 students. **May-June.**

Dip-net in Fox Creek, a Provincially Significant Wetland, for water life. Walk along the beach and nature trail to learn about flora and fauna. Play Water Cycle and Food Web games. See a nature slide show.

Spring Tonic

Time 2 hrs, Max 90 students. **April-May.**

Celebrate the arrival of spring! Learn about local traditional food, clothing and plants for pioneers; help plant the garden and lend a hand at spring cleaning in the 1842 house.

ADVANCED RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Half-Day Programs (1.5 - 2 hours)

Cost: \$125.00 per group -
Max 30 students per group, up to 3 groups (90 students)

Full-Day Programs (4 hours)

Cost: \$225.00 per group.
Max 30 students per group, up to 3 groups (90 students)

One adult supervisor admitted free for every 5 children. Additional adults will be charged. Payment must be made on the day of your trip. Payments not received on the day of your trip will be subject to an invoicing fee.

For more information about this program contact us at:

519-776-5209 or email: jrph@erca.org



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