Grade Six Trip to the Canadian Museum of Nature

Craig Beckett

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| **Description:** The Canadian Museum of NatureIt’s the “castle” museum in Ottawa and has been newly renovated. | Location:240 McLeod Street, Ottawa, OntarioAt the corner of McLeod and Metcalfe. |
| **connection to curriculum expectations** | **UNDERSTANDING LIFE SYSTEMS BIODIVERSITY**1. Assess human impacts on biodiversity, and identify ways of preserving biodiversity;2. Investigate the characteristics of living things, and classify diverse organisms accordingto specific characteristics;3. Demonstrate an understanding of biodiversity, its contributions to the stability of natural systems, and its benefits to humans. |
| **description of the program available** | Our Biodiversity “This workshop allows students to discover the importance of biodiversity in a specific habitat through a variety of hands-on activities and scientific questioning. Students examine real preserved specimens of fish found in the Rideau River and learn how to use a dichotomous key to identify them. They work in teams to analyze data collected from Museum researchers and using the scientific method they assess the health of the Rideau River. They examine human impacts on biodiversity, and identify ways to preserve the biodiversity in this local ecosystem.” Lots more here including pre and post assessment here:http://nature.ca/education/mus/ws/wbio\_e.cfm |
| **duration of the program** | 50 minutes |
| **cost involved** | Admission $6 per student  | Bus Approx $20-30 per student (This is the killer for rural schools) |
| **Considerations** | * Will the students have time to see other collections?
* Lunch for students
* The short duration of the workshop is this a part of a ½ day field trip or do the students do something else:
	+ Like skate on the canal etc afterwards—helmets and other safety considerations here)
	+ Go to the Aviation Museum to address the Flight Strand in the curriculum
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