

# COEL

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CENTRE FOR OUTDOOR EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP

*Live, Learn, Experience & Enjoy A Life Outdoors!*



**TEACHER INFORMATION  
PACKAGE FOR THE SPRING AND  
FALL SEASON**



## The COEL @ Davern - An Introduction

We are thrilled to have the opportunity to introduce you to our centre. COEL is located in Maberly, Ontario at Camp Davern. Situated in the heart of a natural Ontario landscape, we believe in providing exceptional outdoor experiences for youth and adults across Ontario.

The opportunity for students to learn outside is more relevant today than it has ever been. At COEL, we value the opportunity to help students explore, learn and grow in nature. Supporting each child's individual growth is critical to us and underlines our learning landscape of "Challenge By Choice". A supportive and welcoming community is by far our most effective tool and we are confident that the effects of participation in our programs will have a lasting impact on your students.

At The COEL @ Davern, students are encouraged to take safe risks, challenge themselves, try new things, but most of all, they are encouraged to support each other along the way. With a wide range of recreational and educational opportunities, COEL is an ideal t to explore outside.



**"An environment-based education movement—at all levels of education—will help students realize that school isn't supposed to be a polite form of incarceration, but a portal to the wider world."**

— Richard Louv, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder*

At The COEL @ Davern Leadership Centre, we are committed to providing children with skills that will carry them forward in life.

## Our Site

Exceptional programming always starts with an exceptional foundation. Our site is one of the greatest foundations possible to begin building your students experience from. The COEL @ Davern Leadership Centre is situated on over 150 acres of stunning property on beautiful Davern Lake. This property is secure, remote and natural. The diverse land, forests and waterfront are the backdrop we use to provide exceptional programs. Our clear maps and well marked paths allow us to make use of the environment while keeping kids familiar with their surroundings.

## Our Location

The COEL @ Davern is located in Maberly, Ontario. Our site is only 1 hour from Kingston and Ottawa, and approximately 3.5 hours from Toronto. Our site while remote, is 10 minutes to Perth Ontario for EMS services.





**"I like this place and could willingly waste my time in it."  
— William Shakespeare**

### **Our Cabins**

Our cabins are a perfect combination of rustic living with the comforts of home. All cabins sleep up to 10 students in bunk bed style accommodation. Each cabin is equipped with enough storage spaces and comfortable camp mattresses to ensure a comfortable stay to all students. While at The COEL @ Davern Leadership Centre, students have access to washroom facilities located in each cabin loop.

### **Our Washrooms & Showers**

Located centrally both cabin loops, our flush toilet washroom facilities are simple clean and private. Our shower house is situated in the main camp area and is equipped with hot and cold water.

While the showers are available for students to use, there are specific times when schools have access to them and we ask that students be limited to 1 shower per 2 night visit.

In addition to washroom facilities, throughout Camp Davern there are outhouses for kids to access should they be on a hike or a far walk from main camp.



### **Our Food Service**

At COEL we are well aware of the importance of food to a successful experience. For this reason, we put great emphasis on the food service we provide. While at our Centre, students receive three impressive meals each day and a nightly snack. Breakfast is two courses (cold and hot) cold is typically cereal followed by hot. Lunch and dinner are served family style or as a BBQ and with salad or salad bar:

<b>Breakfast -</b>	<b>Pancakes &amp; Sausage Bagels &amp; Yogurt</b>	<b>Eggs &amp; Bacon Waffles &amp; Ham</b>	<b>Breakfast Burritos Oatmeal Bar</b>
<b>Lunch -</b>	<b>Make your own Sandwich Chicken Burgers</b>	<b>Chicken Caesar Wraps Mac &amp; Cheese</b>	<b>Loaded Potatoes Grilled Cheese</b>
<b>Dinner -</b>	<b>Spaghetti &amp; Meatballs Lasagna &amp; Garlic Bread</b>	<b>Chicken Pangoa Rice BBQ Burger Buffet</b>	<b>Chicken Alfredo Shepherds Pie</b>

In addition to the great tasting food, we are also proud to support food allergies and eating restrictions. We are a nut sensitive site and provide vegetarian options at each meal. The food service staff will work through any specialized needs your students may have and do our best to support all special diets. Please let us know if you have any questions pertaining to food.

**"The lessons we learn outside the classroom are equally if not more important than the ones we learn inside. I can't emphasize this enough. We learn how to live life, the most important lesson of all."**



**"When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world."**

**- John Muir**

## ***Our Staff Team make the Difference!***

The staff at The COEL @ Davern are individuals who thrive in our environment. Most of our staff have been with our organization for many years as campers, leaders and staff in the summer camp program we run on the facility.

Our team members are mature and responsible leaders who have a specific focus in youth, education and recreation. All staff members hold minimum qualifications of First Aid and CPR. Staff working within our programming areas are trained and certified in those areas.

The COEL @ Davern staffs all waterfront areas with life guards who hold a current NLS certification (National Lifeguard Service). Our water safety and supervision is at a level consistent with municipal pools. As a result, if requested, we are also able to provide schools with swim tests upon arrival to ensure students are appropriately evaluated and cleared for water related activities.

## ***Teacher / Centre Responsibilities***



At COEL we work together with teachers to ensure the program is ideal for their students. The opportunity to learn outside is often rare for teachers, so we strive to ensure there is a platform for them to have meaningful interactions with students. During programming times, our staff work diligently to keep students engaged, providing teachers with the flexibility to move around the facility and support programs as they see fit.

There are some transitions in the day where we do require teachers to supervise students. These transition times allow our staff to properly prepare for the next series of activities. Teacher responsibilities while at the centre are as follows:

- Attend a meeting upon arrival with your appointed group coordinator to review the program
- Ensure Students arrive at the meeting spot at the end of any unstructured time
- Deal with all discipline issues pertaining to students
- Have an emergency vehicle on site and be responsible for any emergency/medical runs that occur
- Supervise wake up, transition time between programs, bedtime and free time.
- Have fun, engage, relax and enjoy our little slice of paradise

## ***Our Commitment to you in Preparation***

Planning a trip can be a challenge and requires teachers to spend hours organizing. We are committed to helping you in what ever way we can. COEL offers schools the option of having one of our staff attend your school to host a parent night/class visit. We have the paperwork and information you will require to plan your trip in our teacher coordinator guide. Our main goal is to make planning this trip as easy and stress free as possible.

# Schedule @ A Glance

## Our 3 Day Program

Time	First Day	Second Day	Third Day
7:15am		Morning Wake up bell	Morning Wake up bell
7:30am		Morning Swim/Perk Up Program	Morning Swim/Perk Up Program
8am		Meet at the Flagpole	Meet at the Flagpole
8:15am		Breakfast	Breakfast
9:30am		Group Meeting Spot	Pack up / Meet up
9:45am		Program Selection #3	Teacher Choice #1
11am	Arrival/Welcome	Program Selection #4	Teacher Choice #2
12:15pm	Orientation/Engagement Activity	Lunch	Lunch
1pm	Bagged Lunch / Program Pre	Down Time / Rest Hour	Departure
2pm	Program Selection #1	Program Selection #5	
3:30pm	Program Selection @2	Program Selection #6	
4:45pm	Student Time / Free Swim	Student Time / Free Swim	
5:15pm	Dinner	Dinner	
7pm	Evening Program	Evening Program	
8:30pm	Campfire and Reflection	Campfire or Talent Night	
9:30pm	Snack	Snack	
10pm	Students to Cabins for night	Students to Cabins for night	

"Nature is not a place to visit. It is home."  
 — Gary Snyder

## Our 4 Day Program

Time	First Day	Second Day	Third Day	
7:15am		Morning Wake up bell	Morning Wake up bell	Morning Wake up bell
7:30am		Morning Swim/Perk Up Program	Morning Swim/Perk Up Program	Morning Swim/Perk Up Program
8am		Meet at the Flagpole	Meet at the Flagpole	Meet at the Flagpole
8:15am		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9:30am		Group Meeting Spot	Group Meeting Spot	Pack up / Meet up
9:45am		Program Selection #3	Program Selection #7	Teacher Choice #1
11am		Program Selection #4	Program Selection #8	Teacher Choice #2
12:15pm	Arrival/Welcome/Engagement Activity	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1pm	Bagged Lunch / Stay Overview	Down Time / Rest Hour	Down Time / Rest Hour	Departure
2pm	Program Selection #1	Program Selection #5	Theme Based Afternoon focussing on: Team Building Environmental Stewardship Olympic Challenge School Specific  Dinner (5:15pm)	
3:30pm	Program Selection @2	Program Selection #6		
4:45pm	Student Time / Free Swim	Student Time / Free Swim		
5:15pm	Dinner	Dinner		
7pm	Evening Program	Evening Program		
8:30pm	Campfire and Reflection	Campfire or Talent Night	Campfire or Talent Night	
9:30pm	Snack	Snack	Snack	
10pm	Students to Cabins for night	Students to Cabins for night	Students to Cabins for night	

Please Note: While these programs are to offer teachers a guideline of what is typical, we also love working with schools to tailor a program to exactly what they need.

# Programs at a Glance...

Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.

- John F. Kennedy

## Archery

A popular pick among students young and old, kids are able to experience the thrill of string, knocking and firing at various targets in the archery range.

## Arts & Crafts

An opportunity to explore their creative side, students are presented with options to make one of 6 crafts. From weaving to wind chimes, this program is a great way to focus on individual success as kids move at their own pace.

## Canoeing

Sometimes thrill seeking is over rated. This program brings kids back to the roots of transportation across the water. With our main focus on simply getting into the boat and experimenting, this program presents students with the basic skills and knowledge to effectively navigate their boat.

## Nature Discovery

At Discovery students have an opportunity to learn about the world around them. Taking place in our diverse ecosystem, they will examine the landscapes of our site, investigating tree species, animal life in the area and the environment.

## Dramatic Arts

Through their participation in various different activities and challenges, students will have the opportunity to participate in dramatic games, improvisation and performance.

## Rhythm & Drumming

Through the use of listening, communication and teamwork, students are challenged to engage with each other in the creation of sound through use of Djembe drums and a wide range of percussion instruments.

## Rafting

Rafting is a dynamic program that requires strategic thought and planning prior as well as the ability to convert

concept into reality. Working with your ship crew, teams create a raft, and then present it to the full group. Groups can choose to end the program with a recreational race between raft creations.

## GeoCaching

Located not too far from Wilberforce, Canada's GeoCach Capital, this program teaches kids about orienteering by use of GPS. Modern meets traditional in this program. Students will travel throughout the property discovering the various caches hidden around. With a focus on coordinates and routing, GeoCaching is a relevant instructional program in modern times. (We also offers traditional Orienteering)

## Trails & Hikes

As part of a mindfulness focus, our instructor facilitated hikes take participants into the woods on supervised treks that vary by skill and distance. Throughout each hike, instructors program breaks for discussion, appreciation and reflection.

## Kayaking

Be the skipper of your very own boat. Kayaking is one of the most popular water based programs offered. Here, students have the opportunity to learn paddle techniques and experience life on the water. They will engage in balancing techniques and challenges, and will be given the opportunity to explore essential skills such as how to complete a wet exit from their kayak.

## Leadership

This program focusses on the ideas behind great leadership. Students will discuss what makes a good leader and examine various leadership styles. They will have the opportunity to evaluate styles, work with each other to determine what kind of leader they are and experience leadership first hand through activity work.

## Mould, Level & Build

Making use of one of our greatest assets, this program offers a hands on

instruction to students about maple syrup, its role in Canadian history and how to make maple this sweet gold. Kids will not only have the opportunity to boil it but they will also get the chance to taste it!

## Outdoor Survival Skills (OSS)

This interactive program focusses on teaching students the basics of surviving in the wilderness. Shelter building, fire making and cooking are just three possible components to this program. OSS can be offered for multiple periods for groups who have a keen interest in this area.

## Ropes, Initiatives & Wall

Through the use of our high ropes course, our climbing wall and our low ropes program areas, students are challenged to accomplish elements that require the use of teamwork for success. All students are engaged in the participation and supervision of elements as they play roles in the spotting & safety of their peers.

## Sport

A popular pastime for everyone, Sport is a land based program that focusses on cooperation, team play and friendly competition. Through non traditional sporting challenges, students are active, energized and engaged.

## Team Building

Designed to develop positive group dynamics, this program is perfect for teams and classes who struggle to get along. Through the development of goal setting, cooperation, problem solving and constructive communication, effective team dynamic's are born. This program can be offered for multiple periods for groups with a keen focus in this area.

## Lego Leadership

An innovative way to engage students in cooperative team play. Broken into small working groups, students are challenged to accomplish group tasks against the clock.

# Day Groups

A single day can also be fun!

TIME	Adventure
10:00am	Arrival/Welcome/Engagement Activity
11:00am	Program Selection #1
12:30pm	Bagged Lunch/Lunch in Dining Hall
1:30pm	Program Selection #2
3pm	Program Selection #3
4:30pm	Student Free Time
5pm	Dinner
6:30pm	Evening Program
7:30	Optional Campfire
	Schools depart between 7:30 - 9pm



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## Contact Information

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