

Treetrust Programming at Beaver Valley Community School

Students and teachers at the Beaver Valley Community School have recently participated in a series of educational events sponsored by Treetrust.

Perhaps the most dramatic event was a talk about arborist practices – including a live demonstration of high tree canopy climbing – by James Houghton of Arboreal Tree Care Professionals. Grade 7 and 8 students walked over to the Thornbury-Clarksburg Cemetery on a beautiful sunny morning and sat beneath a 100+ year old sugar maple that Treetrust had cared for last year to hear James describe his profession, explain the importance tree care to improve vitality and longevity, and show us how it's done! A big thank you to James for sharing his enthusiasm and knowledge about trees and tree care and to Arboreal Tree Care Professionals for sponsoring this session.



Students in Grades 1, 2 and 3 classes participated in some laughing, singing and learning about trees when Professor Pricklethorn gave a presentation about all things trees (including photosynthesis!). Before his very recent retirement, Professor Pricklethorn was the Parks Supervisor for Toronto Islands and a trained arborist. Over many years, he has managed to fit in trips to Ontario schools to give entertaining, engaging and educational presentations about trees. The Professor continues to give presentations, including his recent visit to the Beaver Valley Community School. Treetrust would like to thank Professor Pricklethorn and the Ontario chapter of the International Association of Arborists for helping us to better appreciate and understand trees (and have some fun too!).

Students in Grades 4 and 5 also learned about trees when Betty Muise of Treetrust stopped by at BVCS to give some presentations about the role of trees as part of habitats, a topic on the Grade 4 curriculum. Even though these presentations didn't include the tree-climbing skills of James Houghton or the entertainment provided by Professor Pricklethorn, the students were enthusiastic and engaged. They offered many great questions and comments about trees in our environment. It looks like our trees will be in good hands in the years to come!

Finally, a big thank you to the teachers at BVCS who helped organize these special events.



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