



Durham District School Board 400 Taunton Road East Whitby, Ontario L1R 2K6 ph: 905-666-5500 1-800-265-3968 TTY: 905-666-6943 fax: 905-666-6318

## **Great Outdoors Eco-Challenge Returns with 150 Species for 150 Years**

## Media Release

**CORRECTION:** April 10, 2017

With Canada turning 150, Canadians from coast to coast to coast will take the opportunity to discover the Great Outdoors. The Durham District School Board (DDSB) is joining the celebration with students participating in the Great Outdoors Eco-Challenge: 150 Species for 150 Years.

This year's theme will celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary by challenging students to identify 150 local species of animals, plants, and insects.

This year, 25 teams of four students per day will meet at the Durham Forest Environmental Education Centre for this annual event. In the morning, individual team members will rotate through stations where they learn different skills from Outdoor Education Staff to help them make connections with the natural world, learn how to reduce their ecological footprint, and spend time in the outdoors in an environmentally sustainable way. In the afternoon, students will share the skills they learned in the morning with their team members at each of the different "challenge stations" they visit.

Event: Great Outdoors Eco-Challenge 150 Species, 150 Years Location: The Durham Forest Environmental Education Centre,

R.R. #4, Con. Road #7, Uxbridge, ON

Date: Thursday, April 20 & Friday, April 21, 2017

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Audience: 100 DDSB Grades 7 and 8 students competing as teams

Preferred Time for Media: 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Afternoon Challenge)

The Durham District School Board is responsible for public education in the rural settings of Uxbridge, Brock and Scugog Townships and the urban settings of Ajax, Whitby, Pickering and Oshawa. The DDSB employs 7,000 teaching and educational services staff. With 131 elementary and secondary schools and learning centres, the DDSB accommodates more than 69,500 regular day students and thousands more who take advantage of a wide variety of continuing education and adult credit courses. More information can be found on the DDSB's website at www.ddsb.ca. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @DurhamDSB and on YouTube at DurhamDSB.

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