

General Information

OPES 9 is a co-education program open to all Grade 9 students enrolled at F.H. Collins High School. Although prior wilderness experience is not a criteria for selection into this program, students should be able to meet the physical demands of the program in remote settings. All outdoor activities and extended field trips are selected with the safety of the students in mind and are appropriate for Grade 9 students who have had little or no prior experience in the outdoors. Class time will be spent preparing students for the extended wilderness trips.

Student Expectations

Class size is limited to 20 students and consideration will be given to students who are trustworthy, conscientious and respectful of others.

- Previous marks are not a criterion for selection.
- Students selecting this program should be committed to participating in the various outdoor and science field trips. Regular attendance is therefore essential.

Program Costs

The cost of the program is **\$250**, which will cover costs associated with wilderness trips and a first aid course.

- Students will also be expected to participate in fund raising efforts to help offset the cost of equipment and transportation for expeditions and field trips.
- Major equipment required for the field trips such as tents, skis, sleds, boats, paddles and PFDs, stoves, etc. will be provided.
- Personal items such as sleeping bags, day packs, water bottles, eating utensils, pocket knife, compass, etc., will be the responsibility of the student.



Student Application for OPES 9

Name: _____

School: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender M or F

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Reasons for applying for OPES 9:

Application

To apply, you need to send your completed application to Wood Street Centre, 411 Wood Street, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2E9. You are encouraged to write an accompanying letter. Admission to the program includes an in-person or phone interview. We will also be contacting teachers at your home school for their recommendations.

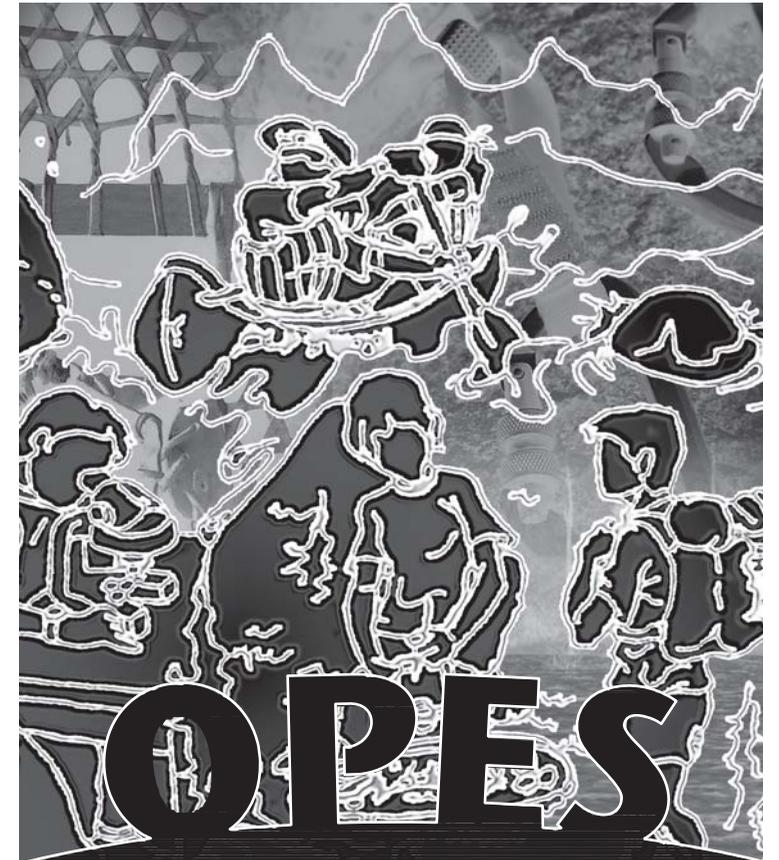
I have read the information provided and support my daughter's/son's application for enrolment into OPES 9.

Parent signature

Student signature

Date

For more information about this program, please call David Benton at Wood Street Centre: 667-8413, or talk to your school counsellor.



Outdoor Pursuits & Experiential Science

Understanding our Environment
through activity and study

*"In wilderness is the
preservation of the world."*
Henry David Thoreau

Yukon
Education

OPES 9 — Outdoor Pursuits & Experiential Science

General Program Description

Outdoor Pursuits and Experiential Science (OPES) offers a “new” approach to learning for Grade 9 students. This integrated program of studies provides students with opportunities in a variety of exciting outdoor pursuits and enriches the regular science curriculum.

The physical education course is complimented with a variety of outdoor activities focused on lifelong learning and active living.

Social studies will be delivered in the classroom, as well as, through field studies. The use of technology and fine arts medium will round out this full semester integrated program.

Goals and Objectives

To encourage and develop:

- self discipline and a strong work ethic
- responsible attitudes in learning
- creative thinking and problem solving skills
- self confidence and self esteem through personal challenges
- greater knowledge and appreciation of the Yukon's natural environment
- a sense of stewardship for our environment
- knowledge and skills related to a variety of outdoor pursuits
- cooperative attitudes and positive peer relations
- leadership skills



The Year Overview

OPES 9 will be offered one semester only. This school within a school program is offered at Wood Street Centre. This facility provides the independence that is necessary to run a successful program. In the alternate semester students will attend regular classes at F. H. Collins High School.

Fall Semester

- English 9
- MATH 9
- French/Athapaskan/Spanish 9
- Fine Arts Elective

OPES Semester

- Science 9
- Social Studies 9
- Physical Education 9
- Outdoor Pursuits 9

Note: Courses may change depending on the strengths of the instructor.

Safety

The safety and well being of the students is always the first and most important consideration when taking students into wilderness settings. Students who display inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour that puts themselves or others at risk may result in removal from the field trip at their own expense and/or removal from the program.



Course Content

Outdoor Pursuits 9

This course will provide students with a wide range of exciting, challenging and rewarding experiences. It will focus on the knowledge and skills related to a variety of outdoor wilderness activities. Topics covered in the course will include: *avalanche awareness, winter camping, canoeing, kayaking, climbing, wilderness survival, wilderness ethics, first aid and CPR training.*

Science & Technology 9

The science curriculum will cover four main themes. Biology will look at asexual and sexual reproduction. Chemistry will introduce elements, compounds and reactions. Electricity and electrical circuits will make up the Physics component. The Astronomy section will cover the solar system and space exploration.

The science 9 curriculum will be enriched through its integration into the various outdoor trips and complimented with a variety of field activities which may include: *geography, marine studies, the environment, alternative energy sources, forestry and fish & wildlife.*

Technology will be integrated into the science curriculum through multimedia projects. Students will be introduced to software applications and will use peripheral tools such as a digital cameras and scanners.

Social Studies 9

The Grade 9 social studies curriculum will focus on nationalism, imperialism, Britain in the 1900s, the French Revolution, the American Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, First Nations in Canada and European settlement in Canada. Geography skills such as map reading will be integrated into the outdoor component.

Physical Education 9

Emphasis will be placed on Active Living and participation in lifelong activities encouraging healthy lifestyles and fitness for fun. Outdoor activities such as aquatics, snowshoeing, skiing, climbing, biking and hiking will be integrated with the field trips and be credited toward the PE mark.