

What's Included: Focus on Nature Online

To help you begin your Focus on Nature Online journey, here is a comprehensive breakdown of our core program for students and resources for teachers.

Lesson Content for Students



All lesson content for students is available in English and French.

Minds On Questions



Each lesson starts with a Minds On Question that prompts students to think critically about lesson topics before watching the video lesson. The purpose of the Minds On Questions is to engage students in the lessons by encouraging them to reflect on their current knowledge, ideas, and personal experiences before completing the lesson.

Video Lessons



Students will learn about various art concepts as they relate to photography. These include:

- Basics on operating their digital camera, including tips and instructions for cell phones and cameras.
- Composition and photography basics
- Detailed lessons on the 7 Elements of Design
- Instructions on using basic photo editing software (Google Photos)

Vocabulary



Important terms and concepts covered in the video lessons are summarized with definitions for students in the vocabulary section. Students are encouraged to review the vocabulary after watching the video lesson.

Photo Challenges



Each lesson is accompanied by a photography challenge that relates to that lesson. These challenges encourage students to apply specific concepts they learned in each lesson by taking photos of nature around their house, backyard, and in their neighbourhoods.

Check Ins



After watching the video and completing the Photo Challenge for each lesson, students will complete short “Check Ins” to check their understanding. These Check Ins include questions to assess comprehension and short writing prompts for students to reflect on their artwork and apply the concepts they learned in the video lessons.

Resources for Teachers



In the Teacher's Lounge, teachers have access to a variety of resources to make Focus on Nature Online a success for their class. Here is a breakdown of what you will find in the Teachers Lounge.

[Check In Answer Keys](#)



Check In Answer Keys are provided to guide teachers when giving feedback to students on their Check Ins. Correct answers to comprehension questions are provided, as well as recommended responses to reflection questions.

- We recommend using the Check Ins as a learning tool and marking the cumulative project at the end of the lessons to go towards the students' visual art grade.

[Student Reporting](#)



A summary of students' responses to the Check In Questions are found in the Student Reporting section.

Cumulative Project



The cumulative project is intended as a summary and display of what the students have learned over the course of the entire program. Students will create a slideshow showcasing their work and communicate how their artwork represents the 7 Elements of Design. Detailed instructions for teachers, students, and example projects are provided for each grade, as well as suggestions for marking.

Extension Activities



Teachers have access to a variety of recommended extension activities they can choose to implement with their class. These activities are based on the Ontario Arts, Math, Science, Language, and Physical Education curricula, and encourage students to make ties between their artwork and various curriculum concepts.

Curriculum Connections

Charts:



Here you will find a detailed breakdown of how the Focus on Nature Online program ties into the Ontario curriculum for each grade, as well as an overview of each lesson and extension activities. Similar documents are currently being created for the remaining provinces and territories in Canada, and will be uploaded soon.

Additional Resources:



Videos, articles, and other resources relating to the course, photography, learning from home, and extension activities are provided under the Additional Resources section. Teachers are welcome to share these resources with their class and use them as supplemental materials as they see fit.

[Share an Idea](#)



Teachers are encouraged to share an idea, activity, or additional resource with us in the Share an Idea section. We appreciate any input or ideas you may have for our online program!

[Getting Help](#)



Teachers can submit a question or concern to our team through our Getting Help section regarding program content, technical issues, adding or removing student accounts, billing and payment, and any other concerns you may have. One of our team members will get back to you as soon as possible.