

NEWSLETTER

SCIENCE LITERACY



Christie Lake Kids Makes Science Literacy a Priority

As part of our ongoing work with children and youth, Christie Lake Kids endeavours to infuse our activities with educational components, in a fun and engaging way. For example, emphasizing teamwork on the basketball court gets kids thinking about empathy and cooperation. In our cooking programs, math skills are sharpened in delicious ways. Another key focus area for us this year is Science Literacy. We have prioritized STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) activities in our after-school programs and in activities that take place at camp during weekend programs during the school year and at our amazing summer camp.

Christie Lake Kids programs aim to showcase hands-on activities to make science relevant and interesting.



Earlier this month, CLK was excited participate in Science Literacy Week, with many of our programs highlighting ecology and earth science. Our programs aim to showcase hands-on activities to make science relevant and interesting. These are the keys to promoting science literacy amongst children and youth. With our years of experience in this area, CLK has developed some great program activities, which are geared to a child's interests as well as being tied to the school-based curricula.



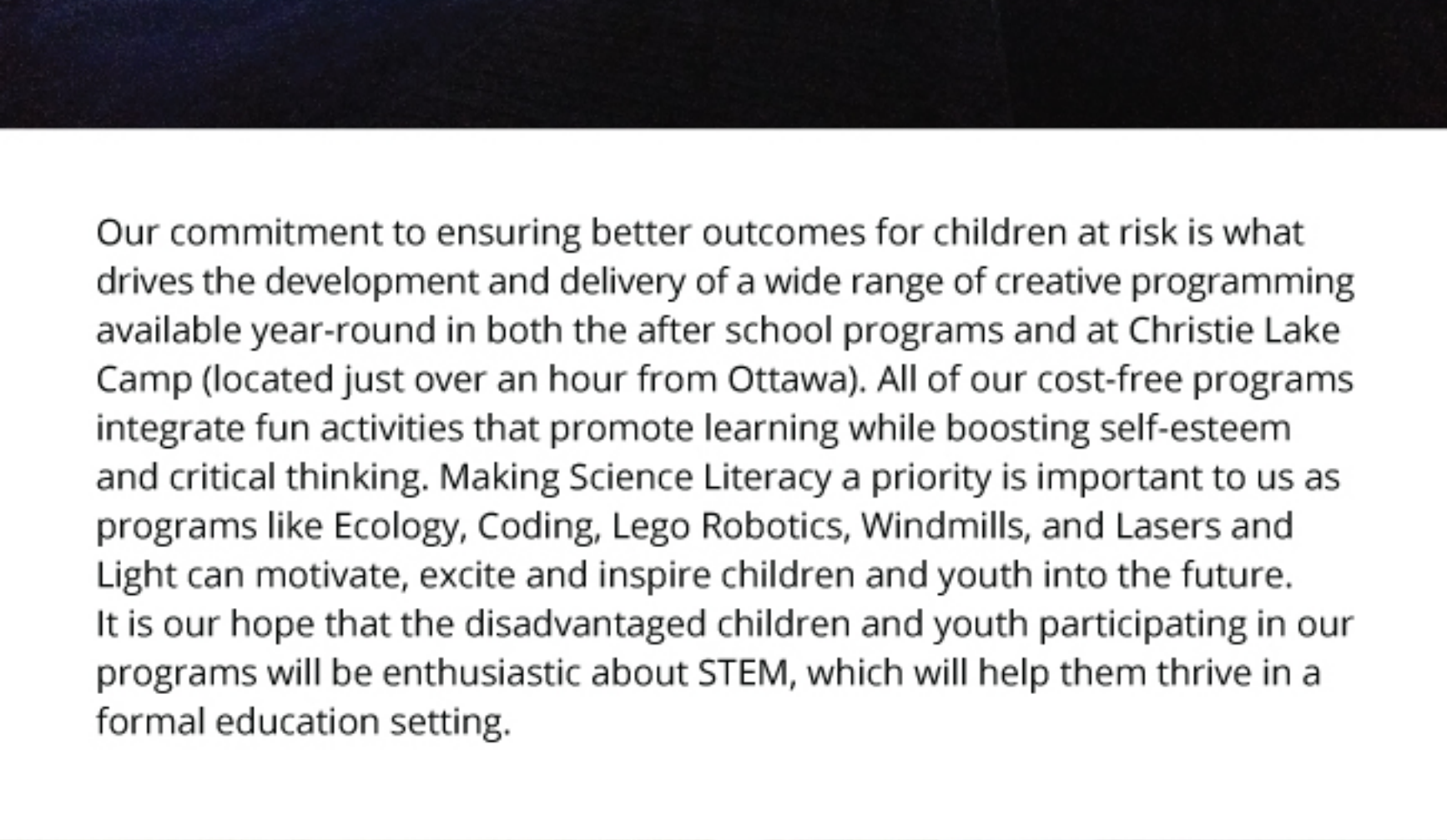
Children ages 8 – 12 enjoy our Naturelore program during the summer months, which sees over 100 campers each session complete a 12-hour ecology program. Over the course of the summer, more than 300 campers get to experience this program, which includes six badge levels including 5 base badges and a Junior Instructor Badge for our oldest campers. Our badge system begins with our youngest campers, where they learn about the basics of ecology (types of local plants/animals, basics of habitat protection, weather patterns and more). As the levels progress, campers play games and complete activities that relate to local ecosystems, including lots of experiential learning in the forest and waterfront areas at camp. Activities include nature hikes, habitat identification, creek studies, campfire science, planning ways to reduce waste at camp/home/school, considering ways to protect endangered species, etc. The hands-on, interactive nature of these programs makes them particularly appealing to this age group and sets them up well for greater success in science and other academic areas at school.

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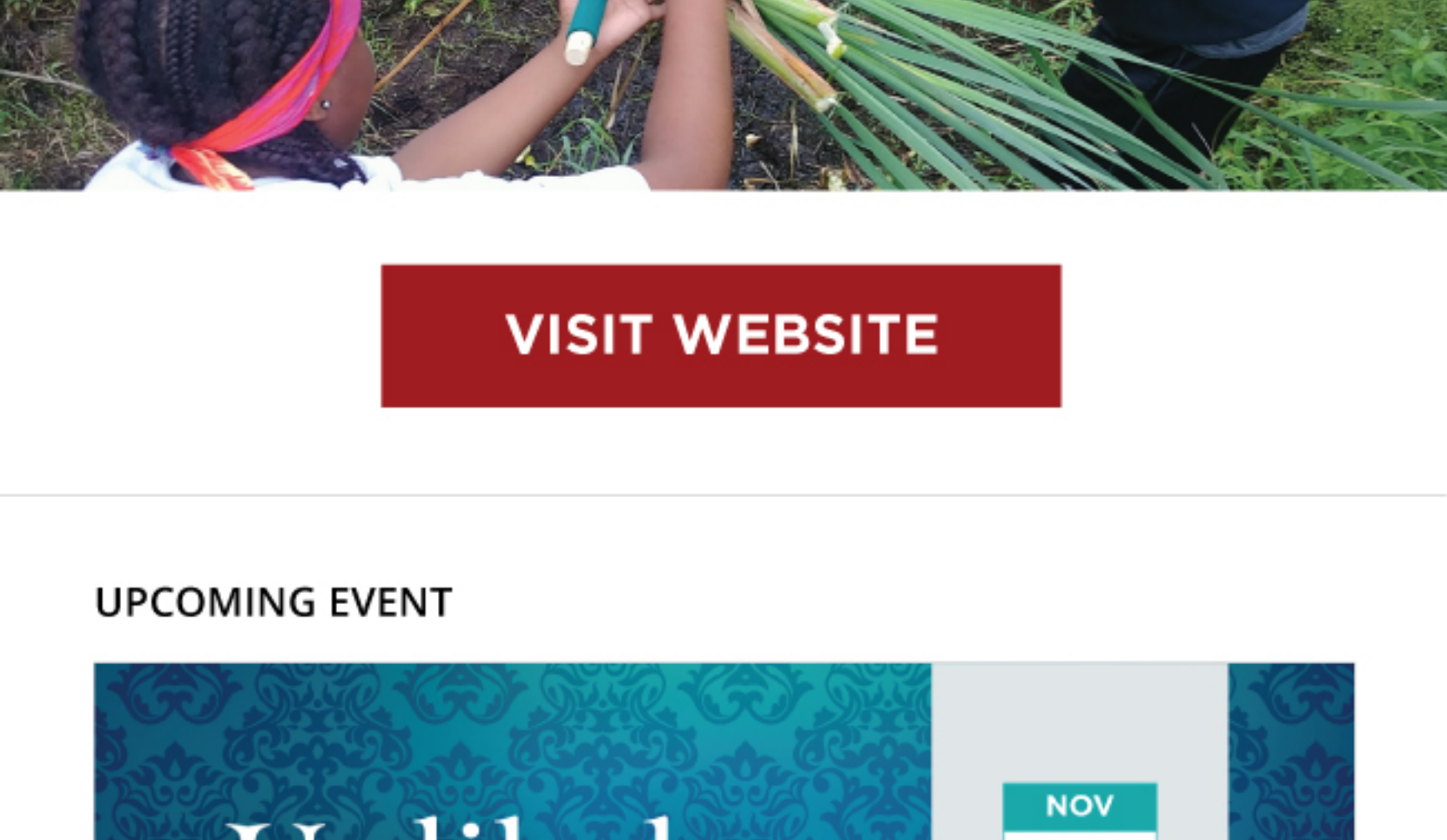


For our older youth, our Leaders in Training (LIT) pathway offers a unique chance to dive deeper into the world of ecology and earth science. In our Eco-Leaders program, we host 40 campers per summer. These Eco-Leaders live and learn at the Hydro Ottawa Sustainable Youth Leadership Centre, located on Belle Island on Christie Lake. The Centre, dubbed Sustainable Island, features a completely solar-powered setup including washrooms, showers, refrigeration, lighting, etc. The setting allows for a richer understanding of alternate power sources and sustainable technologies, including a human-powered pump and a gravity-pressurized water system that draws water from the lake to a water tower.

It is our hope that the disadvantaged children and youth participating in our programs will be enthusiastic about STEM, which will help them thrive in a formal education setting



Our commitment to ensuring better outcomes for children at risk is what drives the development and delivery of a wide range of creative programming available year-round in both the after school programs and at Christie Lake Camp (located just over an hour from Ottawa). All of our cost-free programs integrate fun activities that promote learning while boosting self-esteem and critical thinking. Making Science Literacy a priority is important to us as programs like Ecology, Coding, Lego Robotics, Windmills, and Lasers and Light can motivate, excite and inspire children and youth into the future. It is our hope that the disadvantaged children and youth participating in our programs will be enthusiastic about STEM, which will help them thrive in a formal education setting.



VISIT WEBSITE

UPCOMING EVENT



On Thursday November 8th, the Taggart Parkes Foundation will present An Unlikely Pairing: Adventures in Food Trucks and Fine Wines in support of Christie Lake Kids. Last year we raised \$120,000 at this amazing sold out event and this year we aim to raise even more for the kids we support! This year the food truck eats will be paired perfectly with some rare wines from around the world.

[Learn More...](#)