



*Species-At-
Risk Education
Kit*

Species-At-Risk Education Kit



Our mission

“to celebrate, conserve and protect New Brunswick’s natural heritage, through education, networking and collaboration.”

About Nature NB

Nature NB (formerly The NB Federation of Naturalists) was founded in 1972: “to encourage a better understanding of the natural environment and to awaken concern towards our province’s natural heritage”. The organization has been a major proponent of natural areas in New Brunswick for over 20 years. The organization is presently comprised of over 12 naturalist clubs with active science experts from across the province. Nature NB also has hundreds of individual members.

Our province’s naturalists bring a unique perspective to the environmental and conservation movement. The prime passion of most naturalists is the observation of nature with a strong emphasis on observation and specific knowledge of species. With their experience and perspective, naturalists have witnessed many of New Brunswick’s conservation problems first hand. The NB naturalist’s community has been actively involved, mostly on a volunteer level, with many issues concerning natural areas and species-at-risk. A special committee of Nature NB, with leadership from the Species at Risk program at all stages, chose endangered species in our province as the focus of this kit.

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- Biologists and educators, **Roland Chiasson**, **Sabine Dietz**, **Carole LeBlanc** and **Lewnanny Richardson**, Piper Project/Projet siffleur/ NBFN
- Species-at-Risk biologist, **Diane Amirault** of the Canadian Wildlife Service, Sackville, NB
- Eco-centre director and biologist, **Géraldine Arsenault**, La dune de Bouctouche
- Naturalist and educator, **Rose-Alma Mallet**, Association des naturalists de la baie de Bouctouche
- Curriculum consultants, **Mark Holland** and **Pierre Plourde**, Department of Education

The curriculum links in the Species-At-Risk Education Kit are taken from the New Brunswick grade 7 Science curriculum guide. This education kit would not have been completed without the very important contribution of many people. Naturalists **Reggie Webster** and **Richard Blacquiere**, NB Museum staff **Donald McAlpine** and **David Clark** and **Judy Loo** kindly assisted with the review of the kit. Nature NB would also like to thank School District 9, of the Acadian Peninsula, especially **Bernard St-Pierre**, Science curriculum supervisor, who conducted a pilot of this education kit in conjunction with educators from the Piper Project. A special thanks goes to the following teachers for letting us use their classrooms to test the kit: **Henri Poirier**, **Bertrand Brideau**, **Jeanne d'Arc Millot**, **Nicole Arsenault**, **Cécile Robichaud** and **Cécile Larocque**.

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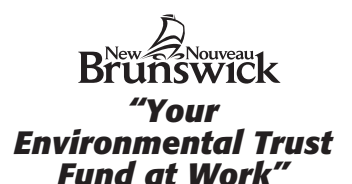
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The kit was edited by **Alison Hughes**, writer and photographer, Chamcook, NB. Translation of the Species-At-Risk Education Kit was done by **Ronald Fournier**, Glassville, NB.

Kit layout and design are by DPG Communication, Caraquet NB.

This kit was reviewed in 2009 by Vanessa Roy-McDougall and Roland Chiasson of Nature NB.



Introduction to the Species-At-Risk Education Kit

The NB Species-At-Risk Education Kit is written primarily for teachers in the province. The NB Federation of Naturalists believes that it is important for teachers and students to learn more about our endangered species and habitats. The kit is an extensive source of authoritative information and hands-on, classroom-ready activities and lesson plans for teachers and students and is keyed to the NB curriculum for grade 7. Kits are also available for the grade 4 level, and most of the activities can be adapted to all other grades, up to the high school level. Through cross-curricular themes, educators and students will learn about the impact of disappearing habitats on flora and fauna. The Species-At-Risk Kit will suggest realistic ways that people can make a positive difference, as well as fulfilling outcomes in the science curriculum.

How To Use This Kit

The kit and the activities are organized for easy use by teachers. Start by reading the background information for any class activity. Whether you do a few activities or all of them, you will probably find it easier to use the worksheets like a workbook. Copy them and hand them out to provide the students with instructions for the activities, questions to research and think about, interesting facts to read, and ideas for things they can do to help wildlife. As suggested in "Helpful Habits", wherever possible try to reduce paper use by double-siding copies and encouraging sharing.

Educator's Guidelines

Accounting for Differing Learning Styles in Children

Children learn in a variety of ways. David A. Kolb, who developed the Experiential Learning Theory, introduces the four different learning styles of the experiential learner. Another learning style theory was created by Howard Gardner, who developed the concept of multiple intelligences. The Species-At-Risk Education Kit provides well-rounded activities that cater to a diversity of learning styles. The range of learning styles in a classroom is an example of natural diversity; therefore the application of different teaching approaches in the activities is an exercise in respecting diversity.

Curriculum Links

The activities contained in the Species-At-Risk Education Kit are referenced to the Atlantic Science Curriculum, Common Front Matter, January 2001. The Atlantic Canadian Science curriculum is consistent with the science framework described in the Pan-Canadian Common Framework of Science Learning Outcomes K to 12. This kit tries to reflect and support the goal of science education in the Atlantic Provinces, to develop scientific literacy. Specific curriculum links with the Species-At-Risk Education Kit are outlined in Appendix 1.