

August 29th, 2023

**SKUNKS, AND BEAVERS, AND BATS, OH MY!
CALGARY WILDLIFE REHABILITATION SOCIETY LAUNCHES
A BRAND-NEW CURRICULUM ALL ABOUT URBAN WILDLIFE.**

 **SKUNK FOOD**



HELLO!

I am *Myotis lucifugus*, a little brown bat!

Let's be good neighbours.
My insectivorous diet might come in handy!



Built to Build

Wild Wise: Beavers


@CalgaryWildlife
calgarywildlife.org

Calgary, Alberta- Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society has launched a brand-new urban wildlife curriculum that teaches children how to be “wild wise”.

The Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society (Calgary Wildlife) sees thousands of wild animals come through its doors every year, with a large majority of the injuries treated due to some form of interaction with humans. To help mitigate this trend, Calgary Wildlife has launched a brand new curriculum geared toward elementary-aged students which teaches how to live in harmony with urban wildlife, aptly named, Wild Wise.

"Many of the patients we treat come to us due to a misunderstanding around wild animal behaviours or because folks may not know all the benefits urban wildlife provide to our communities," said Beki Hunt executive director. "Our end goal is to prevent urban wildlife from ending up in our care in the first place, by teaching tolerance," said Hunt.

The new program focuses on five species that are often seen as nuisance animals: skunks, porcupines, beavers, magpies, and bats.

"Learning to be ‘wild wise’ means learning to coexist," said Deborah Edgett, education coordinator, "practicing empathy for urban wildlife, also extends into having empathy for each other. These programs will help build strong, compassionate communities."

The new programs are delivered to children from K to 6 via song, dance, video, and hands-on biofacts, such as pelts and feathers, as a way of encouraging young Calgarians to get to know and appreciate urban wildlife.

Information about each program and booking details can be found on Calgary Wildlife's website at: <https://www.calgarywildlife.org/education-programs-wildwise>

The Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society (Calgary Wildlife) is a registered charitable organization that was established in 1993. Calgary Wildlife provides expert compassionate care to injured and orphaned wildlife in and around the City of Calgary. As an accredited veterinary hospital (ABVMA), Calgary Wildlife is open 365 days a year and is the only wildlife rehabilitation centre located within the city. Calgary Wildlife also provides valuable outreach and educational services to the community. For more information, please visit www.calgarywildlife.org