

KIDS NEED NATURE.
NATURE NEEDS KIDS.



WE HELP FAMILIES
CONNECT TO NEARBY
NATURE.
EVERYONE IS INVITED!



2025 IMPACT REPORT

JUNE 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2025, NatureKids BC experienced a meaningful shift, not just in scale, but in how we understand our role in the lives of families and in the broader nature community across British Columbia.

While our network continued to grow, what stood out most was a deepening of connection. Across our clubs, children and caregivers came together not only to explore nearby nature, but to build confidence, curiosity, and a shared sense of belonging outdoors. Our Explorer Days increasingly became spaces where learning is hands-on, intergenerational, and grounded in wonder. Where noticing a tidepool, a bird call, or the hidden networks beneath forest soil can spark both joy and care.

This year, we leaned further into our commitment to accessibility and inclusion, welcoming more families and strengthening partnerships that help reduce barriers to participation. At the same time, we invested in the systems, supports, and volunteer leadership that sustain a strong and resilient provincial network.

2025 affirmed something we hold deeply: when families feel welcomed and inspired in nature, they develop lasting relationships with the natural world - and with one another.

We are grateful to our volunteers, dedicated staff, partners, and supporters who make this work possible, and we look ahead with optimism to what we are growing together.





OUR IMPACT

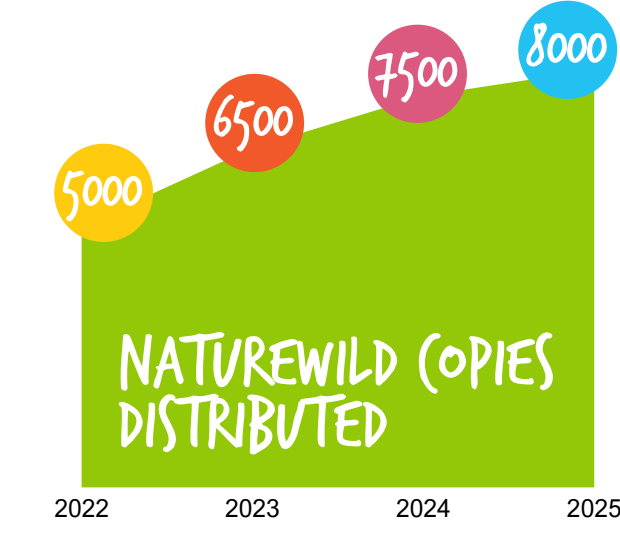
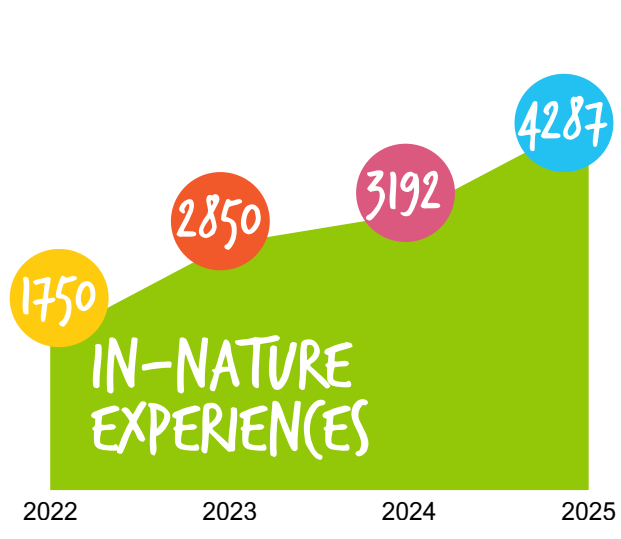
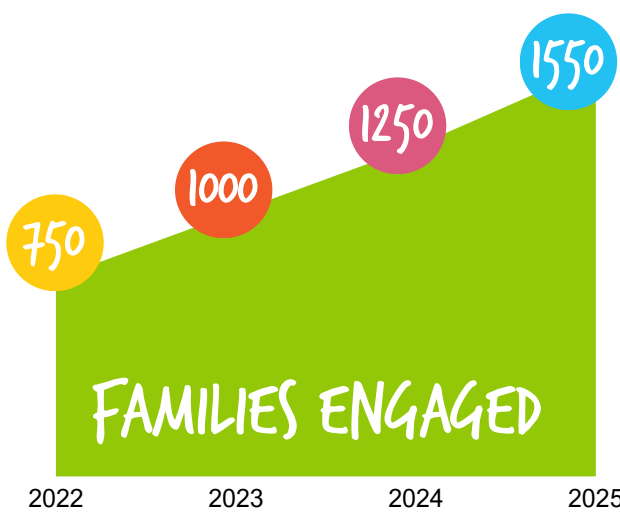
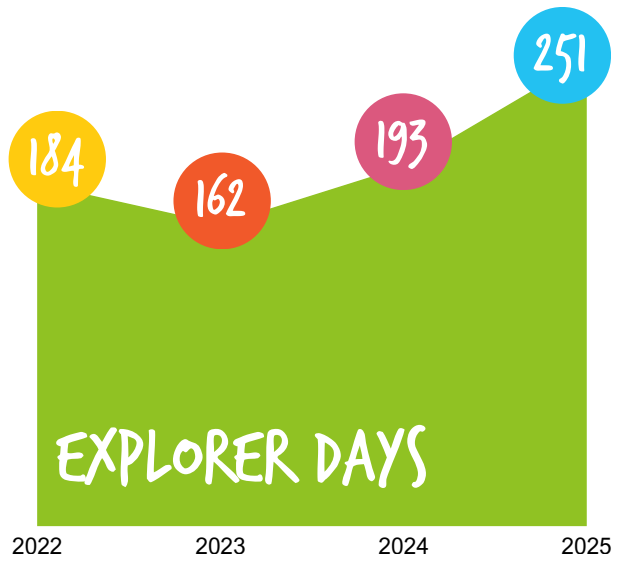
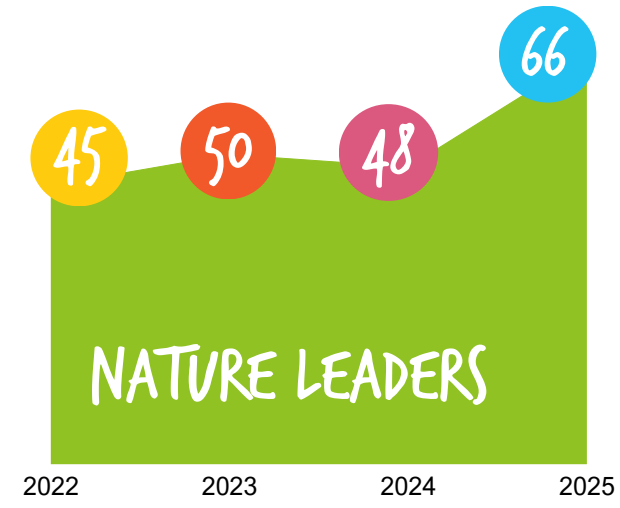
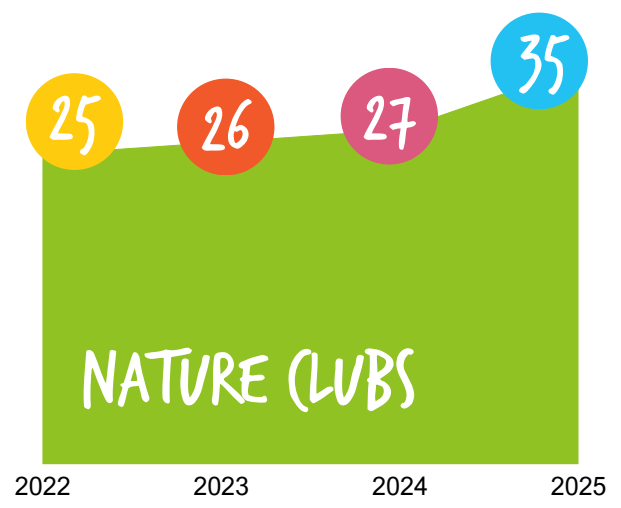
NATURE KIDS^{BC}

2022-2025 →

AT A GLANCE

We gratefully acknowledge NatureKids BC offices being located in the Elders Council for Parks in BC Heritage Centre, on the traditional and unceded territory of the səilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and S'ólh Téméxw (Stó:lo) nations. As a provincial network, we acknowledge with deep respect and gratitude that our learning and growing takes place on the unceded and ancestral territories of Indigenous Peoples across what is now known as British Columbia.

TOGETHER, WE ARE GROWING!





CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF MAKING MEMORIES

Several events were hosted throughout BC to celebrate the anniversary, including in the TriCities, Delta, Kamloops, and Salmon Arm. Notably, on October 4, 2025, NatureKids BC hosted our 25th anniversary celebration at the Surrey Nature House in Metro Vancouver to thank our wonderful community: the families, members, volunteers, staff, and partners across our network. We asked attendees to reflect on a question central to our mission. ***"What was your favorite moment in nature?"***

"A FUZZY WHITE CATERPILLAR ON FRESH-(UT) SUNFLOWERS"

"FORAGING FOR WILD FRUITS (SALAL, SALMON BERRIES, HUCKLEBERRIES, BLACKBERRIES)"

"LISTENING TO THE CRICKETS ANNOUNCE THE END OF SUMMER"

MARGARET BEAR

VOICES FROM OUR SUPPORTERS

I feel fortunate to have crossed paths with NatureKids BC—formerly the Young Naturalists' Club of British Columbia (YNC)—at several points throughout its first twenty-five years.

My earliest connection was as a Director on Nature Vancouver's Board from 1999 to 2002, during the launch of the YNC. What began as a program serving children ages 7 to 12 in Greater Vancouver has since grown into a network of local clubs and nature experiences for families across British Columbia.

Perhaps my fondest memories came later, as a grandparent. Alongside our granddaughter, we attended many Explorer Days, thoughtfully organized by Eva Nagy and countless dedicated volunteers. It was often hard to tell who was having more fun—the children or the adults. Whether learning about spiders from Al Grass, exploring the microscopic world with UBC botanist Shona Ellis, or dipping nets into a pond in search of aquatic life, every outing sparked curiosity, discovery, and joy.

Special recognition goes to co-founder Dr. Rob Butler and founding organizer Daphne Solecki, whose vision helped launch the YNC and the first issue of NatureWILD magazine in March 2000. Their leadership laid the foundation for what has become NatureKids BC today.

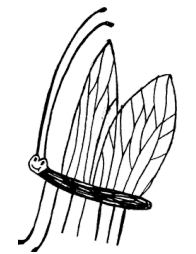
As Nature Vancouver President Jeremy McCall wrote in 2000, "If the VNHS is to have a future, it will be with the younger members of our community." Twenty-five years later, that vision continues to thrive.

Congratulations, NatureKids BC, on this remarkable milestone. May you continue to inspire future generations through the enduring belief that Kids Need Nature and Nature Needs Kids.



NATURE CLUB LEADERS

VOICES FROM OUR VOLUNTEERS



KASIA KOTOWSKI



NATUREKIDS BC
AMBASSADOR

What I really enjoy about volunteering with NatureKids is how **inclusive and empowering** it is, on so many levels. By involving entire families in the explorer days, it refrains from limiting the learning to just children but also challenges and implores family members who may lack the knowledge or understanding of something vital.

ANNA KIRKPATRICK



MISSION NATURE
CLUB LEADER

Volunteering with NatureKids gives me and my family a chance to explore beautiful places while meeting other likeminded families. We love exploring as a family but scheduled events keep us committed to getting outdoors.

SHANNAN CURRIER



HOUSTON NATURE
CLUB LEADER

As a working mom, I've personally felt how challenging it can be to find quality kids' activities that happen in the evenings or on weekends instead of weekday afternoons. Being part of NatureKids allows me to help fill that gap and make outdoor, hands-on experiences more accessible for families like mine.



CARMEN CASTRO



VANCOUVER NATURE
CLUB LEADER

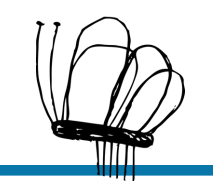
I joined NatureKids because I believe in the positive role that nature plays in kids' development, and also in inspiring younger generations to care for the environment. David Attenborough once said: "No one will protect what they don't care about, and no one will care about what they have never experienced." Kids need nature and nature needs kids.

TANYA EVANS



TRICITIES NATURE
CLUB LEADER

I appreciate how NatureKids is a **network of people sharing nature activity ideas**, and we are free to join events anywhere. I love exploring neighbouring communities, learning new things about nature and meeting new people. There are an endless amount of unique places to explore in our community and it is wonderful to see smiles on the faces of families experiencing something for the first time!





NATURE FOR NEWCOMERS



FIRST EXPERIENCES

Through these partnerships, we have learned that families share a strong desire to explore nature, live healthy lives, and connect with their communities. By listening, learning, and adapting our programs, we help create positive outdoor experiences that foster confidence, curiosity, and respect for nature.

We are grateful to the organizations, volunteers, and families who continue to co-create this work with us, helping ensure that more children and families feel welcome in nature and connected to the communities they call home.



LASTING CONNECTIONS

PARTNER AGENCIES



Big Brothers
OF GREATER VANCOUVER



MAKING MEMORIES AND BUILDING SELF CONFIDENCE THROUGH EXPERIENCE AND RESPECT FOR NATURE

Our Nature for Newcomers and equitable access programs help families build confidence, belonging, and meaningful connections with the natural world. Working alongside settlement agencies, family-serving organizations, and community partners, we create welcoming pathways into local parks and green spaces for families who may face barriers related to language, transportation, culture, or unfamiliarity with outdoor environments.

529 IN-NATURE EXPERIENCES IN 2025!



CLUB LEADERS

- Andrew Campbell

Angela Meilleur

Anna Cleveland

Anna Drabosenig

Anna Kirkpatrick

Anthea Farr

Aruna Itharaju

Aurore O'Grady

Belinda Maude

Carina Rosenthal

Carmen Castro

Carolyn Uher

Chantelle DesLauriers

Chelsea Scroth

Cherrie Lam

Cianna Thiessen

Cindy Verbeek

Deborah Simpson

Ella Isiuwe

Erin Ronsse

Gabrielle Aubertin

Hilary Thompson
- Jacqueline Hammil

Jean Wilkinson

Jennifer Pollard

Jenni Stol

Joel Etkin

Joel Yu

Jonata Gesser

Kasia Kotowski

Kathleen Maser

Kathryn Fabbrie

Kelly Gesser

Kevin Tyler

Kim North

Kristina Swerhun

Lina Tang

Lisa Levez

Maggie Chow

Mandy Ross

Marina Stamboulieh

Meghan Vandermy

Michal Sirton

Molly Cooperman
- Morgan Boghean

Neil Adeli

Nicole Levesque

Olivia Tam

Palak Bahree

Prakrati Agrawal

Purdy Jones

Rachel Whitehouse

Ray Woroniak

Rebecca Merenyi

Rianna Shannon

Riz Camas

Sandra Valderrama

Sarah Desrosiers

Shannan Currier

Sherronlee Dion

Sherry Jiang

Stephanie Ross

Sukhveer Sandhu

Tracey Green

Tracy Evans

Tricia Edgar



KIDS NEED NATURE.
NATURE NEEDS KIDS.

CONNECT YOUR FAMILY
TO NEARBY NATURE.
EVERYONE IS INVITED!

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Vancouver Island
Cowichan Valley
Qathet
Qualicum Beach
Salt Spring Island
Victoria
Westshore
Woven Wild | Lower Mainland
Burnaby
East Vancouver
Delta
Mission
North Vancouver
Richmond
Ridge Meadows
Nicomekl
Surrey
Tri-Cities
Vancouver
WildRoots | Thompson-Okanagan
Kamloops
Kelowna
Merritt
Salmon Arm
Smithers
South Okanagan
Vernon | Northern BC
Houston
Lillooet
Prince George
Squamish
Whistler |
| | | Southeastern BC
Elk Valley
Nelson | |





AdventureSmart
Allan Brooks Nature Centre
Amanda Johnson
Andrea Fox
Andy Mackinnon
Angela Hansen
Anne Heatherington
Anne MacLeod
Anne Murray
Arlo's Honey Farm
Arrowsmith Naturalists
Avalanche Canada
Bilston Creek Farm
BC Bats
BC Conservation Foundation
BC Parks Ambassadors
BC Shuswap Invasive Species Society
Beecher Bay First Nation
Birds Canada
Burke Mountain Naturalists
Catherine from Ocean Mist Pottery
City of Coquitlam
Connor Wardrop
Cougar Creek Streamkeepers

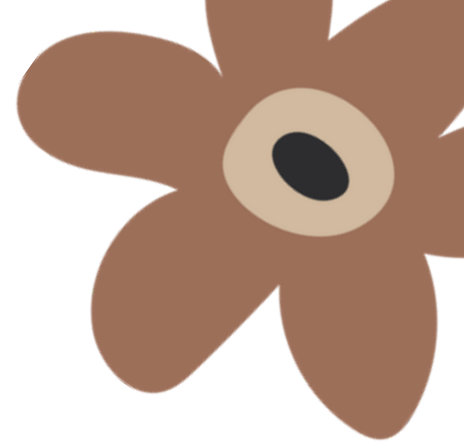
Danielle Dagenais
David Denning
Deborah Jones
Cougar Creek Streamkeepers
Delta Naturalists
Earth and Soul Collections
Elise from TRU Greenhouse
Elk Root Conservation
Erin Sutherland
FireSmart BC
Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC
Friends of Semiahmoo Bay
Garden City Conservation Society
Harvey Dueck
Invasive Species Council of BC
Joseph Schmaltz
Joshua Ralph
Kaitlyn Adams
Kamloops Naturalist Club
Kate Kutzner
Kaylee Griffith
KEEPS
Kem Luther
Living Lakes Canada

Magda Machula
Maria Sonntag
Mary Ellen Grant
Metchosin Foundation
Metro Vancouver Regional Parks
Mission Environmental Stewardship Society
Morrell Nature Sanctuary
Nature Salt Spring
Nature Squamish
Nina Shoroplova
Okanagan Science Centre
Outdoor Recreation Council of BC
Parks Canada
Peninsula Streams
Reifel Bird Sanctuary
Rixon Creek Farm Sanctuary
Rob Stacey
Rocky Point Bird Observatory
Royal BC Museum
Sam Cousins
Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council
Shanoon Bennett
Sharon Adelman
Sheila Byers

Shuswap Naturalist club
Salmon Arm Bay Nature Enhancement Society
Sierra Club BC
Stanley Park Ecology Society
Stephen Hui
Still Moon Arts Society
Squilax Band
Surfrider Foundation
Texada Home & Garden Centre
The Adams River Salmon Society
Interfor
Tanya from Copley Community Orchard
Tracy Cameron
Tynehead Fish Hatchery
Vancouver Avian Research Centre
Victoria Paleontology Society
Whistler Naturalists
Wild Bird Unlimited
WildResearch
WildSafe BC
Wondrous Tree Fellowship
Youth Climate Corps

NATURE CANADA

VOICES FROM OUR PARTNERS



Over the past five years, NatureKids BC has developed a multifaceted partnership with Nature Canada, grounded in a shared commitment to connecting people with nature and advancing conservation across Canada. This collaboration spans several initiatives, each contributing to a broader goal of fostering inclusive environmental stewardship.

A key area of collaboration is through **NatureHood**, a national community of practice supported by the Canadian Wildlife Service. Through this initiative, NatureKids BC contributes to increasing public awareness amongst National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

By delivering accessible programming such as **Explorer Days**, NatureKids BC helps connect

local communities and families with young children to nearby natural areas. In 2025 alone, 263 Explorer Days were delivered, with 37 dedicated to birding. 200 children were also engaged through community and school groups.

NatureKids BC also works annually alongside Nature Canada in the **Work to Grow program**, supporting career development opportunities for young BIPOC professionals pursuing pathways in the environmental sector. This work reflects a shared commitment to equity, inclusion, and building a more representative future for conservation leadership.

Finally, NatureKids BC partners with Nature Canada to contribute to **Women for Nature**,

JASON BARRON, NATUREHOOD ORGANIZER



"NATURE CANADA COMMENDS NATUREKIDS BC FOR THEIR EXCELLENCE AT DELIVERING IMPACTFUL PROGRAMMING FOR FAMILIES ACROSS BRITISH COLUMBIA."



a national initiative that supports mentorship and amplifies women's voices in conservation. Through this involvement, we help strengthen networks that empower emerging leaders and stimulate change in the working environmental landscape. In 2025, the impact of this ongoing partnership was recognized when NatureKids BC received the **Partner in Conservation Award** from Nature Canada.

Together, these collaborative efforts demonstrate how sustained partnerships can create meaningful and lasting impact for conservation across generations.

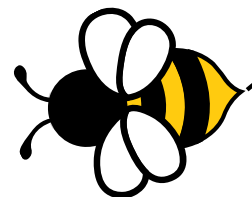




THE MAGAZINE FOR CURIOUS KIDS WHO LOVE NATURE

NatureWILD is where children discover themselves as part of the living world. Through stories, art, and exploration, we nurture confidence, belonging, and a lifelong relationship with nature.

Created in British Columbia and inspired by young voices, it is more than a magazine - it is a companion in childhood curiosity and a celebration of the wild places we share.



THANK YOU TO OUR EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Christine Dalton
Rhonda Schuller
Eryne Donahue
Mike Simpson

THANK YOU TO OUR NATUREWILD CONTRIBUTORS

FALL

Khush Jhugroo
Gwaliga Hart
Mike Simpson
Kel Ma
Sofia Osborne
Erin Ronsse
Charles Kahn



WINTER

Kari Medig
Calista Foisy
Maryam Aboukhatwa
Jazmen Pigeon
Debbie Wheeler
Kel Ma
Ben Gallagher
Sara Cassidy



SPRING

Kristine Webber
Kinwa Bluesky
Pamela Swanigan
Youth: Siobhan, Ben, Lauryn, Yuseon, Saeun
(Stephanie), Gabrielle, Alwyn, Maya



SUMMER

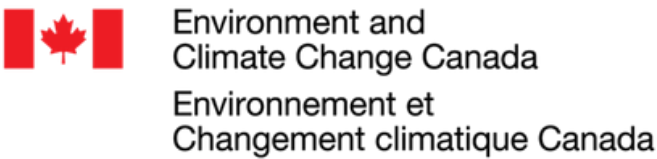
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We acknowledge the
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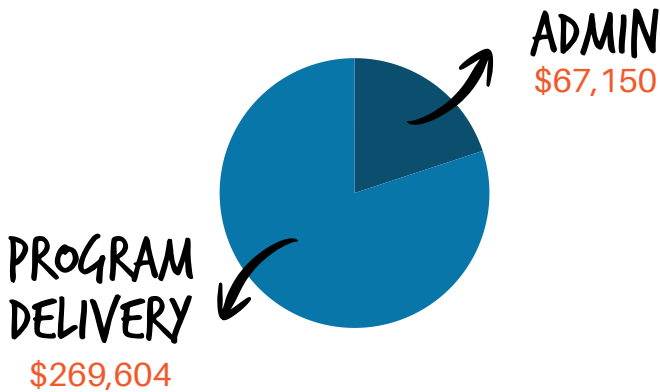


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OR DOWNLOAD OUR 2025 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.



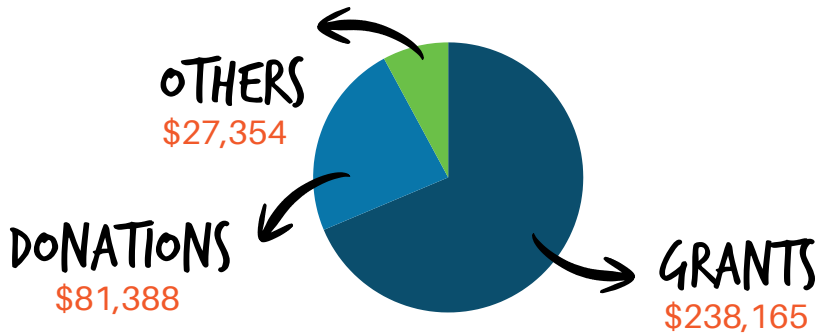
TOTAL EXPENSES

\$336,754



TOTAL REVENUE

\$346,607



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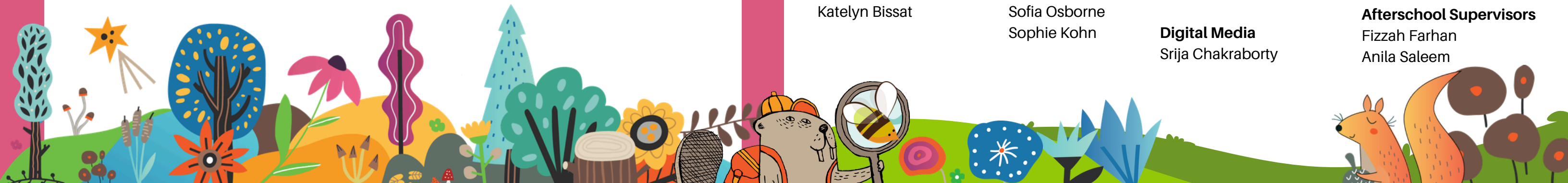
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NATURE NEEDS KIDS.



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