



Quarry Visits for School Groups

Submitted by Elfi Berndt, Junior Teacher

Visiting a quarry with a class while studying rocks and minerals can be one of the highlights of teaching the Earth sciences unit. It's a field trip that is educational, fun, and inexpensive. The only cost is the bus and the time it takes to make the contact. We are fortunate that in Canada we have many good sources of building stones and aggregate (sand, gravel, and crushed rocks). In Ontario, there are a number of working quarries that welcome visits by school groups. The Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association keeps an up-to-date list of companies that offer school tours—the current list is provided below. In the last six years, my Grade 4 classes have visited three different quarries close to the Greater Toronto Area. For further information, go to www.apao.com/tours.htm.



We visited a glacial deposit gravel pit in Limehouse, courtesy of J.C. Duff Ltd



We saw how former quarries are rehabilitated into wetlands at the Milton Quarry operated by Dufferin Aggregates.



We watched how quarrying was done and sand was produced at the Burlington Quarry operated by the Nelson Aggregate Co.





Aggregate Companies Offering School Tours

Cruickshank Construction (Kingston) Ltd.
Robert White
613-542-2874
Regions: Frontenac, Kingston

Dufferin Aggregates
Ken Zimmerman
416-213-7239
Regions: Durham, Halton, Peel, Simcoe,
Wellington, York

Frank Kling Limited
Jim McCann
519-527-0297
Region: Huron East

Harold Sutherland Construction Ltd.
Jennifer Prentice
Nelson Aggregate Co.
Steve Drew
905-335-5250
Region: Halton

Nelson Aggregate Co.
Bob Mason
905-563-8226
Region: Niagara

Nelson Aggregate Co.
Chris Roote
705-325-2264
Region: Simcoe

519-376-5698
Region: Grey

J. C. Duff Sand & Gravel
Ian Duff
905-874-4748
Region: Halton

James Dick Construction Limited
Greg Sweetnam
905-857-3500
Region: Peel

Lafarge Canada Inc.
Robert Guay
905-768-3353
Region: Haldiman/Norfolk

Steed and Evans Limited
Malcolm Matheson
519-744-7315
Region: Waterloo

Walker Industries Holdings Limited
Teresa Page
905-227-4142
Region: Niagara

Georgian Aggregates & Construction Inc.
Rosemary Ackermann
705-445-2300
Region: Simcoe