

The illustration depicts a vibrant coastal scene. At the top, a large orange sun is partially obscured by a dark blue rounded rectangle containing the title. The sky is filled with white, fluffy clouds and several birds in flight. In the middle ground, a brown rock formation with a white seal perched on top sits in the water. The foreground shows a blue sea with three seals: one large one on the left and two smaller ones. In the lower right, two penguins wearing orange life jackets and hats are kayaking in a white canoe. The overall style is simple and cartoonish.

Educational workshop guide

COASTAL EROSION, BIODIVERSITY & WASTE

- MARCH 2024 -

Table of contents

INTRODUCTION	2
HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE?	3
Workshop 1 - Coastal erosion	4
Workshop 2 - Coastal biodiversity and coexistence with wildlife	5
Workshop 3 - Plastic waste	6
FINANCIAL PARTNERS & SPONSORS	7

Production team



Creation of educational workshops and guide

Ariane Mérineau, B. S.c. Ecology, Project Manager ZIP Gaspésie
Ivar Alberto, B. S.c. Biology
Sophie Beauséjour, B. Env.

Content review

Lysandre Bourgouin, B. S.c. Biology, Project Manager ZIP Gaspésie
Dominique Lavoie, B. S.c. Biology, M. S.c. Sustainable development

Translation of the workshops

Mariah McKenney, C. Tr.



Introduction

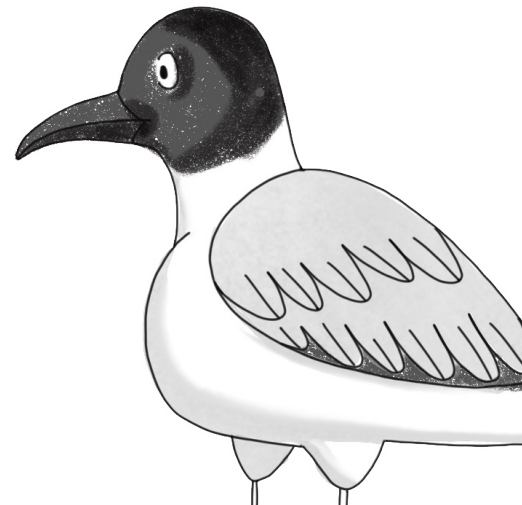
Through consultations and community-based projects, Comité ZIP rallies the public to promote integrated management of the St. Lawrence. By acquiring and sharing knowledge and through its various actions, Comité ZIP plays a key role in the conservation, restoration and development of Gaspésie's marine and coastal areas.

In 2022, Comité ZIP Gaspésie led an awareness-raising project to promote best practices in coastal conservation by creating 11 comic strips, each addressing an issue affecting coastal areas.

These comics will form a comic book for the general public, but more specifically, kids ages 7 to 12. This collection, along with educational workshops, has been created with the aim of raising awareness among students in elementary school across Gaspésie, and making it all available through this guide. Our goal is to raise awareness about the problematic activities and issues in coastal areas (i.e., trampling on vegetation, burning driftwood, driving motorized vehicles on the beach, coastal erosion, etc.) and to promote best practices in coastal conservation. Informing the public of the importance of this issue is essential in helping to preserve these sensitive environments and ensuring the sustainability of coastal activities. A comic book is a fun way to connect with kids, who, in turn, will likely share the information with the adults in their life.

Further information on the project can be found at the following address by clicking on the button below.

Check out our comic book



How to use this guide?

This document is intended as a practical, turnkey guide to reproducing the three educational workshops created as part of the comic book project. The workshops are aimed at grades 3 to 6 (7-12 years old), but the content could be slightly adapted for older children. Three topics are offered: **coastal erosion, biodiversity and cohabitation with wildlife, and waste and microplastic.**

For each workshop, three types of document are available: a description sheet, a visual support and printable game materials. For each workshop, we suggest you start by reading the description sheet, to better understand the purpose and scope of the workshop. Examples of questions to ask students are suggested in bold on this sheet. Next, a visual support (ppt. type) is provided, along with theory to facilitate understanding of the subject, which is written in the comments sections of the slides. There are also animation suggestions, questions to ask the students, the approach to take, etc. Finally, all the materials needed to reproduce the games in the workshops are available in pdf form, ready to print.

It's a good idea to have read the comic book before running a workshop, so that students can make better connections between the topics covered and what they've learned from reading it. Note that a game of Hunt and Seek is available at the end of the comic book, which can be a great wrap-up group activity. This page from Hunt and Seek is also available in a coloring version on our website.

For further information, please contact the Comité ZIP Gaspésie!

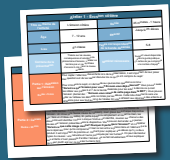
Contact us!



Workshop 1

Coastal erosion

The purpose of this workshop is to raise young people's awareness of the issue of coastal erosion in their region, and to encourage them to adopt the right behaviors to reduce their impact on beaches and coastlines. Participants will be able to identify the main causes of coastal erosion, recognize that it is a natural phenomenon amplified by certain human activities, and recognize the right behaviors/actions they can apply at their own level to reduce erosion. They'll also be able to raise awareness of the issue among those around them. Even if erosion is a natural phenomenon, each of us can take simple steps to limit it and reduce our impact on coastal ecosystems.



Workshop description



Workshop visuals



Game material

« We really enjoyed this activity and the comic book. We need to teach our children to preserve our beautiful Gaspésie! Let's do it again next year! ».

5th and 6th grade teacher

Workshop 2

Coastal biodiversity and coexistence with wildlife

The purpose of this workshop is to raise young people's awareness of the importance of protecting coastal biodiversity in their region, and to encourage them to adopt the right behaviors to reduce their impact on beaches and coastlines. Participants will be able to explain and recognize an environment rich in biodiversity, identify the threats to it and propose solutions to these threats. Emphasis is also put on the importance of respectful cohabitation with flora and fauna, and the recognition of invasive alien species. Coastal biodiversity is important for coastal health and resilience of the ecosystem. Our actions can affect this biodiversity by spreading exotic species or disturbing wildlife. We need to adopt the right behaviors to encourage a high level of biodiversity.



Workshop description



Workshop visuals



Game material

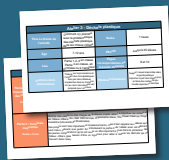
« The students loved the activity. Biodiversity wasn't a concept most of them were familiar with, they learned a lot. »

6th grade teacher

Workshop 3

Plastic waste

The aim of this workshop is to raise young people's awareness of the importance of proper waste management, including the issue of microplastics, and to encourage them to adopt the right behaviors to reduce their impact on beaches and shorelines. Participants will be able to identify the main causes of waste pollution, understand its potential impact on the environment, and recognize the right behaviors/actions they can apply at their own level to reduce this phenomenon. They'll also be able to raise awareness of the issue among those around them. Plastic waste in the ocean is a problem for the health of ecosystems. By adopting the right behaviors, we can reduce our consumption of plastics, and consequently the amount of waste that ends up in the ocean.



Workshop description



Workshop visuals



Game material

« The workshop is solution-oriented, which makes the transfer of knowledge less of a burden. Young people are already aware of the consequences of plastic pollution, so it's interesting to see what can be done about it. What a great initiative! ».

5th grade teacher



Financial partners & sponsors

Comité ZIP Gaspésie would like to warmly thank its partners who enabled the realization and diffusion of this beautiful project.

Our multiple achievements as part of the "A comic book to raise awareness" project are made possible thanks to our financial partners and sponsors who trust us in our actions.

Thank you!



Scan the code to visit our website!



This project was made possible through an investment under the Community Interactions Program, which is part of the St. Lawrence Action Plan 2011-2026, and is implemented by the governments of Canada and Québec.



©2024 Comité ZIP Gaspésie
506, route 132 Est, Bonaventure (QC) G0C 1E0

www.zipgaspesie.org/



Illustration credit : Fannie Desmarais Illustration

