



espace
pour la
vie montréal

BIODÔME



LIKE A WALK IN NATURE

Espace pour la vie offers more ways to bring humans closer to nature

“Reconnecting with nature, appreciating it, and getting to know and understand it better are the first steps in what is becoming a crucial movement to protect it. Our objective is to inspire as many people as possible to join us in this movement.”

Charles-Mathieu Brunelle – Director, Espace pour la vie

The Biodôme’s Public Programs and Education team has always played a key role in the visitor’s experience. As experts in ecosystems and their valued tenants, they accompany visitors on their path to discovery, all the while shining a light on their own relationship with nature. How can we make the experience more immersive and fuel the visitors’ desire to pursue their reflection further, and then take action in their daily lives to protect biodiversity? A daunting challenge, but an absolutely fascinating experience for the educators at the Biodôme!



All hail the curious!

What Biodôme science educators like most are the questions. Any and all questions, be they simple, complex, strange or funny. This direct contact with visitors is what gives meaning to their work.

From the usual museum tour to a quasi-stroll in nature

Although animals are very popular with visitors, the Biodôme has much more to offer. Here, the spotlight is on the ecosystem. You come to the Biodôme to discover how animals, plants and certain organisms integrate and interact in a given ecosystem. Visitors are led to question their own rapport with nature, to observe how we live together and care for each other in order to better understand the vital connections between species. This increases our awareness of the complexity and fragility of the linkages that make life possible.



Busy as a beaver

The beaver lodge in the Laurentian Maple Forest was made from pieces of wood that the beaver cut with its own teeth! The pieces were collected over a two-year period and were used to make the walls and ceiling of a lodge decor where visitors can see the beavers underwater from below. The dam has been rebuilt as well, this time by our horticulturist who was kept “busy as a beaver”!

A mobile app to boost the sense of immersion

The Biodôme made the right choice by replacing traditional interpretive signs with a brand new mobile application. The goal was to reach each visitor and encourage their immersion in nature through a variety of means. The app allows visitors to wander as if in nature, at their own leisure, with all the information on their subject of interest at their fingertips.

Unlike the usual museum information sources, the Biodôme's new mobile app directs the visitors' gaze so they can more easily spot fascinating plants and animals. It creates a feeling of closeness with living things and encourages visitors to take time to observe details they would have missed otherwise. The concept is simple, the language accessible and the navigation very user-friendly. Throughout the tour, visitors are invited to check out fact sheets containing interesting anecdotes, to spot animals, and to take quizzes that are at once informative and entertaining.

Up close with a polar bear

No polar bears at the Biodôme? No problem! Thanks to augmented reality, visitors will be able to see a polar bear in the ecosystem of the sub-polar regions, two beluga whales in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, a wolf in the Laurentian Maple Forest and a jaguar in the Tropical Rainforest. How about a selfie with one of these virtual tenants?



The Bio-machine - An interactive behind-the-scenes tour of the Biodôme

The Biodôme needs to use all of its skills and expertise to represent nature as faithfully as possible while ensuring the well-being of plants and animals. The all-new experience at the Biodôme called the Bio-machine gives visitors the opportunity to discover the other side of the decor. For example, how do you get the turtles in the Laurentian Maple Forest to hibernate in winter? How does a veterinary exam take place? How do you get animals to behave naturally? Thanks to the 23 interactive stations, including games, videos and objects, it's now possible to explore the strategies and tactics deployed behind the scenes at the Biodôme to make these things happen.

*Due to COVID-19, certain interactive components may be temporarily unavailable.

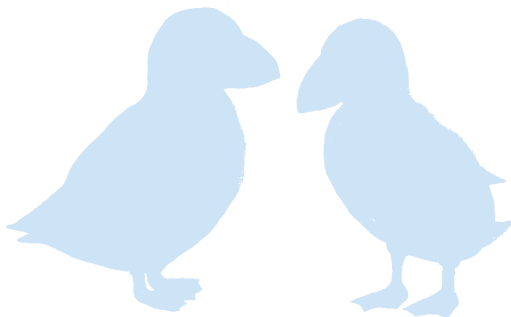
Ready to rise to the challenge?

The computer game "Mission: Biodôme Operator" puts visitors in the shoes of the person who ensures that the best water, air and light conditions are maintained in the Biodôme's living environments.



Every visit is different

The Biodôme is a dynamic environment teeming with life all day long. Scientific educators have a front-row seat and love to help visitors sharpen their sense of observation. It sounds like no two visits to the Biodôme are exactly the same, even for the most observant of visitors.



Follow us on Facebook,
Twitter and Instagram

Space for Life, a place,
a commitment, a movement

montrealspaceforlife.ca

Montréal