



HELLO PARENTS,

Canada is a vast and scenic country, with many picturesque landscapes and world-famous monuments. Tourists travel from around the globe to see Canada's beauty. Approximately 90 percent of Canada is uninhabited, which leaves many untouched natural areas. The great plains, valleys, and attractions are a source of national pride. The Seven Wonders of Canada was a 2007 competition sponsored by CBC Television's "The National" and CBC Radio One's "Sounds Like Canada". They sought to determine Canada's seven wonders by receiving nominations from viewers. This newsletter will showcase the seven wonders, as determined by Canadians, and provide you with activities that highlight these wonders and encourage a sense of pride in our glorious country, Canada.

THE SEVEN WONDERS OF CANADA

1. Sleeping Giant – Thunder Bay, Ontario
2. Niagara Falls – Niagara Falls, Ontario
3. Bay of Fundy – New Brunswick and Nova Scotia
4. Nahanni National Park Reserve - Northwest Territories
5. Northern Lights – Northern Canada
6. The Rockies – Alberta and British Columbia
7. Cabot Trail – Cape Breton, Nova Scotia

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Sleeping Giant looms in the city of Thunder Bay. This island is the remains of an ancient volcano, and appears to be a giant sleeping on its back. The 250m cliff stretches in a thin band for many kilometers.
- Niagara Falls is actually three separate waterfalls straddling between Niagara Falls, Canada and Niagara Falls, New York. As you look at them from left to right, they are the American Falls, the Bridal Veil Falls, and the larger Canadian Horseshoe Falls. These waterfalls originate about the centre of the Niagara River which flows 58 kilometres from Lake Erie downriver to Lake Ontario.
- The difference between high and low tides in the Bay of Fundy can reach 16.3 metres, depending on the time of year. This is taller than a three-story building.
- Nahanni National Park Reserve includes and protects parts of the Mackenzie Mountains, including Naha Dehe, which is also known as the South Nahanni River, one of the most spectacular wild rivers in North America. Nahanni Park contains deep canyons and huge waterfalls, as well as a unique limestone cave system.
- The Northern Lights appear 200 to 300 kilometres above the earth and are bright enough to be seen from space.
- At the heart of the Canadian Rockies lies Banff National Park. This park became the country's first national park, and the world's third, when the government set aside a 25.9 square kilometres parcel of land in 1885.
- The Cabot Trail is a highway and scenic roadway that measures 298 kilometres in length and completes a loop around the northern tip of Cape Breton Island Highlands, which rewards travellers with a spectacular valley and coastal views all along the way.

THE SEVEN WONDERS OF CANADA FAMILY ACTIVITIES

NORTHERN LIGHTS CHALK SCENE

MATERIALS:

- Black construction paper
- Chalk – white and colourful
- 1-2 tissues

DIRECTIONS:

- [Click here](#) to see a scenic video of the northern lights.
- After watching this video, discuss the many colours of the beautiful northern lights.
- Now, create your own rendition of the northern lights. Select a chalk, which is a colour that you may have observed in the northern lights (white, blue, purple etc.).

- Draw a squiggly line on your paper. Then, take a tissue and smudge this line.
- Add more lines and colourful chalk to the image, and continue to smudge. Be creative!
- Once you are finished, you will have created your version of the northern lights!

[Click here](#) for more information about the northern lights.

NIAGARA FALLS HYDROPOWER EXPERIMENT

MATERIALS:

- Pie tin
- Wooden dowel
- Bucket or container
- Water bottle, filled with water
- Scissors
- Markers

DIRECTIONS:

- The amount of electricity that the power plants at Niagara Falls produce has the capacity to output approximately 4.9 million kilowatts. That's enough to power 3.8 million homes. During this experiment, you will create hydropower, one of the largest sources of renewable energy, which is generated at Niagara Falls.
- Start by cutting a circle out of the bottom of the pie tin.
- Use the tip of the scissors to make a hole in the centre of the pie tin circle.
- Use a marker to divide the circle into triangles, as if you were cutting pieces of a pie. Make sure that there is a bit of distance between the centre of the circle, and the tip of the triangle.
- Cut along the triangular lines, leaving the top of the triangle attached to the pie tin.
- Twist and fold the triangular pieces upwards, to make a fan shape. You have made a water wheel.
- Put the dowel through the centre hole in the water wheel, which you previously created.
- Lay the dowel across the bucket or container. Pour the water from the water bottle over the wheel and watch it spin!
- As the water falls and turns the wheel, hydropower is generated. This is just like the power that is created at Niagara Falls!

[Click here](#) to watch an informative video about Niagara Falls' hydropower.

SEVEN WONDERS OF CANADA JEOPARDY GAME

MATERIALS:

- Bristol board
- Marker
- Sticky-notes
- Tape

DIRECTIONS:

- Make your own Jeopardy game! At the top of the Bristol board, write each wonder as a category.
- Under each category, place five sticky notes vertically in a column, one after the other.
- Research each wonder, and write five questions about the wonders on the front of each sticky note.
- Cover the question by placing another sticky note on top of the written question. On this sticky note, write a point value for each question, which will range from 100 – 500.
- Now, play Jeopardy! Divide your friends and family into teams. Enjoy answering the questions, collecting points, and learning about the beautiful wonders of Canada!

[Click here](#) to play a Jeopardy game about Canada.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the Seven Wonders of Canada.

