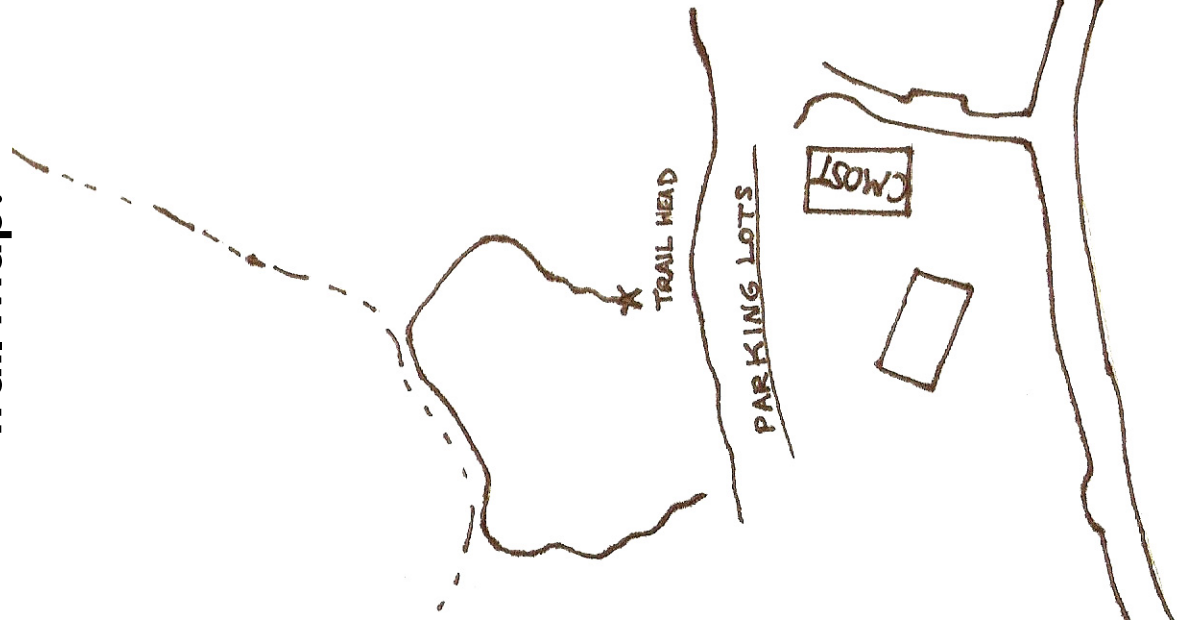


More about the Kline Plantasies Killitie Trail:

Trail Map:



The trail leaves from the front door of The Museum. Once outside, head to the back of the parking lots. There is a green sign post with a number one that will lead you into the woods.

- The trail leading from The Children's Museum of Science and Technology down to the stream and back again is approximately one-half mile long.
- The trail is fairly easy with a few moderate hills.
- While on the trail you will experience both a forest and stream habitat.
- In order to experience as much as possible while on the trail remember to slow down, listen carefully and look around.
- Please respect nature and do not litter while on the trail.
- If you would like to keep this brochure you are welcome to do so for future reference. If not, please return it for other guests to use.

THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
of Science and Technology

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250 Jordan Road
Troy, NY 12180
www.CMOST.org
518-235-2120



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Kline Plantasies

Killitie Trail

Fall/Winter Guide



Please watch your step while you journey down the trail. There are small stumps and rocks along the trail that may act as obstacles.

Welcome to the Kline Plantasies Killitie Trail at CMOST!

1. Kline Plantasies Killitie Trail:

This trail leading from CMOST down to the stream and back again is approximately one-half mile. It is a fairly easy hike with just a few small hills. While on this trail you will visit a stream that is part of the Hudson River estuary!

2. Tributary: This stream is a tributary of the Hudson River, meaning that it is one of several small streams that feed into the Hudson River making it stronger and bigger!

3. Leaves: Did you notice the color changes in the leaves as you entered the trail? Do you know what causes leaves to change from green to colors such as orange, red and yellow? The leaves have stopped the process of photosynthesis because there is not enough light or water during the fall and winter months. When this happens the green chlorophyll disappears from the leaves and reveals the other colors that are in the leaves. Some of the colors are always there and others are a result of glucose or sugar getting trapped in the leaves.

4. Animal Signs: Are there any animals living out here during this time of year? This is a good question and a great way to answer it is by using your senses to examine the world around you. Did you hear any animals? Do you see any animals? If you don't see any animals can you see where animals have been? Can you see tracks in the mud or snow?

5. Migration: Along your walk have you noticed many birds? Do you know where birds go in the fall and winter? Some species will stay around through the winter months. Birds such as woodpeckers, starlings and crows are often year round residents. Others birds such as hummingbirds, head south to warmer temperatures and more abundant food sources.

6. Wigwam: Look back to your right. Do you know what that structure is? It is a Wigwam. A wigwam like this one is a type of structure the Mohican Indians lived in. The word Wigwam actually means "shelter" or "dwelling." The Mohicans mainly lived in Wigwams, but some lived in longhouses. A wigwam like this one would normally be covered with bark to provide shelter.

7. Sunlight: Is it a sunny day here? Do you know why there seems to be less sun in the winter? It is not because we are farther away from the sun as some people think. It is because the earth is tilted away from the sun during the winter and the sun is lower in the sky.

8. Leaf Litter: Look down around your feet. Do you see any leaves? Piles of leaves on the ground are called leaf litter. Do you know why this type of "litter" is important? Leaf litter provides a habitat for different types of insects. Some of these insects help decompose the litter adding nutrients in the soil.

9. Watershed: While standing here you are standing in the Hudson River Watershed. A watershed consists of all the land that drains into a single water body. The Hudson River drains an area of 13,370 square miles in NY, VT, MA and NJ.

10. Nature Importance: Why is this stream important? This stream is important because we all live near a stream! What we do where we live affects the water quality of our local watershed. So we need to be careful how we use the land to ensure that we keep our water clean!