RAINY RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY		
Category: **SERVICES**		Number: **SE20**
MANDATORY	Topic: **Citizen Science and Screen-Free Programming**	Page: 1 of 1
Date: **Sept. 25, 2018**	Authorized by:	

This policy describes the Library's citizen science programming and commitment to screen-free activities. Please refer to Policy SE15 for general program requirements.

1. The Library makes an on-going commitment to provide citizen science programming for all patrons, with a special focus on programs for children and families. Citizen science is the practice of public participation and collaboration in scientific research to increase scientific knowledge. Through citizen science, people share and contribute to data monitoring and collection programs.

2. The Library's citizen science efforts will include programs on the birds and the butterflies of the Rainy River Valley. The Library provides "Birding Buddies" and "Butterfly Buddies" citizen science kits in the circulating collection to support these programs. Additional resources will be provided as budgets permit. Other types of citizen science research may be added, also as budgets permit.

3. The Library undertakes to share citizen science data with interested parties, especially if this data is of local, regional or provincial significance. As required by Policy SE9 (Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy), identifiable personal information about program participants cannot be released by the Library. However, participants are free to contact agencies directly with this information.

4. The Library undertakes to support the Town of Rainy River's birding-related promotions and will strive to be an ambassador for these promotions when staff time and knowledge permit.

5. An additional focus of our citizen science programming will be to encourage physical activity for children and families. To that end, the Library will endeavor to deliver screen-free programs whenever possible. "Screen-free" means a program or activity which does not involve personal electronic devices or library computers.

6. In planning any program or activity, Library staff will determine if a screen-free option is available before committing to use electronic hardware from the collection.