

FURGOTTEN TIMES OUTDOOR GEAR



Snowshoe Hare

This month's animal is the Snowshoe Hare (*Lepus americanus*), also called a varying hare because the hare changes colour from winter to summer. Snowshoe Hares are found all over PEI,



and are different than cottontail rabbit species, which do not live in PEI at all. Snowshoe Hares' habitat is anywhere that there is adequate cover to hide. They do not dig dens, but shelter in shallow hollows under coniferous trees, in abandoned burrows, ferns, or brush piles. Snowshoe Hares will eat a variety of food, including grasses, leaves, ferns, tree barks, buds, twigs, and even dead animals. They are a favourite prey for other predators in PEI, such as foxes, coyotes, mink, weasels, hawks, eagles and owls. Females will mate with several males each year, having around 3 litters of babies a year. Unlike rabbits, Snowshoe Hare babies are born with eyes open, fully furred and leave the nest within a day, gathering with their siblings to nurse once a day. Snowshoe Hares are primarily active at night, dusk and dawn, hiding during the daylight hours.

Beginner Foraging Class:

Heather Moyse Park, Summerside
 \$20 per family
 (includes plant ID booklet)

Upcoming Dates:

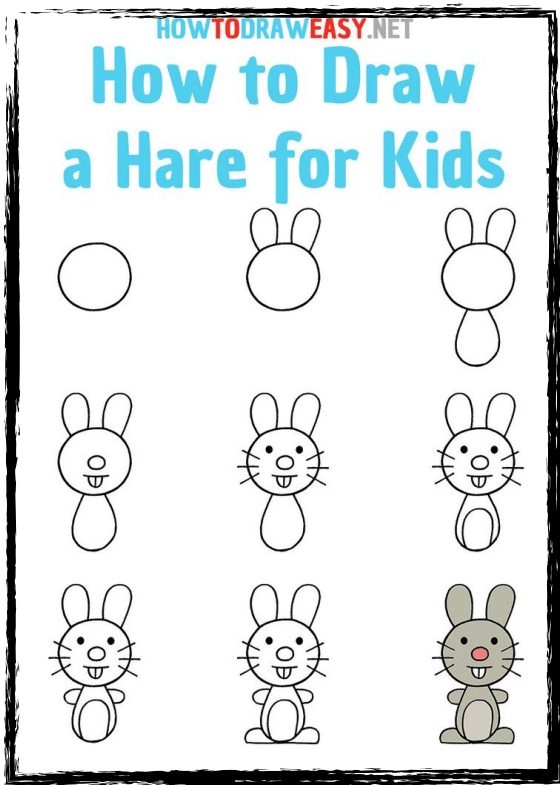
Sat. May 25, 2:30-4:00 PM
 Tues. May 28, 6:00-7:30 PM



Comic by: HazelNut & Arayna



LOVE FISHING?
 FREE FAMILY
 FISHING DERBY
 Sun. May 5, 2024,
 Scales Pond PEI



Check out
 the great
 selection of
 fishing gear
 at our
**Summerside
 Farmer's
 market
 booth!**

PEI PLANT
 SPOTLIGHT



Wild Violet
(viola odorata)

Violet is a low growing perennial plant with heart-shaped leaves (the inner, smaller leaves are often curled up a bit). They have small, sweet drooping 5-petaled flowers ranging from purple, yellow or white and appear in Spring for a short time. These are not a true flower as they do not produce seeds. The flowers and leaves can be harvested and eaten raw or cooked. The roots and seeds (which develop in fall) are toxic. The flowers can be made into a wonderful jelly, infused in honey and the leaves are rich in Vitamin C, A & minerals, and is good for colds, flus, sore throats or as a poultice for bug bites and infused in salves.

What is a bug's favourite band?
 The Beatles!

What is a Snowshoe Hare's favourite game?
 Musical Hares!

Why couldn't the flower ride his bicycle?
 Because he lost his petals!