

SSI Conservancy Stewards in Training Program

Overview for Teachers

TOPIC: Water Biomes

THEME: Ford Lake biomes (aquatic ecosystems) support a diversity of life

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student at the end of the day will be able to:

- ✧ Demonstrate an understanding of different biomes
- ✧ Calculate flow rates of a stream and measure slope
- ✧ Demonstrate the use of a dichotomous key to identify pond invertebrates
- ✧ Express an understanding of adaptations in nature

PRE-TRIP: 40 minute session in Class

The Program Coordinator runs a classroom session to familiarize students with the upcoming field program including an activity like a game of jeopardy. The session involves a brief discussion around the questions: What is stewardship? What does it look like? Who is familiar with the SIT Program from past years?

Students are led in a demonstration of how to construct their field journal. Ideally, if time allows the journal should be reviewed briefly – a study of the aerial photo (who can find different features? etc.), and a review of the station sheets.

FIELD DAY: Full Day program on Site

A school bus will pick up students in the morning and take the class to the site. A volunteer will meet the students as they disembark from the bus and will lead them down Garner Road to the yellow gate. Each school group will be accompanied by up to 10 volunteers. During the day, groups of 6 to 8 students (depending on class size) will move around to the various stations, accompanied by at least one, if not two adults. Students will be transported back to the school before the end of the school day.

POST TRIP: 40 minute session in Class

The Program coordinator will visit the class to conduct this session.

Activity: Where is all the water on Earth and how much is fresh? How much is in the oceans, the lakes and rivers, the atmosphere, in the ground, in glaciers? Students make predictions. A final demonstration reveals where all the water is found and how little of it is freshwater.

STEWARDS IN TRAINING PROGRAM PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING

1. Journal materials for use in the classroom.
2. All field equipment and supplies.
3. Booking and cost of the school buses to transport the students from the various schools to the field site and back.
4. Trained volunteers from the community.
5. First aid kits and walkie-talkies.
6. Cell phone for emergency.

STUDENT NEEDS FOR THE FIELD DAY

1. Dress for all weather (rubber boots or sturdy hikers, sweater, hat, rain gear).
2. Snacks, water bottle and hearty lunch.
3. Any personal medications (particularly allergy remedies for grass, bee stings, etc.).

CONSERVANCY NEEDS FROM THE TEACHER

1. Permission slips prepared and collected.
2. Scissors, glue sticks and pencil crayons/markers for the construction of the field journal during the pre-trip session.
3. A class list of students' first names sorted into four groups.
4. Two parent volunteers who are able to attend the field day with the class.
5. Names of any adults that will be attending the field day and their student of interest to spend the day with.
6. Parent names & contacts who might be interested in coming out on field trip. They are welcome to come to our volunteer training day.
7. Cell phone for emergency, if available.
8. Help with the evaluation of the program.
9. Offers of a few great photos from the field day.