

Science & Conservation Programs

2008 – 2009

School Year

Educators:

Another school year has arrived! The Madison Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is once again offering FREE programs to any school or organization located within Madison County. The District believes that conservation extends to all ages. Students can develop an understanding of conservation at an early age and carry that knowledge with them throughout their lives.

The Madison SWCD can bring hands-on activities into your classroom. The programs listed cover a wide range of topics and meet the Ohio Academic Content Standards for Science. Each program is approximately 30-45 minutes long and can be modified for any grade level. All materials are free!

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Featured Programs

Programs for Grades K-5

Programs for Grades 6-8

Featured Programs

Soil Tunnel*

Take a journey five feet underground as students are introduced to soil layers, different animal habitats, and a comparison of farm field, stream bank, and forest floor.

K, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd

*Due to set up and clean up time required, please plan to have several classes observe this display throughout the day.

Streamulator*

Using running water, this display shows stream dynamics including parts of a stream, stream flow, delta formation, erosion, and conservation practices.

4th

*Due to set up and clean up time required, please plan to have several classes observe this display throughout the day.

EnviroScape

This hands-on model demonstrates land use and pollution in a watershed. Students will learn how to reduce erosion and water contaminants.

5th

Field Trips

Gwynne Conservation Area: A trip to the Gwynne will allow students to get their feet wet in the stream while they look for crayfish, insect larvae, and fish; use a net to catch tadpoles in the pond; visit the soil pit to see the layers of the soil underneath their feet; compare habitats such as prairie, forest, and wetland; and discover what wildlife calls this place home.

Fossil Collecting at Caesar Creek: Caesar Creek State Park is known around the world as one of the best locations to collect fossils from the Ordovician Period. Students will spend the morning collecting fossils, eat lunch, and tour the visitor center before heading back to school.

Programs for Grades K-5

That Makes Sense!

Students will use their five senses to discover the world around them.

K

Where Do I Belong?

Students will compare stuffed animals to the real animal pelts and build a habitat for each of these animals.

K and 1st

Francis the Fish

Join Francis on his journey downstream! This program gives an overview of water quality and different types of pollution.

1st and 2nd

Bird Beak Adaptations

Students learn how the shape of a bird's beak is related to what it eats by "becoming" a bird.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd

Delicious Plant Parts

This program helps students learn the six plant parts and functions as they eat their way from root to seed and everything in between!

2nd and 4th

Soil Layers

Students will learn what soil is made of and the different types of soil. Soil layers will be demonstrated by the students building their own edible soil profile!

3rd

Wear and Tear

Students will observe the breakdown of rocks by different types of weathering and participate in a splash test to see how erosion moves pieces of rock.

3rd

The Incredible Journey-Water Cycle

Students will become a water molecule and travel around the earth as part of

the water cycle.

4th

Cookie Science

Students will learn that soil is necessary to grow most food by tracing the ingredients in a chocolate chip cookie back to the soil.

5th

Links in the Chain

In this physical activity, students will learn about the consequences of pollutants entering a food chain.

5th

Renewable or Not?

Students will learn the difference between renewable and non-renewable resources and simulate society's use of resources.

5th

Grades 6-8

Links in the Chain

In this physical activity, students will learn about the consequences of pollutants entering a food chain.

6th

Renewable or Not?

Students will learn the difference between renewable and non-renewable resources and simulate society's use of resources.

6th

Rocks and Minerals

Students will review the rock cycle, learn how to distinguish rocks from minerals by using "edible" examples and identify everyday products made from minerals.

6th

EnviroScope

This hands-on model demonstrates land use and pollution in a watershed. Students will learn how to reduce erosion and water contaminants.

7th

Ground Water Model

Using a tabletop model, basic ground water concepts will be discussed. Possible ground water contamination scenarios will be demonstrated.

7th

Streamulator*

Using running water, this display shows stream dynamics including parts of a stream, stream flow, delta formation, erosion, and conservation practices.

7th & 8th

*Due to set up and clean up time required, please plan to have several classes observe this display throughout the day.

Fossils

Students will learn about the different types of fossils found in Ohio, why they are found here and what animals they are related to today.

8th