

What Kids Are Saying

“Awesome! ...I learned a lot about (water) bugs, fish and insects... Keep that station!”

“I thought the (water chemistry) experiment was fun, and I learned new words and their meanings.”

“We found crayfish and water bugs and water fleas, ...tadpoles and salamanders. ...I liked how we could catch bugs with the nets.”

“I learned how fun it is to draw natural creatures and plants.”

“I learned a lot about water and pollution and what can ruin the wetlands.”

“Some people, that need somewhere to go and think, go where there are plants, trees, or sounds of birds. chirping, snakes, and wind blowing.”

Opportunities

- Use your skills in science, math, the arts, or other interests to foster environmental awareness.
- Develop environmentally focused activities for children.
- Expand your teaching skills.
- Mentor with experienced facilitators.
- Get to know other community members who enjoy nature.

Partners and Participating Organizations

Jayhawk Audubon Society
Kaw Valley Heritage Adventuring
Kansas Biological Survey
Elizabeth Schultz Environmental Fund
Lied Center of Kansas
Grassland Heritage Foundation
KU Environs
UKan Teach
KU Center for Science Education
Lawrence Breakfast Optimist Club
Wakarusa Valley Enrichment Program
USD 497



Wetland Learners Project



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Invitation

We invite you to join us as a facilitator or contributor. As a facilitator, you share your expertise or interest in nature with children and adults. Project coordinators provide whatever assistance, equipment or materials you need for the activity you want to do. As a contributor, you help us acquire equipment and materials, provide training for new facilitators, compensate people needed to implement the project, and build a resource base to sustain the project into the future.

Contacts

Sandy Sanders, Director WLP
Melissa Forester, Intern
KU Center for Science Education
Contact us at:
wetlandlearnersproject@gmail.com



The WLP is sponsored by Jayhawk Audubon Society in partnership with Kaw Valley Heritage Alliance/Adventuring. We do activities at local wetlands with elementary students to increase their appreciation and sense of connection with natural environments and their interest in conservation and preservation. Through activities involving scientific investigations, historical contexts or creative self-expression via the arts, students further develop a lifelong, mutually beneficial relationship with Earth's ecosystems and their inhabitants. In the past 4 years, 31 trips for 2nd and 6th graders—involving nearly 2000 students, teachers and chaperones—have taken place through the project.

Sample Activity Topics

- Art
- Beaver observation
- Bird identification
- Botany
- Discovery walks
- Herps
- History
- Hydric soils
- Journal writing
- Macro-invertebrates
- Movement
- Orienteering
- Water chemistry

