



little bugs club



Adventures In Pond Ecology

About Aquatic Ecology

Aquatic Ecology studies the plants and animals that call lakes, rivers, and wetlands their home. In this month's activities, we will be exploring the complex interactions and benefits of aquatic systems.

Aquatic Ecosystems :

Adaptive Plants

Some aquatic ecosystems, such as bogs, have limited nutrients available. In order to increase their nutrient levels, some plants, called carnivorous plants, attract insects which they then digest.

Environmental Benefits

Ponds and other wetlands, provide many beneficial services including storing water, preventing flooding, and acting as carbon sinks (meaning that they remove harmful carbon dioxide from the atmosphere).

Diverse Animals

Many animals are links between aquatic and forest ecosystems. Some, such as frogs, salamanders, and dragonflies, start their lives in rivers or ponds and eventually transform into creatures that can live on land.

Fun Facts

Ponds can either be a permanent body of water or temporary. Temporary ponds are called vernal pools. Vernal pools fill with water in the spring and are often dry by the end of summer. They provide a unique habitat for many animals including fairy shrimp and caddisflies.

View upcoming events!

<https://rockledgegardens.com/little-bugs-club/>



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Pond Scavenger Hunt

See how many different aquatic ecosystem items you can find!! Always make sure that you are aware of your surroundings and that you bring an adult with you to help you find these items.

Tadpole/Frog

☐☐

Dragonfly
larvae/adult

☐

Great Blue Heron

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Turtle

☐

Pitcher Plant

☐

Osprey

☐

Southern Black
Racer

☐

Aquatic Water
Lily

☐

Alligator

☐

Largemouth
Bass



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Adventures In Pond Ecology

Pond and Wetland Walks around Brevard County

- 1 - Brevard Zoo Linear Park
- 2 - Viera Wetlands
- 3 - Suseda Park
- 4 - Ulumay Wildlife Sanctuary

