

# Lake Sunapee Protective Association



## Environmental Educational Programs

1st-3rd Grade



# Learning inspired by nature!

These LSPA educational programs are specifically designed for early childhood and primary grade level learning objectives. Each lesson offers hands on learning through sensory experiences, guided exploration, and techniques for observing the natural world. LSPA's wide variety of programs can be adjusted to fit with specific curriculum needs and shaped to fit each classroom's dynamics.

**LSPA programs can be developed out in the field,  
within the classroom,  
or at LSPA's Learning Center!**



In the Field ~

Using each school's unique environment or nearby sites (forests, ponds, vernal pools, streams and wetlands) we discover the wonder that lies within each natural resource.



At LSPA Learning Center ~

LSPA's location in Sunapee Harbor offers a unique space to observe a watershed environment and learn about all aspects of water. Educational tours along the river and harbor are available.

Go to LSPA's website for information about how LSPA educational programs tie into NH Science Frameworks and current science standards.

Relevant articles, research data and links to recent science activities can also be found on our website.

[www.lakesunapee.org](http://www.lakesunapee.org)

# Water

## Water, Water Everywhere!

Investigate the water cycle and the essential role of water in the lives of plants, animals and people. Students participate in both inside and outside activities designed to "immerse" them in the water cycle.



## Pond Life

Students explore plant and animal life in the freshwater pond, both their physical adaptations and habitats. This program makes a real "splash" with the students when they examine freshwater macroinvertebrates up close through a 'pond sweep'.

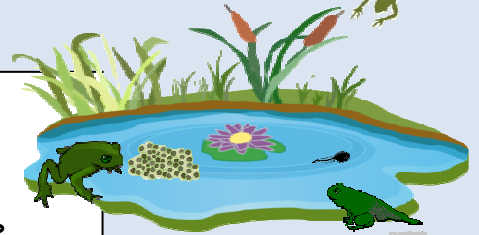
\*Can be held at several pond locations.



## Life in the Fast Lane: Vernal Pools

The unique aquatic environment of temporary spring ponds is the setting for this exploration of life cycle and habitat. Frogs and aquatic insects are the focus of this field investigation.

\*Can be held at several pool locations.



## H<sup>2</sup>O Olympics

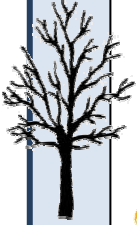
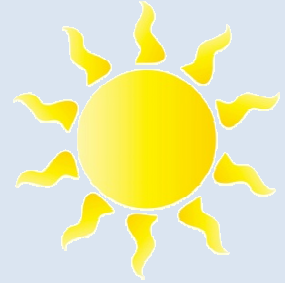
The unique physical properties of water are the focus for these hands-on investigations. Students explore surface tension, cohesion, adhesion and density in a series of classroom activities.



# ~ Seasons and Trees ~

## Seasons and Our Senses

We experience nature best when we use our senses. Explore the grounds around your school using all the senses. Seasonal change is the focus for this active, investigation based program.



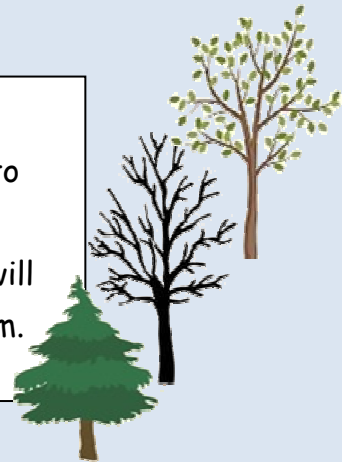
## Coping with the Cold!

Have you ever wondered how plants and animals stay warm and find food in our snowy NH winters? Students will investigate how animals and plants cope with the snow and ice and cold temperatures of the winter season.



## Trees are Terrific!

Our New Hampshire landscape has a wide variety of trees to study and explore. In this program we investigate tree structure and function right in the school yard. Students will learn about the role of trees in a healthy watershed system.



## Forests of the Watershed

Pick a forest to explore with an LSPA educator. You will investigate the habitats of NH forests. Come and find out what trees live here and how to identify them by studying their unique structures. Be prepared to hike and play games that focus on the amazing life of trees and their importance to life in the forest.

\*Can be held at several forest locations.



# Animals ~



## New Hampshire Mammals

Life cycles, habitats, food webs and watersheds are all interconnected and play a role in our native NH ecology. Our programs introduce how within the watershed environment we are all connected and rely on a critical balance for sustainability. We offer programs on specific animals or animal families that can be featured as a stand alone classroom program.



## New Hampshire Birds



Discover how our native birds survive the diverse NH seasons. Investigate what they eat, where they nest, their life cycles, and why water quality is so critical for them. Learn which birds stay here in NH and are active all winter long. Birds are a vital part of our NH environment and play a viable role in the food web.



## Incredible Insects



Insects are all around us and are such an important part of our NH landscape. In this investigative program students review insects' structure and lifecycle as well as their role in the food web.



## Animal Tracks and Signs

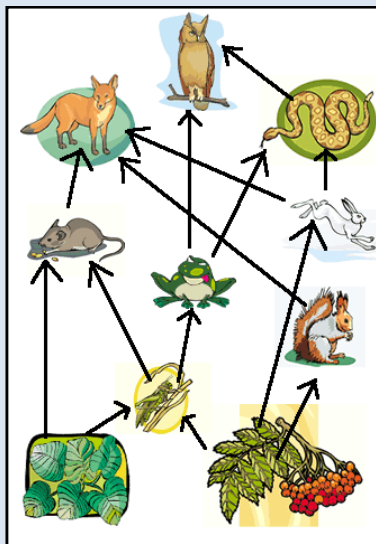
Who is sharing our backyards and schoolyards with us? Find out what signs animals leave in nature and how to "decode" them. Students will discuss the habitats and food webs that connect all of our animal neighbors.



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## Freshwater Babies

Tadpoles and salamanders, fish and bugs, ducks and songbirds! Explore fresh water to discover the activities of some of our favorite pond creatures. This program can be in the classroom or outside; includes a variety of activities that compare the lifecycles of aquatic animals.



## Nature's Way

This hands on session explores the basic concepts of habitat and the food web and focuses on learning directly about nature through observation. Activities make use of both the classroom and the schoolyard.



For additional information, or to schedule an LSPA program for your students, contact

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Design your own program with your specific curriculum needs as the focus. We can work with you and create a classroom and /or field experience that ties in with your grade level learning.





### **The Mission Statement of Lake Sunapee Protective Association**

LSPA, founded in 1898, is a member-supported nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing the special environment of the Lake Sunapee region through education, research, and collaborative action.

Lake Sunapee Protective Association

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