

taking care of wetlands

This program introduces students to the topic of wetlands and their importance. The students become environmental scientists as they discover life in a wetland habitat, and how wetlands are affected by human activities. (This is an indoor program!)

CURRICULUM CONNECTION — Wetland ecosystems

► Program Outline | 90 minutes

Greeting and Introduction

Welcome and organization

Program Activities

- **What is a wetland?**
Through discussion, students discover what a wetland is and why it is important. Then, discover the diversity of life in a wetland by “building” one.
- **Dinner at the pond**
Become aware of wetland ecology by building a food chain in a warm-water wetland.
- **Clear and murky water**
Observe various water samples and record level of clarity.
- **Oil in the duck pond**
Discover how ducks are affected by oil pollution, and try cleaning oily feathers.
- **Acid rain**
Test various water samples to find out if it is an acid or base.
- **Drop by drop pollution**
Observe how a small amount of pollution can affect a whole lake, and find out how difficult it is to clean it up.
- **Oil slick**
Use various materials to clean up an oil spill, and record the best way.

Conclusion and Departure

Summarize, questions and prepare to depart

