**Life in the Pond**

*Synopsis*

Pre-K—6th, upper

**MN Academic Standards**

- supported during HNC program. More standards can be supported with pre- and post lesson activities.

**Science**

- 0.1.1.2.1 Observation of natural world
- 0.4.1.1.1 Observe plants and animals
- 1.1.1.1.1 Support answers with obs.
- 1.1.1.1.2 Accurate descriptions
- 1.1.3.2.1 Science tools
- 1.4.1.1.1 Sort animals
- 1.4.2.1.1 Animal needs for survival
- 1.4.2.1.2 Habitats provide needs
- 1.4.3.1.1 Animal life cycles
- 1.4.3.1.2 Life cycle
- 2.4.1.1 Living things are diverse
- 2.4.2.1 Natural systems
- 3.1.1.1.1 Support claims with evidence
- 3.1.1.1.2 Science is replicable
- 3.1.1.2.3 Record observations
- 3.1.1.2.4 Evidence based explanation
- 3.1.3.4.1 Science tools
- 3.4.1.1.1 Growth, survive, reproduce
- 3.4.1.1.2 Groups of animal/plants
- 3.4.2.1.1 Generational traits
- 4.2.1.1.1 Measure with science tools
- 5.1.1.1.1 Scientific process
- 5.1.1.1.2 Science is replicable
- 5.1.1.2.2 Scientific investigation
- 5.1.3.4.1 Data
- 5.4.2.1.1 Plant and animal structures
- 5.4.2.1.2 MN natural systems
- 5.4.2.1.3 Changes to a system
- 5.4.4.1.1 Human interaction

**Math**

- 1.1.1.3 Count up to 120.
- 2.1.1.1 Whole numbers up to 1000.

**Language Arts**

- 0.8.1.1 D, 0.8.3.3, 1.8.1.1 C, E, 1.8.3.3, 2.8.1.1 C, E, 2.8.3.3, 3.8.1.1 C, D, F, 3.8.3.3, 4.8.1.1 C, D, 5.8.1.1 C, D, 6.9.1.1 C, D

**Goals & Objectives**

**This program will:**

- Take an up-close look at life in the pond
- Discuss water as a habitat
- Describe and demonstrate stages of metamorphosis
- Use scientific equipment to collect pond animals, record data and classify animals

**Students will be able to:**

- Recognize different animals that depend on water to live
- Identify species by comparing collected animals with pictures or keys
- List species observed

**Activities**

**In the Classroom**

- Use whiteboard, pictures, and/or stuffed animals (age dependent) to discuss “what is a pond?”, “who lives in a pond?”, and “what tools will we use to learn about the pond?”

**In the Field**

- Visit a pond in Hartley Park. Use dipping nets, magnifying glasses, and/or identification sheets to sample pond life and identify several species.

**Bad Weather Alternative**

- Observe aquatic macroinvertebrates using microscopes and magnifying glasses (HNC educators will catch critters before your arrival)
- Frog calling game
- Pond predator/prey games
- Observe live animals in building: turtles, salamander, snakes, fish

**Authenticity**

Data such as number of species and individuals contributes to Hartley’s environmental data collection.

**Please have your students wear their own rubber boots if possible. If not, we have rubber boots to share with children and adults.**