

Franklin County Conservation District Holds Sixth Annual First Grade Field Trip



Learning about Wildlife



Identifying Macroinvertebrates

For the sixth year, the Franklin County Conservation District hosted the First Grade Field Trip at Caledonia State Park on April 30th, May 1st, May 14th and May 15th. This year's field trip was once again a full-day event with a variety of educational stations including agriculture, wildlife, water quality (macroinvertebrates and runoff), dairy, forestry and a nature trail scavenger hunt. Approximately 712 first graders from 32 classes across 13 different elementary schools attended. Once again, the presenters did a great job of meeting the field trip's main goal-interactive education. At each station, the students experienced different activities, including but not limited to, seeing and identifying macroinvertebrates, milking a "cow", creating a "watershed" to demonstrate runoff, and participating in educational games to learn about agriculture and forestry. We introduced several new activities this year and they were a big hit.

The students that attended the last two days of the field trip were able to interact with Pennsylvania's Ms. Agriculture USA, Kayla Rose Stauffer. She is working at the Penn State Extension Franklin County office this summer as a 4H Summer Assistant. It was an honor to have her at our event.

The presenters for the First Grade Field Trip included Conservation District employees, Penn State Extension Educators (Agronomy, Dairy and 4H) and our local Natural Resources Conservation Service. The District would not be able to provide this field trip without their assistance!