

Weekly Theme: *Wondrous Wetlands*

Description: *Explore life on the edge as you find out more about who lives in places such as a vernal pond, and a marsh with virtual visits, crafts, activities and ideas for visiting wetlands with family.*

Weekly Offerings:

| Big Idea | Activity Name | Activity Description | Length of Activity | Outside ? | Caregiver Needed? |
|--|-----------------------------|--|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Adapting to Life in a Wetland | Science Journal | Campers will make a science journal to record their notes throughout the week. | 15 | N | N |
| Adapting to Life in a Wetland | Mural of River's Edge | First in a series of daily drawings of animals and plants in a wetland. | 20 min | N | N |
| Adapting to Life in a Wetland | Lily Pad Model | Explore how a lily pad adapts to grow in water. | 20 | N | N |
| Adapting to Life in a Wetland | Mosquito Mouth | Use a mosquito "mouth" to get 2 kinds of meals. | 20 | N | N |
| Adapting to Life in a Wetland | Outing: Visit a River Edge | Go on a scavenger hunt at a local park, and use journal. | 30+ | Y | Y |
| Vernal Ponds: Temporary Wetlands | Mural of vernal pond | Daily drawings of animals and plants in a wetland. | 20 | N | N |
| Vernal Ponds: Temporary Wetlands | Frog Calls | Learn to make different frog calls and teach one to someone else. | 20 | N | N |
| Vernal Ponds: Temporary Wetlands | Salamander Craft | Make and decorate a salamander. | 30 | N | N |
| Vernal Ponds: Temporary Wetlands | Outing: Visit a Vernal Pond | Look for, observe, and record animals and plants at a vernal pond. | 30+ | Y | Y |
| Marsh: Plants with their Feet in Water | Mural of a Marsh | Daily drawings of animals and plants in a wetland. | 20 | N | N |
| Marsh: Plants with their Feet in Water | Wetland in a Pan | Make a model of a wetland to explore the important roles they play. | 30 | Y | N |
| Marsh: Plants with their Feet in Water | Cattail Craft | Explore how cattails are adapted to wetlands with a craft model. | 20 | N | N |

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|--|--------------------------|---|-----|---|----------|
| Marsh: Plants with their Feet in Water | Outing: Visit a Marsh | Look for, observe, and record animals and plants at a local marsh | 30+ | Y | Y |
| Swamp: Trees and Shrubs with their Feet in Water | Mural of a Swamp | Daily drawings of animals and plants in a wetland. | 20 | N | N |
| Swamp: Trees and Shrubs with their Feet in Water | Duck Oil Spill | Explore what happens when wetlands are polluted by oil. | 30 | Y | N |
| Swamp: Trees and Shrubs with their Feet in Water | Water Striders | Explore how an insect uses surface tension to walk on water. | 20 | N | N |
| Swamp: Trees and Shrubs with their Feet in Water | Outing: Visit a Swamp | Look for, observe, and record animals and plants at a nearby swamp. | 30+ | Y | Y |
| Bog: A Wet Desert | Mural of Bog | Daily drawings of animals and plants in a wetland. | 20 | N | N |
| Bog: A Wet Desert | Make Mini Wetlands | Make and compare models of different wetlands. | 30 | Y | N |
| Bog: A Wet Desert | Pitcher Plant Craft/Game | Explore how a pitcher plant gets nutrients by luring insects. Then try to catch a (model) insect. | 30 | N | Possibly |
| Bog: A Wet Desert | Outing: Visit a Bog | Look for, observe, and record animals and plants at a bog. | 30+ | Y | Y |

Material List:

- **From Weekly Kit**

- 2 balloons
- 3 cotton balls
- 1 precut sponge with strip of cardboard
- 2 natural feathers
- Modeling clay (divided)
- River's Edge Scavenger Hunt (printed)
- Vernal Pond Scavenger Hunt Guide (printed)
- Salamander Template (printed)
- Directions to local outing locations (printed)
- Cattail Pattern and Reference Drawing (printed)
- Swamp Observation Guide (printed)
- Pitcher Plant pattern (printed)
- Bog Scavenger Hunt (printed)
- 1 comb
- 2 sheets of green construction paper
- ¼ sheet of brown felt
- 6 sheets of large white construction paper
- Small handful of polyester fiber fill
- 3 paper clips
- green foam sheet (appr. 4.5"x6")
- 2 straws
- Journal
- Brown yarn, 3 ft.
- 6 black pony beads
- 1 green pipe cleaner
- 1 Plastic pipette
- Rubber band

- **From Art Starter Kit**
 - Scissors
 - Glue stick
 - Crayons or colored pencils
 - Clear tape
 - Paintbrush
 - Ruler
- **From Science Starter Kit**
 - Magnifying glass
 - Binoculars
 - Pipette
 - Timer
- **Needed but not provided**
 - plastic/glass cup
 - Bowls
 - 3-5 shallow containers
 - leaves, dirt, sticks
 - small amount of: ketchup, vegetable oil, dish soap and sugar
 - empty paper towel roll
 - baking pan
 - Sponge
 - piece of string
 - spoon

Notes:

- Each day introduces an outing that requires driving to a wetland location that may be up to 35 min away from Ann Arbor. Suggested locations with links to maps will be provided so families can plan visits on weekends or later in the summer.
- The pitcher plant craft requires some help with instructions.
- Duck Oil Spill can be messy and might require supervision.
- Many of the activities can be done inside or outside.