



October 2020

Archery Club

Fall means it's time for Dells Parks & Rec Archery Club at Upham Woods! Program Coordinator Johanna Desprez taught the 9- to 11-year-olds the clap commands, when to step forward, when to pick up bow and nock arrow, when to shoot, and when to go get arrows. She also showed them how to hold the bow, nock the arrow, shoot, and how to retrieve arrows. Archery club members were able to shoot two rounds of arrows with Isabelle and Johanna giving them encouragement and feedback about how to shoot. Some were able to hit the target and others weren't, but everyone seemed to have a good time and was trying.



Live from Upham Woods! Escuela Verde Virtual Mushroom Study



Teacher Amy Welsh traveled from Milwaukee to Upham Woods to lead 13 high school students from Escuela Verde in a virtual study of mushrooms. Our team helped Amy collect samples and find locations for virtual class in the morning. Isabelle, Johanna, and Amy used the digital microscope from the DOTS kit to take microscopic pictures of the mushrooms for the class. During the virtual class live from Upham woods, Ariel led the students in an inquiry activity. Johanna demonstrated

virtually how to use the meteorology tool from the DOTS kits to collect data about the weather and assisted Amy throughout the virtual class. Amy then completed the virtual class by showing the students different mushrooms that were found, demonstrating how you can tell the differences between mushrooms that look similar and what resources there are to find out what a mushroom is.



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**A Live-streamed mushroom study
from the Upham Woods field station
Scientific Story**

Date: September 17, 2020



Amy Welsh joined us here at Upham Woods to conduct virtual lesson to her class at Escuela Verde about the local mushrooms. We found so many different types of mushrooms!

We Went Mushroom Hunting



Escuela Verde Joined Us Virtually where Welsh shared her great finds!



I notice... I wonder... This reminds me of...

Puffball mushroom



"looks like a sponge"

Coral mushroom



"a tree"

"some type of plant from star wars"

Shrimp of the woods mushroom

"looks like mac n cheese..... but nasty"



Bear Tooth mushroom



"hair"

"sea weed"

"dangling"

"chewbaca"

What variables do you need to think about to identify a mushroom?

Where it grows?

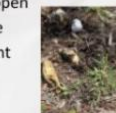
What it looks like?

What time of the year it grows

These mushrooms look the same but are they?



When we cut this one open we found they were the same species at different stages.



When we cut it open we found they were different mushrooms.

For more information, contact Justin Hougham, or check out our website:
justin.hougham@wisc.edu • (608) 254-6461 • <http://fyi.uwex.edu/environmentaleducation/>

Fall Adventure 2020





On September 13, Upham Woods had its first community day since March hosting 29 youth and adults for a day of hiking, conservation, and exploration. The event featured 3 conservation service projects working on the South Beach trail for folks to register for. 6 people contributed 12 hours that day. In addition to conservation projects, participants could hike a number of our trails on main campus accompanied with a scavenger hunt bingo board that encouraged mindful observation. The check in desk featured a touch table with a digital microscope and another table set up to compare the adaptations of a box turtle to a painted turtle. Our younger guests drew the respective habitats for painted and box turtles. Families were so happy that this event was open to the public and the variety of activities that were offered. One family from Adams County came as 4-Hers and enjoyed reminiscing on the trails. Another man was so excited to be back at Upham after so many years, he returned to participate in multiple conservation projects.

Research Accelerators



Maryland Ave Montessori School and Vincent High School in Milwaukee each participated in the Virtual Research Accelerator Program this month, reaching a total of 33 youth.

Our program staff met these schools multiple times on Google Meet. In the first sessions, students learned how to conduct a BioBlitz and the importance of biodiversity. They were inspired to discover the different kinds of plants, animals, and fungi that live in their own nature-hoods. Using these discoveries, students learned how to make their own scientific stories and how they are going to incorporate the scientific method into their stories. Johanna showed an example story and how it shows the method through photos, data, and observations.


Another session included a presentation, interactive questions, and videos about urban wildlife. Students learned how certain animals have adapted to urban life, what animals can be found in Milwaukee, and what urban biologists do. Program Coordinator Ariel also spent time talking about green spaces in cities, wildlife corridors, and asked the students to think of green spaces near their homes.



Vincent High School
Urban Wildlife Scientific Story
Date: September 24, 2020
Location: Google Meet



Upham staff joined Vincent High School A.P. Environmental Science students during their class time virtually on Google Meet. We explored the different types of urban wildlife, their different characteristics, and why there is sometimes conflict between urban wildlife and humans.



We watched an amazing video about peregrine falcons.

They can fly over 200 mph!

Hypotheses











We hypothesize that most urban wildlife species are generalist.


Generalists- Are animals that are very adaptable. They eat a lot of different types of foods and live in a lot of different types of places.

This program is sponsored by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District.

The most commonly recorded wildlife in Milwaukee are gray squirrels and coyotes both are generalists.

Most Commonly Reported Species in Milwaukee using Inaturalist



Urban green spaces are really important for people and urban wildlife. Corridors are a way for wildlife to move within or between habitats

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New Construction Update

The Upper Dells Research & Education Center is really taking shape!

Completed Projects:

- First floor interior wall framing
- Second interior floor framing
- Roof deck installed.
- Old Welcome Center Demolished

In-progress Work

- Glue-laminated beam install for lobby and front porch
- Framing and roof for lobby and upstairs conference room
- Connecting the water line



Upcoming Work

- Foundation excavations for ADA ramp to dorm and classroom
- Concrete for curbs and sidewalks
- First layer of driveway asphalt
- Landscaping and restoration of play field



Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center

**N194 County Rd N
Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin
(608) 254-6461**

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