

Franklin County Conservation District Hosts First Grade Field Trip



Learning about Wildlife



Looking for Macroinvertebrates

For the third year in a row, the Franklin County Conservation District hosted a field trip at Caledonia State Park for all of the first graders in the Chambersburg Area School District. There were approximately 688 first graders from 31 classes at twelve different elementary schools in the district.

In order to accommodate this many classes, the schools were rotated through on half-day schedules over the course of four days- April 27th and 28th and May 10th and 11th. During the field trip, the students visited four different stations, three of them being educational and one of them being the playground. The interactive educational sessions focused on water quality/macroinvertebrates, wildlife and agriculture. Even though the fourth station was not educational, you cannot have children at a park and not let them have time on the playground equipment!

The Conservation District would not be able to provide this opportunity for the first graders without help from Penn State Extension's 4-H and Agronomy Educators and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. In spite of the rain that occurred almost every day, the students, teachers and presenters all felt that the field trip was worthwhile, and most importantly, the students learned something new while having fun.