



Ideas for Outdoor Classroom Kindergarten



Preparing for the Trip:

Discuss with your students the '[Leave No Trace](#)' principles published by the Boy Scouts of America at school before leaving for the Outdoor Classroom. This really helps students know how to handle themselves throughout the trip.

Activities:

Nature Hike at Lower Pond:

(If your group is starting here, have the bus driver drop you off at lower pond.)

1. Walk around lower pond.
 - a. Caution: There are a lot of goose droppings at the lower pond, so have the students watch their step.
 - b. There are branches hanging down on the northeast side of the pond. It is passable, just stay close to the hillside, not the pond.
2. On the east side of the pond, there are 2 large culverts. There is a spring located at the culverts that makes a 'glup, glup sound' every second and spits water about 8 inches in the air. It works best to send one teacher to the culvert, then have a chaperone send students to the culvert in groups of 2-4 to observe the spring.

Plant Investigation:

There are many native plants at the Outdoor classroom that can be investigated by the students.

Tree Cookies:

Click [here](#) for directions on how to make 'Tree Cookies'.

Scavenger Hunt:

Create a list of items the students can look for while at the outdoor classroom.

Trout Run:

If you would like an opportunity to walk through the trout run, you will need to contact Jean Cummins at jeancummins@mcps.org.

Picnic:

There is a picnic shelter at the outdoor classroom that can be utilized for a picnic lunch for your students. There is also a large grassy area next to the shelter that the students may use to sit.