

Wetland Sounds

Section 4 Wetland Activities OUTDOOR WETLAND INVESTIGATIONS



Grade Level: 2 - 6

NGSS: 2-LS4-1, 5-ESS3-1.
MS-LS2-1, MS-LS2-2.

Subjects: Science

Skills: Observing, using field guides

Duration: 20 minutes

Group Size: 1

Setting: Outdoors

Objectives:

Students will listen for and map wetland sounds.

Materials:

Clip boards and writing paper, or field journals, pencils or pens for each student; "Wetland Sounds Science Card" (*following*).

Procedure

1. IN ADVANCE, choose sites along the wetland area that are safe and comfortable for students to sit and observe, and which are far from distracting noises of traffic, parking lots, or playgrounds.

2. Depending on the grade level, guide the students through the activity, or send them out to follow the instructions on the science card.

3. Back in class, have the students share their imitations of the sounds they observed.



Wetland Sounds

1. Write the heading “Wetland Sounds” at the top of a page in your field notebook.
2. Move to a spot where you can still be seen from by your teacher or group leader, but you are at least 10 feet away from the others. Sit so that you face away from other students. Be very quiet, close your eyes, and listen carefully to the sounds of the wetland.
3. Listen to the water, insects, birds, shrubs, ground and animals for a few moment. Then, slowly open your eyes. If you were very quiet, a wetland animal may just be poking its nose out at you. Keep listening and quietly make a map of the sounds around you in your notebook. Label each sound and place it on your map.
4. Do you hear more students coming? Imagine if you were an animal and heard all the noises that people often make. Would you stay out in the open where you could be seen, or try to be so quiet that people would not notice you?
5. Try listening again for a little longer.
6. What did you hear this time?
7. Try to remember these sounds so your class can have a wetlands concert when you get back to school.

