



Pond and Stream Safari:

A Guide to the Ecology of Aquatic Invertebrates



IN A NUTSHELL

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Cost: \$16.75

SUBJECTS

Language Arts

Science

This field guide to aquatic insects goes beyond identification to include exploration activities and background information on life underwater. The intent of the program is to use the world of aquatic insects as a way to increase the student's interest in and awareness of pond and stream ecology.

While not a curriculum as such, the field guide contains information on the lives of aquatic insects with explanations of metamorphosis, food chains and other ecological principles. It is accompanied by worksheets and handouts for seven related activities. The related activities include both indoor and outdoor lessons, and include games, specimen collection and language activities. All are followed by suggestions for discussion questions. It contains a leader's guide, worksheets, activity cards, and checklist of quick guide to common aquatic invertebrates. Text and worksheets include clear, detailed drawings of aquatic animals.

Grade Level
4-8

Length
56 pages

Date Published
1993

THE BOTTOM
LINE

“The materials are well designed and illustrated, but have a narrow focus.”

What the REVIEWERS Said !	Key Characteristics	Strengths Noted	Other Considerations
	Fairness and Accuracy	Factually accurate. Developed by faculty at Cornell University.	
	Depth	Focuses on concepts of environmental chemistry and ecology regarding aquatic invertebrates.	No conceptual framework. Lacks a strong connection between the importance of aquatic invertebrates and their environment.
	Emphasis on Skills Building	Provides opportunities to develop identification and monitoring skills.	
	Action Orientation	N o t A p p l i c a b l e .	
	Instructional Soundness	Uses a variety of methods: games, research, field study. Many activities are hands-on or involve outdoor teaching. Goals are stated for all activities.	Does not state learner outcomes or suggested forms of assessment.
	Usability	Materials are easy to use and easily reproducible. Gives suggestions for making or finding low-cost material for activities.	Activity sheets are not in the same volume as activities and can easily be lost. Materials need to be adapted for use outside of the New York area.

“Ample background material on individual aquatic invertebrates, but relies on the educator’s knowledge for information on concepts such as adaptation and food chains.”