



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation



SPRING 2018

## EDUCATOR NEWSLETTER



### Summer Teacher Institute Aug. 1-2

Discover new climate change connections to inform and empower your students! Activities will benefit educators of students in grades 3-12.

Topics Include:

- Climate change connections for NYSSLS
- Invasive species
- WNY plant and animal identification
- Citizen science projects
- Student-centered, place-based learning

Extensive information on environmental education resources available to Western New York teachers is included in the program. Planning time is provided to infuse lessons into your existing curriculum.

Up to 12 CTLE hours will be available.

A \$50 registration fee includes lunch on the second day.

[Register](#) by July 20, 2018. For more information, call (716) 683-5959.

### Outdoor Classroom Day May 17, 2018



**Free Webinar: Bird ID and Citizen Science for Beginners** / May 10 at 8pm  
*or visit the website to view the archived version*

The **Cornell Lab** of Ornithology  
**BirdSleuth K-12**

### Plan now for Fall Field Trips

*Bus grants and more!*



Our on-site and in-school

## Upcoming Workshops

### August 15: [Project WILD](#)

1:00-4:00 PM /3 CTLE Hours

Grades K-12

### August 23: [Getting Little Feet WET](#)

4:00-7:00 PM / 3 CTLE Hours

Grades PreK-2

Register at (716) 683-5959 or email your name and phone number [teachered@reinsteinwoods.org](mailto:teachered@reinsteinwoods.org).

programs fill up quickly! Request a program for the fall today [online](#).

### [Pat Taeger Field Trip Fund](#)

provides transportation grants of up to \$250 to bring students in special education or alternative education programs to Reinstein Woods for field trips.

### [Connect Kids To Parks Field Trip Grant Program](#)

will **refund** up to \$1,000 of field trip costs when you visit Reinstein Woods or any state park.



## Microhikes in your Schoolyard

### [Micro Hike Activity](#)

*Go into the schoolyard and measure out about 3 feet of string for each hiker or pair of hikers. This will be your hiking trail.*

#### Activity

*Imagine you've shrunk! You are now the size of a thumbnail.*

- Lay down your trail and begin your hike at one end of the string, getting close and looking at every detail.
- Hike slowly! Remember you are only the size of a thumbnail and have very short legs.
- Record your discoveries. What would you say if you were a tiny, thumbnail-sized person seeing the trail for the first time?
- Capture your favorite discoveries on the trail, through photographs or drawings.
- Does pretending you are tiny change the way you look at the world? In what ways did the journey change your perspective?



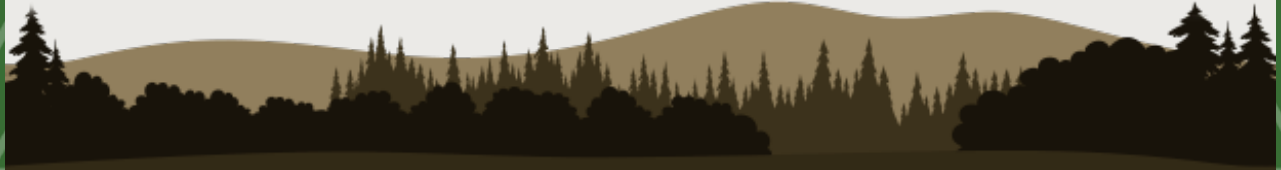
#### Lesson Reflection

1. Create a class list of some of the terrain, plants and animals that the

- students observed. You could write it on a 3 column chart, with a column for each of the above observations.
2. See more reflection ideas [here](#).

### Extension Ideas

- Estimate how many blades of grass an ant will need to pass if it walks across the schoolyard. Start by counting blades of grass along the Micro Hike string line, then multiply by the number of string lines it would take to cross the schoolyard.
- See more extension ideas [here](#).



Reinstein Woods Environmental Education  
Center

(716) 683-5959

[teachered@reinsteinwoods.org](mailto:teachered@reinsteinwoods.org)

[www.reinsteinwoods.org](http://www.reinsteinwoods.org)

Connect with us

