



Engaging with Nature

WEEKLY IDEAS FOR PARENTS, CAREGIVERS AND EDUCATORS

Questions to Guide Discussions

What is the most important function of a watershed?

What can you do to protect your watershed?



Photo by Emma O'Donnell

This week learn more about your local watershed!

No Tech Activities

No devices or apps needed

Puddle Hoping

Nature Journal Entry

Imagine you are a rain drop. In a nature journal draw or write your responses to:

- Where would you travel?
- Would you travel into the ground?
- Would you gather with all your raindrop friends in puddles?
- If rain drops by your house where do you think it will eventually?

Low Tech Activities

Mobile device/Wi-Fi access

Build a Rain Barrel

Ever wonder if you could save the rain for later? Well now you can! Create a rain barrel to store water. This can save money on your next water bill by giving you a reservoir of spare water!

How to video from Blue Water Baltimore:

<https://bluewaterbaltimore.org/project/install-a-rain-barrel/>

High Tech Activities

Device/Internet Access/Online Tools

Find Your Watershed

Has all this talk about water, rain, and watersheds made you curious to find out more about the health of your watershed?

Check out "How's My Waterway" from the EPA:

<https://www.epa.gov/waterdata/how-s-my-waterway>

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Guidelines

1. Create a foundation for SEL.
2. Attend to well-being and mutual support among adults.
3. Promote SEL for young people.
4. Reflect on how things are going and adjust as you learn.

CASEL CARES INITIATIVE

<https://casel.org/resources-covid/>

BUILD AN INCLUSIVE OUTDOORS

Be an active part of making the outdoors safe and welcoming for all identities and abilities.

#RecreateResponsibly

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<http://www.recreateresponsibly.org/>

The Recreate Responsibly guidelines offer a starting point for getting outside to keep yourself healthy and to maintain access to our parks, trails, and beaches.

Patapsco Valley State Park

A beautiful recreation area, encompassing approximately 16,00 acres of Maryland beauty in Ellicott City, MD.

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/pages/central/patapsco.aspx>



Create Your Own State Park
Summer Challenge



<https://tinyurl.com/y3xg66rm>

Cre tu propio parque estatal
<https://tinyurl.com/y5xwvnl>

Summer Camps - For Kids

Arlington Echo Family Camps 2020

Echo @ Home

<https://www.arlingtonecho.org/camps/echo-home.html>

Week-long interactive sessions geared towards a variety of grade levels, along with adventures for the whole family: Echo Summer Explorers (entering K-2), Investigators (entering 3-5), Adventures (entering 6-12) and F.E.E.T (open to all)

Carrie Murray Nature Center

<https://www.carriemurraynaturecenter.org/summer-nature-camp>

The Wild Haven Summer Session (3-5-year-old) and the Summer Nature Camp (6-11-year-old) provide fun outdoor learning experiences where kids hike, explore, and make friends during active weekly camps and unforgettable experiences in the park.

Fair Hill Nature Center

Summer Day Camps

<https://fairhillnature.org/day-programs.html>

Day programs for children age 5-12 will be available twice a week from 9am to 3 pm in July and August.

Ocean City Estuary Explorers

July 28-31, 2020 and August 25-28, 2020

<https://camps.oceancitymd.gov/estuary-explorers-camp/>

Explorers participate in engaging, outdoor investigations including critter samplings, STEM activities, watershed studies, kayaking, forestry and more! This camp offers one field trip during the week. One day will be spent kayaking on Ayers Creek.

For Adults

Enrichment

MD DNR Wildlife and Heritage Service

July 28, 2020

7:00 - 8:30 PM

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/habitat/wapublicevents.aspx>

Bats are fascinating yet highly misunderstood species. Learn basics of bat biology, interesting bat species around the world, and how to help bats with backyard wildlife habitat.

Free! Registration required. *Meeting will be recorded.*

The Cornell Bird Academy

<https://academy.allaboutbirds.org/>

Self-Paced Online Courses

20% off coupon expires 7/31/2020

Code: JulyBirds20

20-self-paced, online courses to help you build skills and enjoy nature

Professional Development

Maryland Centers for Creative Classrooms

Virtual Professional Learning

<https://www.msdefinearts.org/summer2020>

Choose your own CPD adventure this summer!

Featured App - Nature's Notebook

Explore the many resources available including, activities and curricula, workshops, and presentations.

<https://www.usanpn.org/nn/education>