



Lesson Name: Intro to Canoe Meadows
Name of Sanctuary: Berkshires
Grade Level: 3-5
Location Options: At sanctuary, in class
Time: 1 hour
For more info: berkshires@massaudubon.org or
(413)637-0320

Program Description

This class examines maps and a slide presentation about the natural and human history of Canoe Meadows, including the archeological dig conducted in 2013 and the dam removal project. Power Point presentation of archeological dig and dam removal work is shown to students.

It is based upon the Topo Twister lesson, but customized for Canoe Meadows.

Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks

Framework: Science and Technology
Strand: Life Science
Topic: Changes in ecosystems over time

Learning Standards

Next Generation Science standards

Cross cutting concepts- landscape history, human effects on the environment

Lesson Objectives

What will students know and be able to do? These objectives must be observable and measurable.

Students will know and be able to:

Read a map and orient themselves

- Identify trails located at Canoe Meadows
- Identify ways that the landscape has changed over time
- Understand how humans shape the landscape



Vocabulary

Native Americans	
Chert	macroinvertebrates
Brook	confluence
River	compass rose
Dairy Farm	map key

Assessments

How will you know that the students have met the standards?

- Students will identify locations on the map and apply their knowledge
- Students will express knowledge that landscapes change over time, and distinguish between human changes and natural changes.

Summarizer

How will the Mass Audubon Educator close the lesson to see if students met the objectives?

- Students will find locations during their field trip
- Students will notice landscape changes, and identify causes.



Mass Audubon School Programs

At Mass Audubon we strive to create learning experiences that are enriching, innovative, meaningful, and engaging. All our school programs are aligned with Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. Our network of wildlife sanctuaries and nature centers located in urban, suburban, and rural communities around the state enable us to have strong relationships with local schools.

Our Education Foundations

- Place-based education is an educational philosophy that connects learning to what is local for an individual. We help build conservation communities, working with students and teachers in cities and towns to develop place-based environmental education that is linked directly to their home community.
 - Inquiry-based learning is focused on teamwork, being learner-centered, questioning ourselves and the world around us, providing a more focused, time-intensive exploration, promoting lifelong learning, communication, and learning as fun.
 - We are fully committed to creating a positive and supportive environment for all learners.
 - We strive to be culturally sensitive, recognizing and embracing cultural differences.
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Differentiated Instruction

- We strive to create a positive learning environment that is inclusive, supportive to all learners, and sensitive to cultural diversity.
 - Outdoor classroom experiences are structured to meet the needs of the particular learners.
 - Students work in small groups using hands-on materials.
 - A variety of educational media are used, including colorful illustrations.
 - With advance notice, efforts will be made to accommodate all learning styles and physical needs.
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Notes

- Nature exploration is dependent upon the weather and other conditions. A class might observe different wildlife than they expected to see. An outdoor lesson can sometimes provide unexpected, but enriching teachable moments on a natural history topic that was not planned.
- Mass Audubon nature centers each have a unique landscape and will customize programs to work best at their particular site.
- Our lessons can be adapted to incorporate a classroom teacher's needs.

