

The Willow School
Gladstone, New Jersey
Grade Two Class – Mr. Mann
November, 2013

The pond that we study is on the school property. Our pond is eleven years old.

Questions:

- 1) What kinds of creatures will we catch?
- 2) What are the names of the creatures?
- 3) How many different creatures are there?
- 4) How is our pond different from last year?
- 5) Are there any new creatures?



What We Did:

1) We visited the pond and walked around the path. We trampled the tall grasses to make it easier to walk through the next time. We were quiet because we wanted to see what big animals lived near or in the pond.

2) We went back to the pond with big and small nets. We took turns using the nets and put what we caught in dishpans. We looked at the creatures and then released them back to the pond.

3) We went back to the pond again and caught creatures the same way we did the last time. We brought the creatures back to our classroom. In class, we put the creatures in dishpans. We looked at the creatures and sorted them into groups. We used field guides to figure out their names. Then we returned them back to the pond.

4) On the next visit to the pond, both second grade teachers made two long dips at each end of the pond as we captured and released pond creatures. They dipped in the same place as last year.

5) We brought the creatures our teacher caught back to our classroom where we named and sorted the creatures. Then we counted them. We added up each other's separate counts and made a chart for our data. Then we made a bar graph to show our results.

Our Count:

Tadpole	26
Backswimmer	2
Water Boatman	4
Pond Snail	9
Ram's Horn Snail	1
Clam	84
Cadis Fly Larva	3
Stonefly Nymph	6
Mayfly Nymph	11
Phantom Midge Larva	5
Dragonfly Nymph	5
Scud	177
Water Scavenger Beetle	1
Diving Water Beetle	88
Fisher Spider	2
Spreadwinged Damselfly	1
Dobson Fly Larva	1