

Recommended Materials to Support Outdoor Learning

Available from Acorn Naturalists (www.acornnaturalists.com)

Magnifying lenses can be used to observe insects, macroinvertebrates, seeds, etc.

- 3x/6x Round Hand-Held Magnifier – enough for each child to use one (or can share with a partner)
 - Item # T-14700 (\$2.35/ea)

Catching insects – nets and containers

- Insect (butterfly) nets – enough for group of children catching insects
 - Item # T-10254 (\$16.95/ea)
- Port-A-Bug Field Observation Container – one for classroom use
 - Item # 11232 (\$9.95)
- Clear Lucite Magnifying Box – enough for several children to use when catching insects
 - Small – Item # T-111 (\$1.15/ea)
 - Large – Item # T-93 (\$1.95/ea)

Macroinvertebrate study materials – chart, guide, tubs, strainers, nets (some of these items can be scrounged at home or dollar stores) or a kit can be purchased to introduce this (see below)

- 4" standard mesh aquatic dip net – enough for several children to use when exploring pond
 - Item # T-91 (\$2.50/ea)
- Nature Circles Pond and Stream Life Card Set
 - Item # G-22180

Pond and Stream Sampling Kit – this kit can be expanded to meet classroom needs

Item # KIT-23197 (\$74.95) – includes

- 10"x12"x6" white plastic pan
- Two sleeves of 10 plastic petri dishes
- Pond and Stream Life identification cards
- 6" standard mesh dip net
- Two-way magnifying viewer
- 3x pocket magnifier
- *Golden Guide to Pond Life*
- *Journaling at the Waters Edge* – student journal
- Activity suggestions

Animal track molds, stamps, rubber animal feet, charts, field guides – these can be purchased individually or as a kit (see below). There are numerous choices, but a set of track molds and stamps for regional animals is recommended.

Animal Tracking Discovery Kit – can expand to include more regional species’ templates, tracks and molds

Item # KIT – 14077 (\$89.95) includes:

- Animal tracking booklet
- Animal track identification guide
- Directions for making casts and other classroom activities
- Field card master for documenting tracks found outdoors
- Track templates and track casting molds for raccoon, coyote and rabbit

Available through Amazon.com from *For the Birds, Inc.*

Birdsong Identifier Lyric, with 7 song cards for 130 birds and 10 frogs & carrying case (\$109)

Other sources for some of the materials – Insect Lore (www.insectlore.com) or Nature Watch (www.nature-watch.com).

Books

Scholastic publishes *Audubon First Field Guides* – trees, mammals, birds, insects, wildflowers, reptiles, amphibians, fish

This book is available from eliza@forestkinder.org It is a companion book to the film *Best Day Ever* shown at the August teacher in-service.

A Forest Days Handbook: Program Design for School Days Outside by Eliza Minnucci with Meghan Teachout