



Grouse Hollow News

SUMMER 2012



School's Out!

BY TIM DeLANO

Schools are a priority audience served at Hopkins Demonstration Forest. School programs include young students learning through play, building forts and crawling around the forest with slugs, snails and millipedes. Middle and high school scientists explore ecology in Hopkins woods. Other youth are learning through service; using real tools and doing real forestry work.

The one thing all school opportunities at Hopkins Demonstration Forest have in common is that learners are in direct contact with the resource. Learning at Hopkins is accomplished by doing things. The contents of this issue of *Grouse Hollow News* are produced by some of the students who participated in programs at Hopkins during the past school year: they want to tell you what they have been doing at Hopkins.

See page 3 for an Honor Roll of Schools participating this school year



PHOTO: KATE DEAN, INSTRUCTOR, ESTACADA HIGH SCHOOL

Estacada High School students count seedlings in a recently planted area to determine whether reforestation efforts at Hopkins are meeting the standards of the Oregon Forest Practices Act.

Seedling Survival

BY RAUL, ESTACADA HIGH SCHOOL, CLASS OF 2012

When we arrived at the Hopkins Forest it was rainy and it seemed like we were in for a pretty dreadful day, but it wound up the exact opposite. Everyone had a great time and the rain wasn't that big of an issue as we were always in motion doing a number of different activities with our groups. It was fun being able to go through and do some of the things people do who work in forestry.

The first thing we did was dress-up in vests and hardhats, with all the tools we would be using that day. Once we all had our gear, we treaded off into the forest. We walked a short while identifying plants and talking about what kind of stuff we would do in the woods that day.

Our first activity was a seedling

survival survey in a recently planted clearcut. What we had to do was map out a straight line, due east down the hillside; and along that line locate five small plots to figure out how many trees per acre were growing there. Our class split into five groups of three students, each with a line (transect) that was 50 ft. away from (parallel to) the last group.

The first plot on our line had to be 25 ft. away from the road and after that each plot was 50 ft. apart. Complicating factors were slash piles, blackberry vines and a number of other plants we either had to bulldoze over, or find a way to maneuver around. Our class data showed that at least 200 seedlings per acre are growing in the unit, but that they are not yet free to grow because of all the competing invasive vegetation.

In the end this was a fun activity and probably my favorite out of the three we did that day.

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Scientists for a Day

BY TIM DeLANO

The most popular program at Hopkins based on participation by students this past school year was *Science in the Forest*. Students dressed in vests, laden with measurement

tools and field guides roam the forest in small groups with trained mentors on an exploration of discovery. Some students are focused on a specific aspect of the forest like wildlife or comparing vegetation in different habitats. Other students generally explore the forest to awaken curiosity and develop familiarity with a forest.

Science in the Forest programs at Hopkins Demonstration Forest are made possible through a partnership with WolfTree, Inc., funding through Clackamas County Extension Service District, Portland State University and the dozens of volunteers who support field days.



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Grouse Hollow News

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PHOTO: TIM DELANO

Journaling and sharing discoveries are integral to *Science in the Forest* field days. Here we feature some of those original student works.

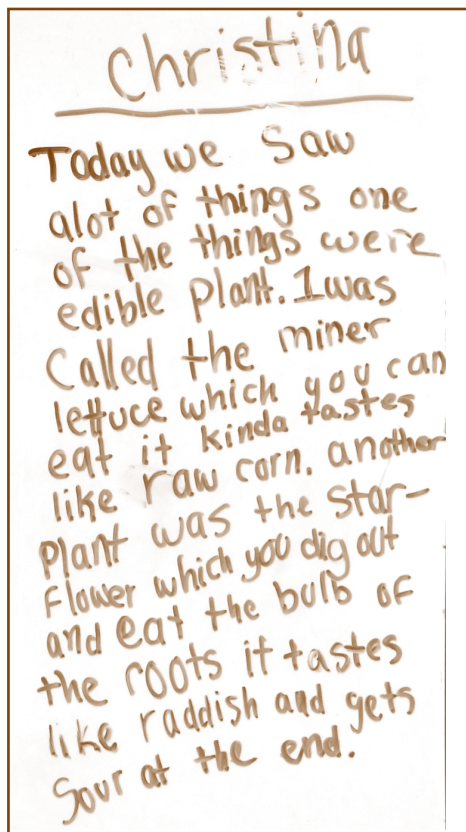


PHOTO: RICHMOND ELEMENTARY 4TH GRADER

Banana slugs are common in spring.



PHOTO: TIM DELANO

"My science students have been visiting Hopkins over 15 years. They like to think of their involvement as part of the 8th grade science. Giving them a sense of place in the natural world is special to these inner city students who do not travel much outside their neighborhoods. Thank you so much for the wonderful experience!"

—Gerylyn Howard, 8th grade Science Teacher, Harrison Park Elementary

Editor's note: Jimmy took notes in the form of prose. He read me this poem while walking back to the school bus at end of a field day.

Nine Forest Verses

Elder ferns dash the creeks; the red maple lives and speaks.
The mossy maple burgeoning swords, newts a-many dance to their chords.
Wooden floors and lush wide sky, oceans bore ponds ever-shy.
Flowers fair with vines unbroken let their voices be spoken.
Hearts in flowers that bleed without blood, the maple roots grow deep into mud.
A sea of avid leaves, of ever-singing jays, a subconscious serenity lacking
blind craze.
Iris harps always, songs unheard, many the tunes be sung by a bird.
The bird weaves a tune. A tune is a fate. A fate is a tune that composers create.
A composer is a soul. A soul perceives another, our voices send letters from
child to mother.
Mother Earth

– Jimmy, St. John Fischer, 6th grade

Hands-on Science

At the tree farm I saw a bunch of trees! I also hiked and saw beaver dams, weird plants and frogs. I learned to tell how old a tree is with a special tool. I learned how to use a compass and appropriate hiking gear. I heard a lot of birds and water. I ate edible plants and led my group to the salamanders. It was a good experience because I don't hike and probably never would have done this on my own.

–Diana

I had a really good time at the tree farm. I saw lots of wildlife and many different plants. I learned about how important the forest is. I also realized that I really like being in the forest. My group thought it was a very educational field trip.

–Erik

I thought the tree farm was pretty cool because we got to see all the cool parts of the forest I never stopped to notice. We got to see salamanders and different weird bugs I never knew stayed in a forest. I think



PHOTO: TIM DELANO

it was nice to get out and enjoy the fresh air and sun all in one.

Our mentor was cool. She is a history major and was very interested in all the things that we came across, just as I was. It was cool to stop and eat lunch in the middle of the woods and get a picture with my group.

I think overall it was nice to get out and enjoy the sun instead of being stuck [indoors]. It helps with my treatment by resetting all my stress that was there. We were good, and getting to stop for Slurpee's afterward was amazing!

–Nathan

Honor Roll of Schools

Beavercreek Elementary School
Clackamas Community College
DePaul Center High School
Earl Boyles Elementary School
Estacada High School
Grace Christian School
Grant High School
Harrison Park Elementary School
LaSalle High School
Lents Elementary School
Molalla Middle School
Oregon City Service Learning Academy
Oregon Outreach Incorporated
Pleasant Valley Elementary School
Reike Elementary School
Rosemary Anderson High School
Sabin-Schellenberg Forestry Program
Saint John Fischer School
Saint John the Apostle School
Silverton Christian School
Sunnyside Environmental School
Ventura Park Elementary School
Willamette Valley Christian School

Volunteers Help Science Happen

I had my best *Science in the Forest* experience today. It was absolutely the best day I have had in a while. I enjoyed it thoroughly, every minute. I had a group of 5th graders (6 girls, 11 years old) from Earl Boyles Elementary School. They were accompanied by the parents of one of the girls. This was a mixed culture group. These were very special kids: alert, curious, smart and fun to be with. I learned so much from them today. It was impressive.

– Tom Anderson, Volunteer Mentor

Please join Tom and other Volunteer Mentors to support *Science in the Forest* field days: contact Tim DeLano at 503-632-2150. There will be a special orientation in early fall, followed by many opportunities to be involved through next school year.

POEMS



A salamander
It swims in deep water
With the trees howling

–Ashley

It was the most fun
I've ever had in a while
I really liked it. –Alex

Calendar

Community Forestry Days (CFD)

2nd Saturday Each Month, 8:30am-4:30pm. These family-friendly community events include volunteer projects that vary depending on the season. Lunch is provided for volunteers, often including a brief topical program. A tour or demonstration activity is offered in the afternoon for the community to see what we're up to.

Community Forestry Days begin at 8:30 am; lunch at noon; tour begins at 2:00 pm; clean-up and depart by 4:30pm. Please RSVP to 503-632-2150 by the Thursday prior to each CFD if you plan to join us for lunch or the tour. Thank You.

- July 14**
- August 11**
- September 8**

A long list of chores keep us busy all summer. In the drier months we can clean gutters and roofs, and treat the cedar shakes. Summer is also a good time of year to focus on reducing fire hazards around our facilities and in the forest. Clearing roadside vegetation improves visibility and safety.

Other Community Events This Summer...

July 14, 1-7pm; BCT Backyard Bash

This family-friendly community event is hosted by Beaver Creek Telephone Cooperative in the big backyard at their Henrici Road Office. The event raises money for several local non-profits, including Forests Forever. There's food, games, silent auction, music and more! Call Heather Rike for information 503-632-3113.

July 19, 5-7pm; Chamber After Hours

Join business and civic leaders from around Clackamas County for a casual networking event open to the community. There will be food, beverages, door prizes and few speeches! Please RSVP by July 17: 503-632-2150.



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Teachers As Students

Just as soon as school is out of session for students, three local teachers begin a "summer school" session at Hopkins Demonstration Forest on June 20. The three teachers selected to participate in Teachers in the Woods 2012 (TIW) include Katie Carpenter and Angela Fojtik from Oregon Outreach Inc. (OOI), a private charter high school housed in Molalla High School; and Joyce Brown, a second-grade bilingual teacher working at Trost Elementary School in Canby. Welcome this summer's

teacher team! They will be in the forest at Hopkins until July 20th.

Students from OOI studied the forest at Hopkins this spring as part of their ecology curriculum. TIW 2012 participants and OOI instructors Carpenter and Fojtik plan to develop a variety of opportunities for students to be involved at Hopkins.



PHOTO: TIM DELANO

Hopkins on the Small Screen

In early April local television channel 12-KPTV filmed an informational segment about how Oregon's forestry laws protect water, fish and wildlife. The piece was sponsored by Oregon Forest Resources Institute, a supporter of programs at Hopkins. Featured in the 3-1/2 minute spot are an eager bunch of 6th graders from David Scharfenberg's class at Pleasant Valley School. View the spot at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=u8757n_5XJg

STUDENT JOURNALS

- Poison oak
- Shiny
- Curved edges
- Rough skin note
- Relative of cali. note
- yellow/orange belly
- European slug
- Robin
- woodpecker
- little wild woodrose
- Clown milipede