

Friedrich Park

March 29, 2007

Second graders headed outdoors to explore more about woodland habitats. The weather may have been wet, but it didn't dampen our spirits!



The kids started with a quick lesson on plants and their importance. Mr. Tom and his wife, Mrs. Pasty not only were very educated on this subject...but also VERY funny!! Who knew scientists could have a sense of humor (hehe).

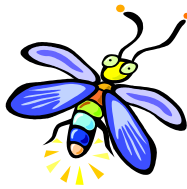
We observed the different kinds of leaves we might find on our hike.



Ever wonder about what the inside of a leaf looks like? This large leaf model showed us tiny parts and how they help the tree. The leaf makes its own food...mmmm!



We divided up into smaller groups to go with our guides. Mr. Tom began our hike by pointing out how the shape of leaves is different. If you're really good, you can tell what kind of tree it is!



What do you think these students are looking at? Well, they found out that the hand lens is a great tool to have out in the wild to see a lot of the critters that use leaves as their home. We also were able to see insects working.





Mr. Tom talks about the job of the root. We can see here that even though roots are very strong, heavy rains (such as flooding) and fast winds can yank them right out of the ground. But, never fear, this makes for a great new home for many little creatures in need of protection.

What could live in this hole?
Why is it here? Many trees become hollow because they become diseased. Creatures, like owls, love to make this hole their home.

