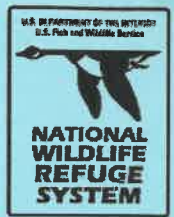




United States Department of the Interior

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Necedah National Wildlife Refuge
N11385 Headquarters Road
Necedah, WI 54646
Phone: (608) 565-2551
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Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome! I am excited for another great year with the Cardinal After School Program. I would like to share a bit about this year's experience with you. Your child will be visiting the refuge once a month to experience the outdoors all while supporting their school work in science, math, reading and writing. This year we will demonstrate what we have learned with art! Many of our outings and lessons will use journaling and sketching to record our observations and measurements we take of the habitats we visit.

This year we are focusing on watersheds. Many of the students have been introduced to this concept. Our exploration and measurements will help the students form a connection and understanding of the watershed we live in and then express their interests and fascinations through writing and sketching. They will use these field notes to create a final project that will consist of a rendition of their favorite place in our watershed and a poem about it.

This experience and the students' collective final works are called the "River of Words". Look for a printed copy of their final projects in the center later next summer.

Also as a note of my expectations for our time together for each visit we will follow the refuge rules and expectations.

Refuge Rules:

1. Be kind to people, plants and wildlife
2. Use inside voices even outside (We see more wildlife!)
3. Respect the building and other visitors
4. Walk! (Unless we are playing a game in the field)

Expectations:

1. Finish your HOMEWORK!
2. Participate in Refuge Work
3. Find at least ONE thing that is intriguing
4. Do your BEST!
5. Done? (If your homework helper agrees - find special projects and reading materials from Katie)
6. Clean Up!

I invite you and your family to visit our progress in the center through the remainder of the school year. I will be placing student work on our bulletin board by the classroom to share what we find and learn with other visitors and students. The center is open Monday - Saturdays from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. The refuge is open 365 days a year from sun up to sun down if you want to hike, snowshoe, or explore! I hope to see you and your child the next time you visit.

Sincerely,

Katie Goodwin
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