"EXPLORERS" PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

GRADES 4TH-8TH

STATION 1:   WHY ARE WETLANDS IMPORTANT?

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Describe a wetland environment.
- Know why hydrophytic vegetation is well adapted to wetlands habitats.
- Compare hydric soils to soils that are used in vegetable gardens.
- Explain how wetlands help to purify and filter water.
- Tell why the wetlands are important wildlife habitats.

STATION 2: WOODLANDS STATION

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Explain why the Swamp at Burden is called a Black Swamp.
- Use a dichotomous key to classify and identify trees found in the Burden swamp.
- Determine the age of a living tree using a tape measure and solving basic calculations.
- Summarize the environmental, ecological, economical, and recreational benefits that trees and forests have.

STATION 3: WILDLIFE

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Explain what a niche is.
- Name wildlife found in the Burden forest.
- Describe specific areas in the forest where wildlife can find shelter.
- Give examples of the kinds of foods wildlife may find in the forest.
- Identify the animal from tracks found in the forest.
- Recognize scat along the trails, how it is an important way to identify wildlife in an area.