

Peoples Academy Team Journey Studies Water

November 7, 2008 6th grade middle level students from Peoples Academy Middle Level (PAML) went to Wild Branch just off of Route 15 in Wolcott, Vermont to test the water quality. Upon arriving they met Kim Komer from the Lamoille County Nature Center. It was a nice day, partly sunny with light sprinkles, around 60F.

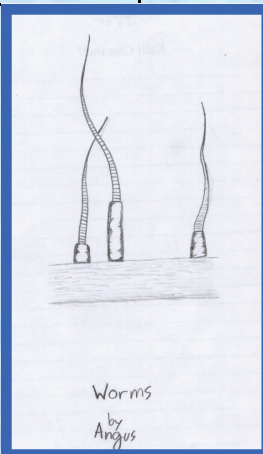
Chemistry Sample Results	AVERAGE RESULTS
Temperature	45 °F
Dissolved Oxygen	27 mg/L
Phosphate	.22 ppm
Conductivity	64.6 us
Turbidity	42.8 cm
PH	6.96

Kim Komer from the Lamoille County Nature Center conducted some water quality tests with us, including temperature, how much dissolved oxygen was in the water, phosphates, conductivity, turbidity, and pH.

The temperature of the water was approximately 45F which means that in the water there was Trout, Caddisfly, Stonefly and Mayflies. The turbidity in the water was about 42.8cm. The dissolved oxygen in the water was about 27 mg/L and the phosphate was .01 ppm. The conductivity in the water was about 64 US and last but not least the pH was about 7.0.

The whole experience was great for all of the students who got to go. We learned a lot and got a better sense of how the water in our area is being treated. For the most part, the water was clean and not polluted. No deadly or feared aquatic animals lived in the water. It was safe water for swimming, and other water activities. This shows how we are very lucky, and fortunate to have clean, safe water. It also proves that we are responsible and capable of keeping our rivers safe.

Macroinvertebrate Sampling	Total
Caddisfly Larvae	5
Water Penny Larvae	1
Stonefly Nymphs	6
Riffle Beetle Adults	2
Mayfly Nymphs	10
Crayfish	1
Damselfly Nymphs	2
Dragonfly Nymphs	2
Aquatic Worms	2
Blackfly Larvae	1



Bibliography:

Thompson, E.H. and Sorenson, E.R. *Wetland, Woodland, Wildland: A Guide to the Natural Communities of Vermont*. The Nature Conservancy and Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife. University Press of New England, 2000 and 2005.

Voshell, J. Reese. *A Guide to Common Freshwater Invertebrates of North America*. McDonalds & Woodward Publishin Company, US 2001.