

# BUILDING CHALLENGE

Exploring Stream Habitats

## BEFORE EXPLORING A LOCAL STREAM WITH LITTLE ONES

### TIPS FOR ADULTS

Scope out the area first...  
 Is there easy access to the water?  
 Is there any poison ivy?  
 How deep is the water?  
 Check for broken glass, trash, heavy traffic, boat activity

## BUILDING CHALLENGE BUILD A BOAT



*What kind of boat will you build?*

*Race your boats down the stream!*

*Which boat flows faster down the stream?*

*Which boat floats better?*

*What designs worked best?*

*What designs did you improve?*

### **Penny Challenge:**

*How many pennies can you place in your boat before it sinks?*

## WHAT WILL YOU FIND IN THE STREAM?

### FRESHWATER MACROINVERTEBRATE

*Macro (big enough to see without a microscope) invertebrates (without a backbone) are water bugs that we can see with our naked eye. Aquatic macroinvertebrates live in many different types of aquatic habitats. Their presence, or absence in aquatic habitats helps biologists determine the quality of water and presence of water pollution.*

## SUPPLY LIST

### WHAT TO BRING WHEN TESTING YOUR BOAT & EXPLORING STREAMS

Hat  
 Bug Repellent  
 Water Bottle  
 Sunscreen  
 Sturdy Shoes  
 Snacks

*\*Visit Stream Safari (website below) for full materials list*

**CHECK WELL FOR TICKS AFTER YOUR DAY OF EXPLORING!**

## UNH COOPERATIVE EXTENSION RESOURCES

### STREAM SAFARI CURRICULUM

*The UNH Cooperative Extension STEM Docent Program provides an extensive video series for self-guided exploration called Stream Safari. Learn about macroinvertebrates, conduct habitat assessments with a downloadable .pdf, and share your findings at:*

<https://extension.unh.edu/resource/stream-safari-video-series-self-guided-exploration-video>

## CHECK THIS OUT!

### RESOURCES AVAILABLE WITH YOUR BFL CARD

*The Brook Book: Exploring the Smallest Streams by Jim Arnosky*  
*Eyewitness: Pond and River by Steve Parker*  
*Sail Away, Little Boat by Janet Buell*  
*Creekfinding: A True Story by Jacqueline Briggs Martin*  
*Over and Under the Pond by Kate Messner*  
*All About Frogs by Jim Arnosky*  
*Frogs, Toads and Turtles by Diane Burns*