

March 11, 2007 - 4-H Conservation Club Project Book Meeting

The 4-H Conservation Club held our first Project Book meeting at PV Park on Sunday, March 11th at 1:00 PM. After everyone arrived we talked about biodiversity and the web of life. Then I split the kids into three groups and we went on a species hunt for about 45 minutes. I told them to write down anything they saw (insect, mammal, plant or tree).

I was with the one group on the farm road by the ponds when we saw a mallard duck and his mate swimming around. The second group found a preying mantis egg case. And the third group saw a hawk very high in the sky when we were walking back the farm road to the parking lot.

Each group had listed a large number of items, even though we were not sure of the official names on a few of them. It will be interesting to go back on another species hunt once the kids have learned more about wildlife, plants and trees, to see how many items that they will then be able to identify by name.

There were two interesting looking trees that the one group saw - and I was not sure what they were called. Did some research and found their official names - they were the Northern Catalpa and the Staghorn Sumac.

The day was brisk, but not too cold. The farm roads were a bit muddy in spots from the rain the day before, but the kids didn't mind it at all. It was a lot of fun and we look forward to doing more activities in PV Park as the weather gets warmer.

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4-H Conservation Club