

Nature Observation # _____ Friday, April 9, 2010: Vernal Pools

As stated on the blog, we will be spending the next several weeks learning about vernal pools by conducting research in the classroom and in the field. Your final product will be the making of a learning poster using Glogster, an online Web 2.0 application that incorporates print, video, audio, and pictures into a multimedia product that is simply a great way to show others why vernal pools are so important. Here's what's up today:

1. Conditions Paragraph: Describe the weather conditions in detail and use your 5 senses. Think about how your current location sounds, smells, looks, feels, and tastes (don't literally taste anything but imagine) **compared to the last time** you were here. Add detail and be specific. **(4 to 8 sentences)**
2. Write a definition of what a vernal pool is. Draw and describe it.
3. What is the definition of an indicator species in any environment?
4. List, describe, and sketch the indicator species for a vernal pool.
5. What or how could we damage this sensitive and important ecosystem? What kind of protocols do we need to follow while visiting a vernal pool?
6. On the hike today, be ready to record evidence of vernal pools by describing and sketching what you see.

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