Photo from EcoEdDL: Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) capturing fish at Seney National Wildlife Refuge by Christopher Lepczyk, University of Hawai’i at Manoa, Natural Resources and Environmental Management

Special Feature: Foraging Behavior

What’s new in EcoEdDL

Effects of multiple invasive species in experimental aquatic communities
By Miranda D. Redmond and Daniel L. Preston, University of Colorado
Photo by Jeremy Monroe/Freshwaters Illustrated.

Students work in small groups to collect background information on what mosquitofish and bullfrogs consume and then modify a food web based on that knowledge. Students develop hypotheses of how these two invasive species may affect native amphibian species, snails, and zooplankton.

Announcements

Passionate about Biology education for the next generation? Join us! Advance Registration is available through September 15, 2014!
Special Feature: Foraging Behavior

Foraging behavior of insect pollinators in the presence of ambush predators
By Ivana Stehlik, University of Toronto at Scarborough and Christina Thomsen University of Toronto at Mississauga

Students investigate how ambush predators such as the common ambush bug (Phymata americana) or the common crab spider (Misumena vatia) influence the foraging behavior of insect pollinators on flowers. This project involves an experimental manipulation of predator presence and subsequent pollinator observation over the course of a single or several lab periods.

Roots as Foragers
By Stanley A. Rice, Professor of Biological Sciences, Southeastern Oklahoma State University

In this project, students can experience plants as responsive rather than passive organisms. Roots forage through heterogeneous media and proliferate in portions of the soil that have abundant nutrients. Students can see and measure this growth. Students also get to address issues of experimental design such as the sequence effect.

Acorn Foraging as a Means to Explore Human Energetics and Forge Connections to Local Forests
By Pamela Lockwood et al, Professor of Biological Sciences, Pennsylvania State University

In this unusual ecology laboratory/field exercise, students imagine themselves as a group of indigenous woodland people attempting to gather food stores that will carry them through the winter. In doing so, they grapple with issues of human energetics, foraging strategy, carrying capacity, and experimental design.