

**High School  
Plants – Work of the Wetland  
Description and TEKS Overview  
3 – 3 ½ hours in Length  
Inside/Outside**



During this field investigation, students will learn the role of plants in a wetland. Students will use a key to identify plants, collect samples, and identify plant structure, adaptations, and functions that help them live and survive. Relationships among the plants and their dependence on biotic and abiotic factors will be investigated. The plant processes of phytoremediation and nutrient uptake and their importance to the water system will also be discussed. Plant collection and the use of plant presses are part of this class.

**Environmental Systems TEKS**

The student knows the relationships of biotic and abiotic factors within habitats, ecosystems, and biomes. (5)

Identify native plants and animals within a local ecosystem and compare their roles to those of plants and animals in other biomes, including aquatic systems (5.A)

Evaluate the effects of fluctuations in abiotic factors on local ecosystems and local biomes (5.C)

Measure the concentration of dissolved substances such as dissolved oxygen, chlorides, and nitrates and describe their impacts on an ecosystem. (5.D)

Use models to predict how the introduction of an invasive species may alter the food chain and affect existing populations in an ecosystem. (5.E)

The student knows the interrelationships among the resources within the local environmental system. (6)

Relate how water sources, management, and conservation affect water uses and quality. (6.B)

Document the use and conservation of both renewable and non-renewable resources as they pertain to sustainability. (6.C)

Identify how changes in limiting resources such as water, food, and energy affect local ecosystems. (6.D)

