



Amanda Patrick/USFWS

Connecting kids with nature one “BiT” at a time

Biologist-in-Training, or BiT, is an experiential education program anchored at National Fish Hatcheries and the outdoor classrooms of nearby streams and lakes. Launched last autumn at Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery, Kentucky, BiT facilitates student-led, meaningful interactions with fish and aquatic habitats.

An activity booklet engages children through five outdoor explorations of fish and aquatic environments; promotes stewardship and the intrinsic value of habitats; builds observation skills; and shows the different means of gathering and organizing biological information. Children link with a mentor in the field of biology. The booklet aligns with national education standards for upper elementary age students. An activity card, designed for little BiTs (pre-K to lower elementary) offers ideas for unstructured exploration of aquatic habitats and tips for parents on why connecting kids with nature is important.

For a BiT more information, visit www.fws.gov/southeast/fisheries/BiT or call (404) 679-7108. ♦ Amanda Patrick



A little BiT shares smiles over a crane fly larva.