Goal

Students will learn about how the living things living in and near the lake rely on each other and how the changing seasons create changes in their lives.

Overview

Former biology teacher, Karlene Schwartz, introduces students to the stories of the loons and many other creatures that call Squam Lake home, which is located in New Hampshire. As her tale goes on, students can see how the seasons cause changes to the lives on the lake.

Connections to EarthX STEAM Curriculum Lesson:
You Are My Sunshine

The sun’s thermal effects can create changes in materials. The tilting of the earth on its axis causes a change in the energy transmitted by the sun to the earth. This causes changes in the weather, which contributes to the changing seasons. As the seasons change, the living things on the earth change with them.

Guiding Questions

- What is one word Karlene would use to describe her feelings for Squam Lake? Why did you pick this feeling?
- The plants and animals that live on Squam Lake changed a lot in summer and fall. What were some of those changes? How do you think the lake will change during winter and spring? Why do you think so? Will this winter and spring look like yours where you live? How will they be alike and different?
- Change happens everywhere on the lake throughout the year. Can you think of a change a person could create on the lake? Will it be a good thing or a bad thing? Why?

Vocabulary

- Lake
- Inhabitants
- Loons
- Beaver
- Lodges
- Deer
- Porcupine
- Tupelo
- Hemlock seedlings
- Hen
- Salamander

Standards

Next Generation Science

- K-ESS2-2
- K-ESS3-3
- 1-ESS1-2
- 2-LS4-1

TEKS Science Objectives

- K.b.8b
- K.b.9b
- 1.b.8c
- 1.b.9c
- 2.b.9b
- 2.b.9c