

Ancient Fishweir Project Curriculum Suggestions

Themes/Classroom Topics

- water cycle
- watershed awareness
- pond succession
- importance of estuaries
- food web
- food chain
- characteristics of fish
- native and invasive fish
- Native American hunting tools-traps, lures, hooks
- cooking and preserving food/fish
- Native American myths
- traditional food ceremonies
- fishing industry
- weir designs
- full moon phases – Spearfish (April)
- hatcheries
- salt marsh discovery
- early life on the Neponset River

Books

Indian Fishing by Hilary Stewart

Fish by Peter B. Moyle

Life and Death of a Salt Marsh by John M. Teal

Exploring the Outdoors with Indian Secrets by Allan Macfarlan

Changes in the Land by William Cronon

Keepers of the Earth by M. Caduto and J. Bruchac

Keepers of Life by M. Caduto and J. Bruchac

Keepers of the Animals by M. Caduto and J. Bruchac

First Fish-First People edited by Judith Roche and Meg McHutchison

Cape Cod Wampanoag Cookbook by Earl Mills, Sr., and Betty Breen

Primitive Technology, Society of Primitive Technology

Mapping Boston edited by A. Krieger and D. Cobb

A River Ran Wild by Lynne Cherry

A Drop of Water by Walter Wick

Clambake, A Wampanoag Tradition by Russell Peters

Indian New England before the Mayflower by Howard Russell

An Algonquian Year – The Year According to the Full Moon by Michael McCurdy

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Resources

Fishweir History Animation
Joe Bagley, Boston City Archeologist
<http://i.giphy.com/d4bmrq3e0fCte32o.gif>

Book about Boston Archeology
A History of Boston in 50 Artifacts
<http://amzn.com/1611687829>

Contemporary watershed issues
[Charles River Watershed Association](#)

Videos

Footsteps in the Sea: Three teenagers in Gloucester, MA document a crisis in their fishing community
Secrets of the Salt Marsh: Overview of salt marsh ecology
Estuary: A close up look at wetland ecology
The Green Zone: Riparian zone is as important to the river as the water itself.
Rivers to the Sea: Abundant life in Atlantic coast rivers
Salmon Forest: Reveals the fragile connection between salmon, bears, trees and people in the northwest rainforest

Activities

Fish printing
Water cycle mural
Paper mache native fish
Estuary wall mural
Fish net making
Fishing tools – lures, bone fishhooks, harpoons, stone plummets, netting
Watershed model construction

Field Trips

Herring run - natural verses man-made structures
Fishing and Estuary investigations
[Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center](#)
[Boston Children's Museum](#)
[Plimoth Plantation](#)
[Arnold Arboretum](#)
[Boston Harbor Islands](#)
[Peabody Museum of Archeology and Ethnology](#)