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Giffen students get WET

Water and watersheds are as much a part of understanding the environment today as weather always has been.

Students at Giffen Memorial Elementary School learned the importance of these valuable natural resources Sept. 28 when they participated in a Splash Water Festival, an innovative program sponsored by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.



“Watching my students ‘doing’ science was awesome,” said Giffen Acting Principal Beverly Ivey. “They worked in cooperative settings, which enriched their learning experience.”

As part of the DEC’s Project WET (Water Education for Teachers), the students played a board game where they were the pieces, traveling through the water cycle. They also used a microscope to identify characteristics that may make an animal more or less tolerant to pollution, as well as many other water-related science activities.



The festival is designed to raise awareness of the need for water and watershed education, and to draw attention to the vital role this precious resource plays in our everyday lives and in the environment.

“One of my students asked, ‘Can we do this again next year?’” Ms. Ivey said. “It was truly amazing. I look forward to my partnership activities with DEC.”