

THE POWELL POST

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Powell Middle Students Teach Adults In The Creek

Powell Middle School students Ashley Pritt, Eric Welch, Emily Dunaway, Hallie Maples, and Cassie Cordwell turned the tables on their parents and several Powell residents by inviting them to Knob Fork Creek next to Central Avenue Pike this past Saturday to teach them a little creek science. The students are part of the Adopt-a-Watershed program, sponsored by science teachers Bob LeVoie and Tom Jursik, at Powell Middle and have spent



the last ten weeks learning about benthic macroinvertebrates (creek bottom bugs), water chemistry, land use, and using fish as an indicator of stream health.

With the help of Leah Lemoine, the CAC AmeriCorp Water Quality Team member for Powell Middle, the students spent four hours teaching us about the creek. We learned what land uses cause water pollution and looked at bugs that live in the creek. But the most fun of all was the fish count. We got to put on waders and get in the creek with Charlie Saylor, TVA Biologist, and shock fish (it doesn't hurt them) so we

could see what native species live in the creek and determine their health.

When asked what was the best part of your day Cassie Cordwell said, "I enjoyed learning about the different techniques to sample the fish species." Emily Dunaway said, "I like learning about the different species in the creek and how to identify one species from another. It is interesting to see the fish with diseases because of pollution we put in the water."

It was a great day for the kids, but an even better day for the adults.