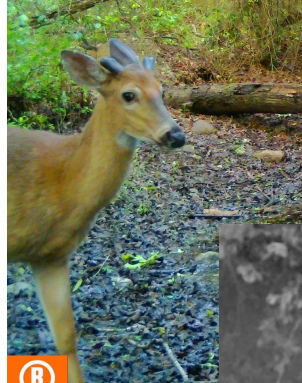


Vernal Pool Study

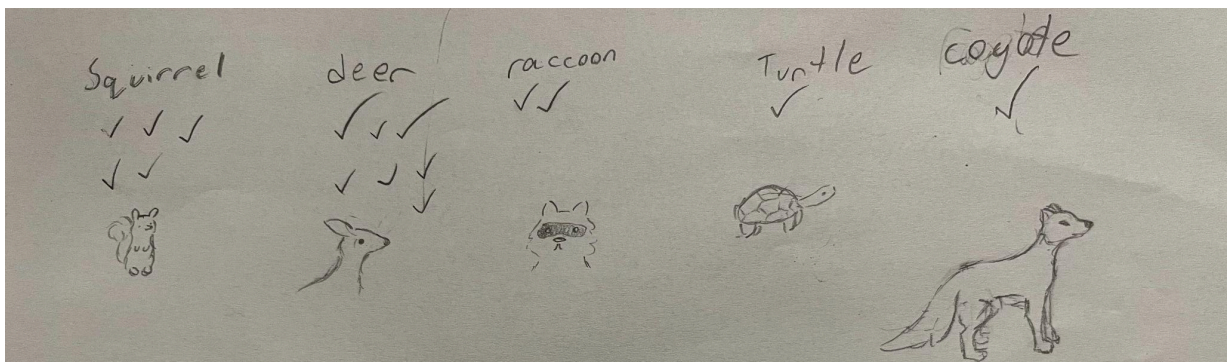
Old Hammondtown School, Grade 5
Spring 2026

Fifth graders at Old Hammondtown School received a grant from the Mattapoissett Land Trust to complete a phenology study of a vernal pool near the school. Grant money was used to purchase two trail cameras to capture images of wildlife. The goal was to identify facultative species using the pool during a time when the area contained water.



Students:

- Classified animals as obligate and facultative vernal pool species.
- Collected data on animals and the times they visited the pool.
- Observed the behavior of coyotes, raccoons, squirrels, turtles, and deer.
- Planned for the next steps in the study.



This project was funded by the Mattapoissett Land Trust Education Committee and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.