








# • What is the Acadia Learning project?

The image is a screenshot of a web browser displaying the Acadia Learning website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://parkscitizenscience.org/>. The website header features the title "ACADIA LEARNING" in large, bold, serif font, with the tagline "Connecting teachers, students, parks, & science" underneath. Below the header is a navigation menu with "HOME" and "NEWS" links. A red arrow points from the top left towards the "Welcome" section. The "Welcome" section contains a paragraph of text. Below it is a "News" section with a sub-heading "Data season!" and another paragraph. On the right side of the page, there is a "Follow us on:" section with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Blogger. Below that is an "Upcoming Events" calendar for March 2011, showing dates from the 27th to the 12th. At the bottom of the page, there are two bullet points: "Mapping and Data" and "Dragonfly Identification Key".

ACADIA LEARNING  
Connecting teachers, students, parks, & science

Follow us on:    

Upcoming Events

Today   March 2011 

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	Mar 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

HOME NEWS

## Welcome

This program takes research issues and topics of interest to National Parks out to teachers and schools across Maine, engaging students in useful citizen science research while providing them with enriched science education. The initiative is made of a number of interconnected projects that focus on different scientific and educational research problems.

## News

### Data season!

This time of year field work is done, samples have been collected, hypotheses have begun brewing, and many samples have been submitted to the laboratories for analysis. A few results have begun to trickle in, and now things get really difficult - and really exciting. Now we have to interpret our data, summarize it, and think about all the reasons we might be seeing more or less variability than we anticipated. Or results that turn our hypotheses on their heads.

As a scientist with lots of years experience working with data, those sets of numbers that come back from the lab are highly anticipated. They are packets of evidence that support a hypothesis, or if they don't, they make us knit our eyebrows and re-think our conception of how the world works. Either way, it's data that let us move forward (even when moving forward feels like a step backward, as in the latter case).






Partnership between:

- Schoodic Education and Research Center (SERC) Institute
- George Mitchell Center
- Maine Sea Grant
- Acadia National Park

Mapping and Data  
Dragonfly Identification Key

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## Upcoming Events

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1	2

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time 

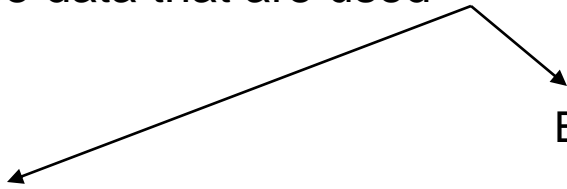
## Our Projects

Select the links below for more information on Acadia Learning's projects:

- [Mapping and Data](#)
- [Dragonfly Identification Key](#)

# • What is participatory science?

Teachers and students working closely with scientists collect and analyse data that are used



By students to answer their own questions:

From a group of student researchers at Bangor High School:

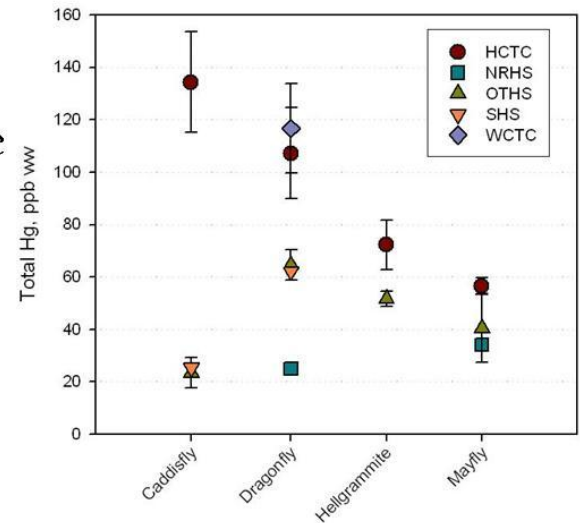
Topic:

Mercury, the stonefly and the water scorpion....

‘Our claim is that organisms higher in the food chain will contain more mercury.’

By scientists to answer other questions:

- New research is evaluating odonate (dragonfly) larvae as mercury indicators
- Hypotheses: differences among sites, families, size classes?








Shown: mean  $\pm$  SE; Acadia Learning, unpubl. data, 2009




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ACADIA LEARNING  
Connecting teachers, students, parks, & science

Follow us on:     

Upcoming Events

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projects:

- [Mapping and Data](#)
- [Dragonfly Identification Key](#)

Current project extends the work we are already doing to look at eel populations in Penobscot and smaller coastal watersheds from Northport to Winter Harbor

- What is participatory science?

Teachers and students working closely with scientists collect and analyse data that are used

By students to answer their own questions:

???

By scientists to answer other questions:

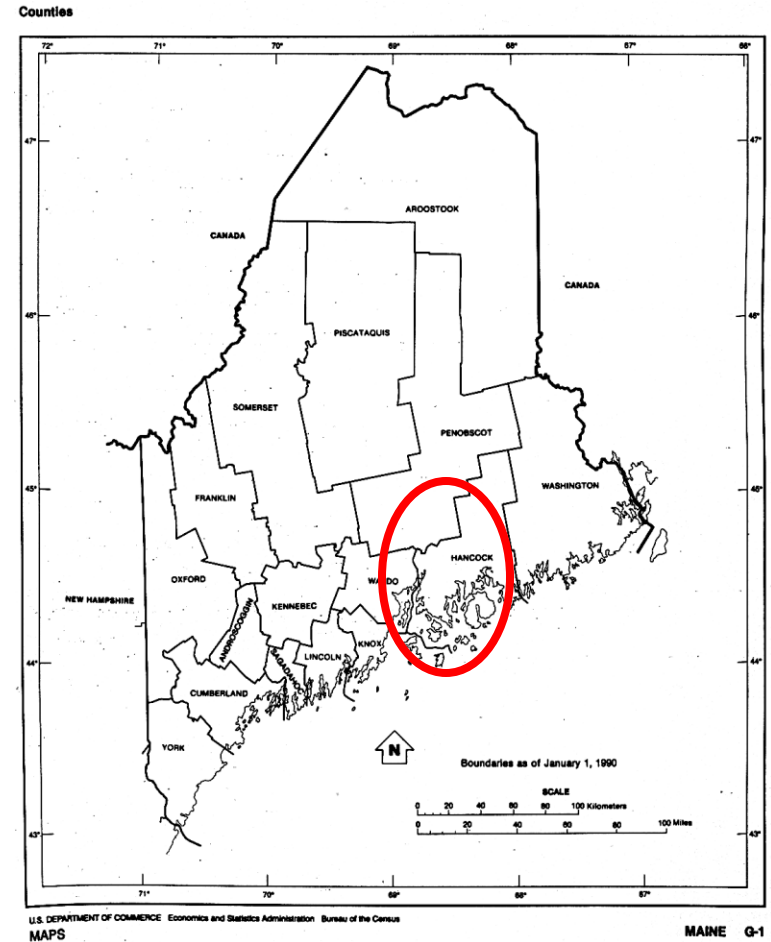
What is the health of our eel population?

# Where are we in the eel project?

- At the very beginning!
  - This spring (2011): find eel sampling locations, observe existing eel ladders in action, talk to Marine Patrol and elver fishermen and dealers
  - Next fall (2011): begin working with local teachers and students
  - Next spring (2012): sampling with these local teachers and students

# What we're looking for:

- Sampling locations:
  - Near schools
  - Near us
  - Recommendations/  
useful eel information



# What we're looking for:

- Sampling locations:
  - Small systems
    - ex: Patten Stream, Surry



Image courtesy of Blue Hill Heritage Trust



# What we're looking for:

- Sampling locations:
  - Dams, perched culverts, other impediments



# What we're looking for:

- Sampling locations:
  - No salmon
- Recommendations/useful eel information



Fyke net, Union River, Ellsworth.