

Geneva Lake Conservancy

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE →

Contact: Katie Sullivan
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Geneva Lake Conservancy visits Fontana's outdoor education classroom

The Geneva Lake Conservancy brought its groundwater education models to the “outdoor” classroom today, joining the fifth graders from Fontana Elementary School at the George Williams campus for their weeklong outdoor education program. As guest presenters to the outdoor education “water group” students, GLC Board Member Sharon O’Brien and staff Katie Sullivan offered a short educational video and had a hands-on discussion with the students using one of the Conservancy’s Groundwater Sand Tank Models.

Using food-color, paper towel and water, the students were able to see on a small scale what goes on beneath their feet, and how human activity can affect groundwater and waterways such as Geneva Lake. “One of the great draws of this model in particular is that it is so hands-on and interactive,” said Sullivan. “The children can get it as dirty with ‘pollution’ as they want, and all it takes is a little water to flush it through. Even clean-up becomes a teaching point, because in real life, it isn’t always that easy to restore resources such as groundwater and water quality.”

The students, having had the opportunity to use the model themselves, will present what they have learned to their fellow classmates later in the week. Also in the program, the “water group” students will be visiting area wellheads and an artesian well to test water quality.



Fontana Elementary 5th Graders get their hands dirty with the Geneva Lake Conservancy's groundwater model while GLC staffer Katie Sullivan looks on.