

STEM Summit 2010

January 28, 2010

HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN VITAL SIGNS:

MIDDLE SCHOOL EDUCATION (FORMAL EDUCATION)

Middle School Teachers, Curriculum Coordinators

Grades 7 and 8 teachers use *Vital Signs* resources to create authentic, inquiry-based, interdisciplinary learning experiences for their students. Start by participating in one of our Summer Institutes that provides training on how to use *Vital Signs* in Maine schools or just dig into the website and online educational resources and get started on your own.

INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATION (NON-FORMAL)

Investigators

Investigators explore local ecosystems, document whether they find or don't find native and invasive species there, and contribute their observations to the *Vital Signs* database. You don't need to be a professional scientist to look for species and collect data – our resources and web applications will guide you.

Community Educators

Community Educators associated with on-going educational efforts may incorporate *Vital Signs* into their formal and non-formal programming. *Vital Signs* can be used to engage learners of all ages, increase community awareness and knowledge of native and invasive species, facilitate data collection and sharing, and answer a research question of local significance.

Armchair Coaches

From the comfort of your living room, office, or the local public library, you can provide valuable feedback and coaching to *Vital Signs* Investigators via the commenting function on the *Vital Signs* website. Reinforce and spark learning by initiating and contributing to discussion forums.

Species Expert Reviewers

Species Expert Reviewers are passionate naturalists or scientists who are skilled at identifying a certain native or invasive species, and enthusiastic about encouraging others to learn. Review observations, confirm or question identifications, and communicate with Investigators statewide.

Visit our website at www.vitalsignsme.org to learn more!

Sarah Kirn



Explore. Share. Learn.

www.vitalsignsme.org

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