

Scavenger Hunt

created by **Max Garvin**



Take the red trail to the left of the parking area. Be on the look out for 6 painted rocks, each one painted a color of the rainbow. Once you spot one, match to the color key to learn an interesting fact or observation about the area the rock was placed.

Each rock will have a word on it. When you have found all 6 rocks, unscramble the words to form a sentence. I hope you have fun & good luck.

-Max

Scavenger Hunt Color Key

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What Is A Hike Without Trees?



Many beautiful trees fill this trail including this stunning beech tree. They offer shade, beauty & are a habitat to many animals, especially birds. Cavity nesting birds such as Titmice, Chickadees, Woodpeckers & Nuthatches love to nest in their branches. The tree acts as the bird's home and these insect loving birds protect the trees from leaf eating insects. Keep your eyes & ears open and see if you can spot or hear one.

Woodpeckers Have Been Here!



Old Lyme is home to many woodpecker species. Some you may see or hear are the Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red Bellied Woodpecker or the Downy Woodpecker. Woodpeckers main reason for making holes in trees is to look for food. Bugs and larvae can be found under the bark. So, if you see holes in trees, you can assume a Woodpecker has been there.

Beauty Is All Around Us!



There is so much to look at in front of you while you are hiking, but don't forget to look up. Take a minute to appreciate the beautiful tree canopy above you.

This view is never the same and is constantly changing depending on the weather and season. It is spectacular no matter what time of year. What is your favorite season?



There Is A Magical World Beneath Us!

This may seem like just a footbridge but if you look closely there is a magical world beneath it, especially when the stream is flowing. In the Spring, Summer and early Fall, you may find frogs, toads, salamanders and many other small creatures near by. Make sure you look closely, they definitely like to hide!

Have You Ever Seen A Fish Climb A Ladder?

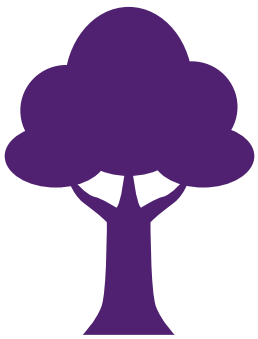
No? Well, look no further. As you are walking you will hear the dam before you will see it. Listen for the beautiful sound of rushing water flowing and falling. Walk closer and you will see the fish ladder. This ladder was installed in 1998 to help Diadromous fish who couldn't otherwise get up the dam. Isn't that so nice? Diadromous fish are fish that travel between fresh and salt water to spawn. The most common fish you may see are Alewives and Blueback Herring. There is also a viewing window and if you come at the right time you just might see a fish climb the ladder! If that isn't enough, there is also an Eel ladder, although it is a little harder to see. The Eel winds through the pegs and gets dropped into a bucket which is released into the pond by the DEEP. So next time someone asks you if you have ever seen a fish climb a ladder, you just might be able to say YES!



A Beaver Was Here!

Beavers use their sharp incisor teeth to topple down large trees to use as building materials for their damn. There are a lot of interesting facts about Beavers. Did you know their teeth never stop growing? They have a large flat tail that acts as a rudder, but also props them up to help them sit. Beavers are the largest rodent in North America and can typically weigh 45-65 pounds.

Some beavers can weigh up to 100 pounds! That is more than most elementary school students. Keep your eyes open, because the marking on this tree tells us that a Beaver has been here.



**Thanks for learning and observing today.
I hope you enjoyed your hike. Please return this color key to
the trailhead upon completion.**