



Welcome to Little Pond Scientists

Stories spark questions.
Questions lead to discoveries.

Little Pond Scientists helps children explore
the natural world through observation,
conversation, and hands-on discovery.

Five Levels of Thinking

Based on readiness—not age. Children may move between
levels as their interests and confidence grow.

1. Tadpoles DISCOVER



Find, name,
count, and
notice.

? What do
you see?

2. Dragonflies NOTICE



Compare, match,
sort, and
describe.

? What is
different?

3. Pond Sprouts UNDERSTAND



Connect
observations
and ask why.

? Why might
that happen?

4. Pond Explorers EXPLAIN



Use ideas and
evidence to
explain.

? How are these
connected?

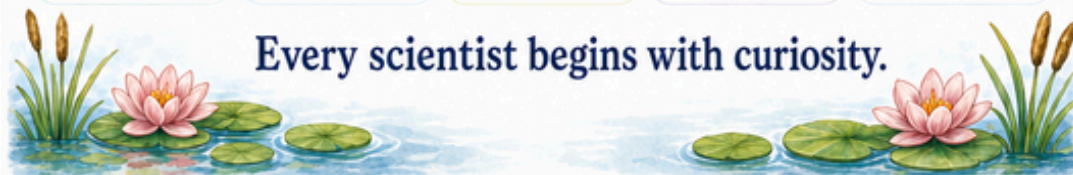
5. Pond Investigators INVESTIGATE



Find patterns, draw
conclusions, and
support ideas.

? What evidence
supports your
idea?

Every scientist begins with curiosity.



How Do I Choose a Level?

Begin with the level that feels comfortable and fun.
Children may move between levels as their interests,
confidence, and the topic change.

My child likes to
point, find, and
name things.



Start with
Tadpoles



My child likes to
compare and
notice details.



Start with
Dragonflies



My child likes to
ask why and
understand
ideas.



Start with
Pond Sprouts



My child likes to
explain and talk
about ideas.



Start with
Pond Explorers



My child likes to
solve problems
and find
evidence.



Start with
Pond Investigators



See the Difference

Each level explores the same science topic. The thinking challenge changes.



Tadpoles

Point to the
duckling's feet.



Dragonflies

Which feet look
different?



Pond Sprouts

Why might webbed
feet help a duck?



Pond Explorers

How do webbed
feet help ducks
survive?



Pond Investigators

What evidence shows
that webbed feet help
ducks survive?



♥ If a page feels too hard, try the level below. If it feels too easy, try the level above.
Many children move back and forth between levels. That is normal—and encouraged!