



Belwin Outdoor Science

Josh Leonard

City Kids & Citizen Science

December 1, 2017

Learning Inspired Through Nature



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OUTDOOR SCIENCE**
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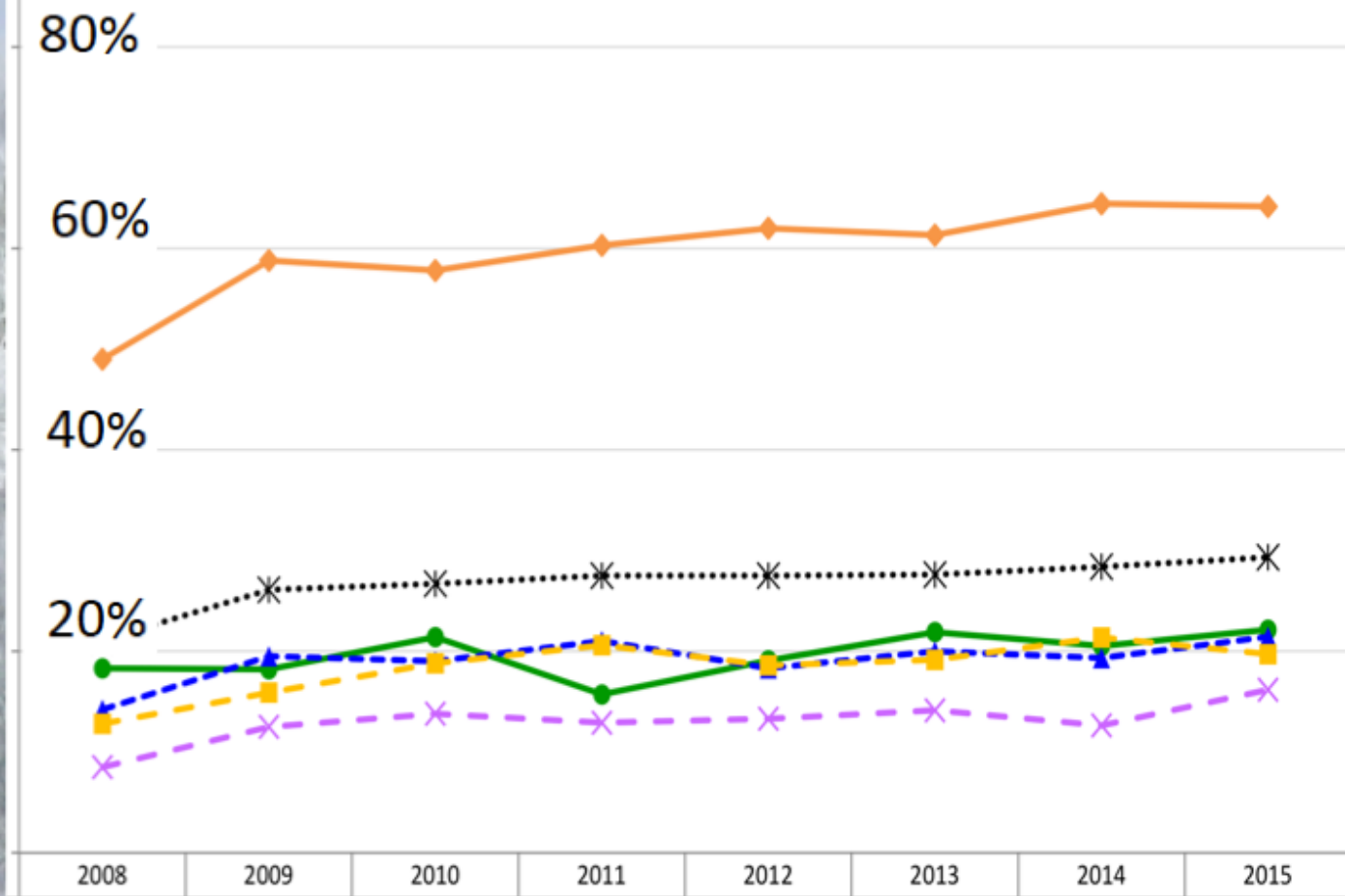
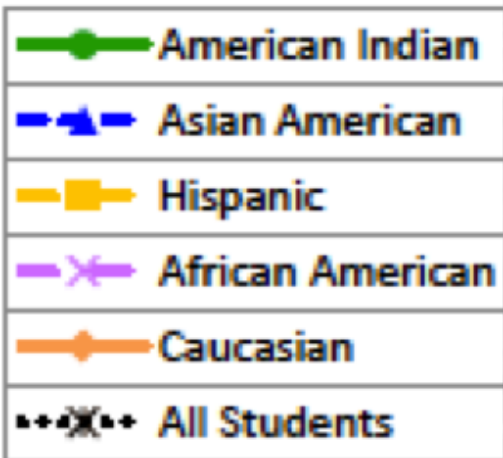
BelwinOutdoorScience @Belwin625 · 17 Mar 2015

Eastern Heights 3rd graders helped install the prairie frost tube. How deep did frost go this winter? Over 4 feet!



Kids
love
doing
science!

Kids aren't testing well in science



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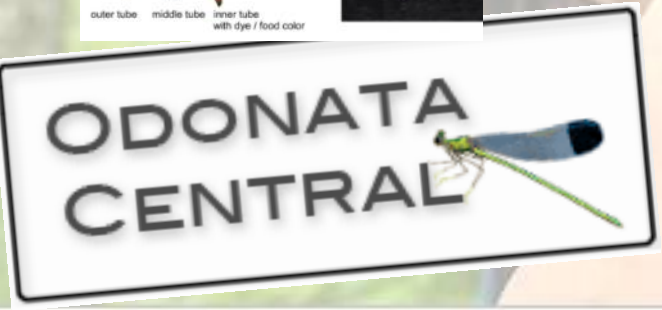
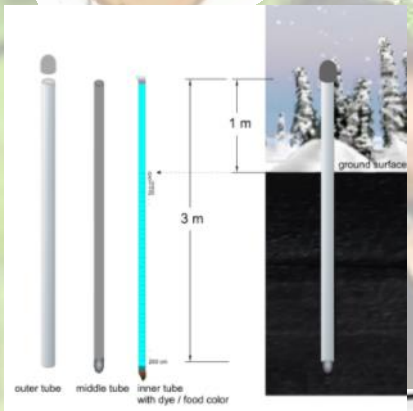
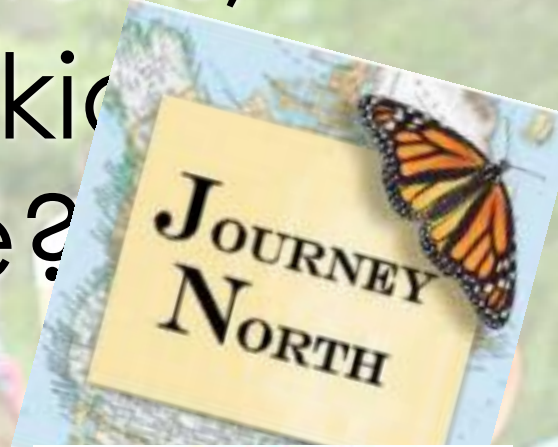
Will kids do better
in science if they
do more
science?

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With so many choices,
where do you start?
What kind of science?



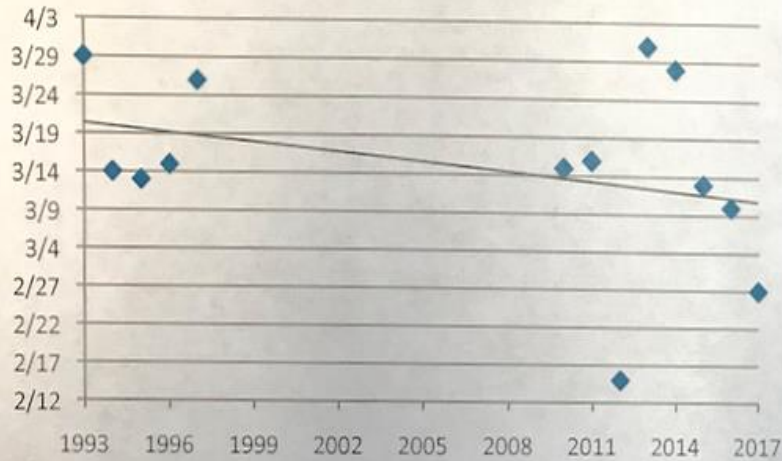
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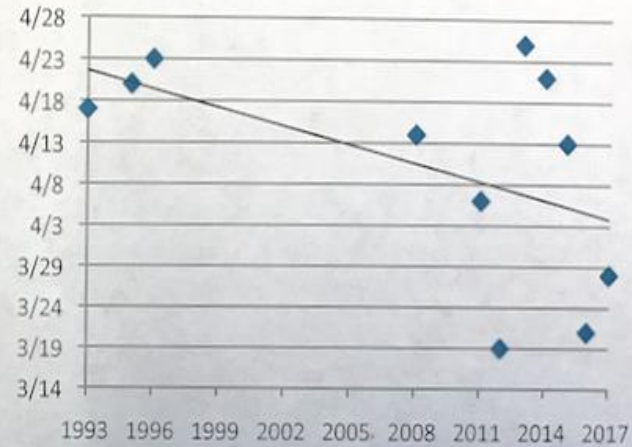
Step I: Don't!

1.

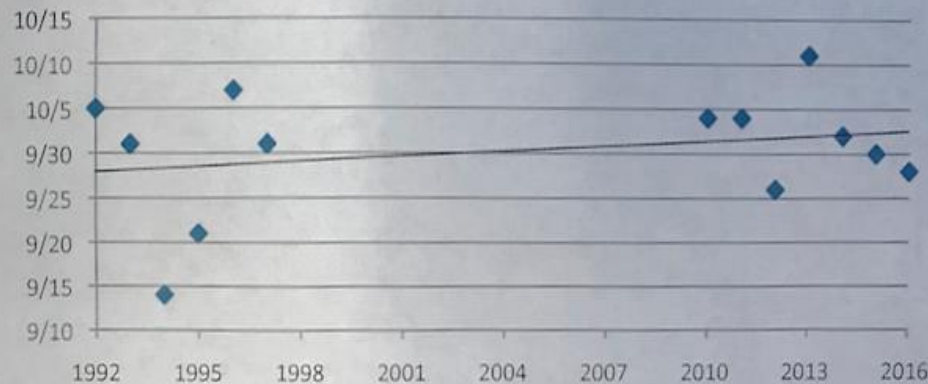
First Bluebird (N=13)
1993 - 2017 (10 days earlier)



First Chorus Frogs (N=11)
1993-2017 (17 days earlier)



First Dark-Eyed Junco (N=13)
1992-2016 (5 days later)



Step 2: easy. rain gauges



Investment

\$42

1.5 hour startup

1x / day

easy! frost tubes



Investment

- \$30
- 5-hour startup
- 1x / week

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easy. tulips



Investment

\$32

2-hour startup

3x / year

layer it up - tulips

Tulip test Gardens Fall 2017 - Gre...

Is there an urban heat island effect on tulip emergence and blooming times? 7 schools distributed among the urban core, suburban and ex-urban ar...

61 views

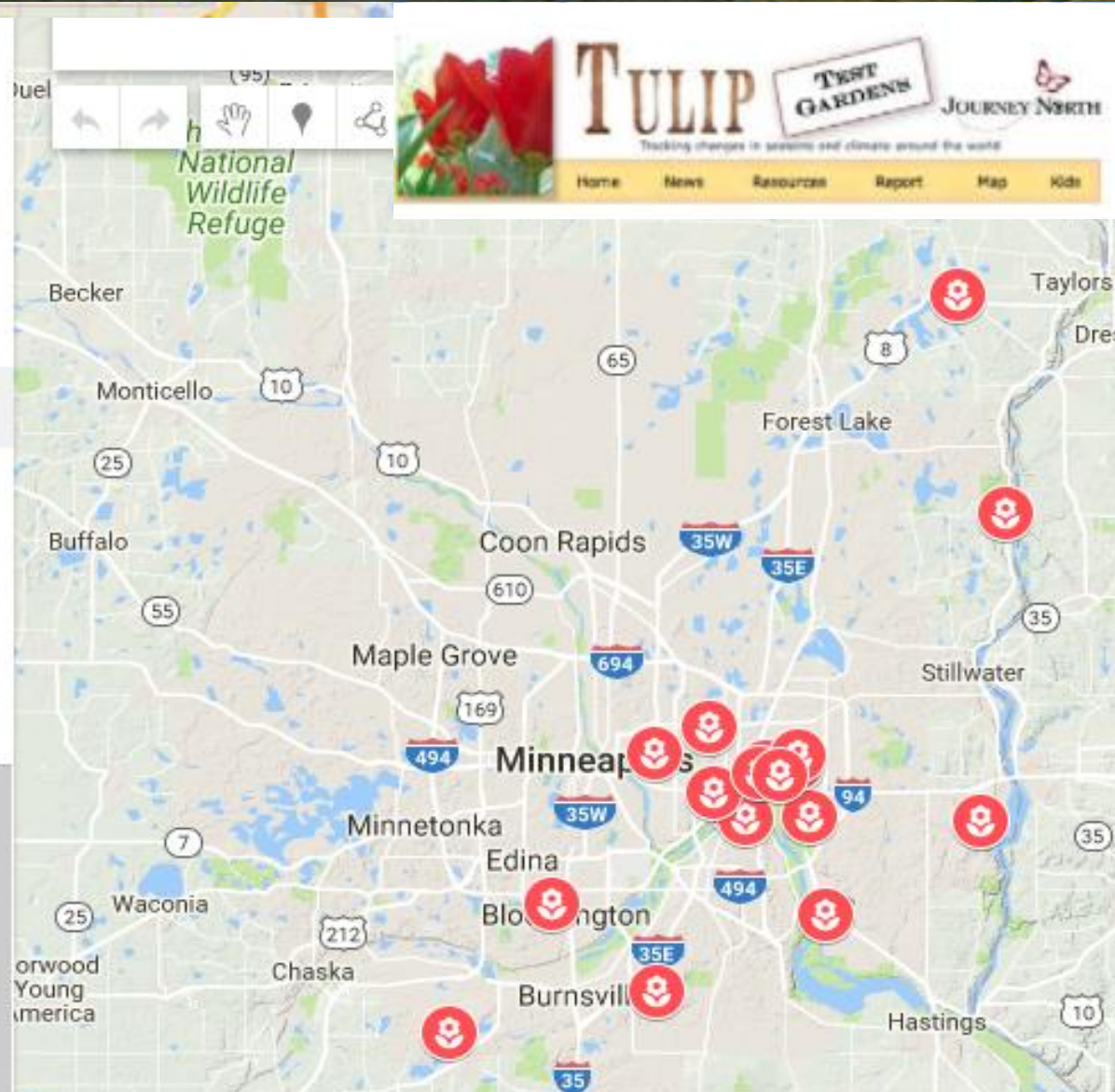
All changes saved in Drive

Add layer Share Preview

- Parkview Center School
- Phalen Lake Elementary Sch...
- Washburn Elementary School
- Highwood Hills Elementary S...
- Hazel Park Preparatory Acad...
- Capitol Hill Magnet/Rondo
- John A Johnson Elementary ...
- The Heights Community Sch...
- Parkway Montessori and Co...

Untitled layer

Import



Step 3: moderate. **eBird**

Pros

Best CitSci App

Best CitSci Data
Analysis

Cons

Need Binoculars

More knowledge =
better experiences

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Monarch Larva Monitoring Project



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tor Gardens



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Step 4: Challenge! Dragonflies

Mite Parasitism of Damselflies and Dragonflies

G. Elseth, S. Peterson, P. Jacobson, D. Androli, L. Wester, P. Spengler, J. Leonard



Heating makes some prairie flowers early bloomers

Andrew Arlt, Juliane Chapman, Greg Elseth, Nancy Geving, Amy Johnson, Josh Leonard, Mila Velimirovich-Holtz

Driven 2 Discover, Citizen Science for Teachers 2015

Introduction

A phenological study was conducted in July 2015 of observable reproductive phases in the annual life cycle of nine prairie plants in the Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve BAC (Biodiversity and Climate) study. Previous research of phenological data have shown phenophases in some organisms to be shifted earlier in the spring due to earlier spring thaws¹.

This study aimed to determine how prairie species varied in their responses to potential future climate change (3-5° C) compared to current ambient temperatures. Heat-treated plot species were expected to respond sooner than ambient temperature plots. Changes in the phenology could create mismatches in timing of interdependent species².



Methods

Nine scientists collected phenophase data at Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve in the BAC program. The scientists were divided into four groups with each group focusing on 2-3 specific plants.

Data were gathered on July 10, 2015 by teams of scientists counting and categorizing the number of plants in six different phenological stages: leaves, flower buds, open flowers, fruits, ripe fruits, and recent fruit drop. The plot size for each count was 1 x 2 meters and the heat treatment increased the plot temperature by 3-5 degrees C. Chi Square and t-Tests comparing each plant species under heat treatment and ambient conditions were

Results

1. Heat treatment caused reproductive phenophases in lead plant, lupine, and purple prairie clover to occur earlier (responders).

2. Heat treatment did not cause reproductive phenophases in switch grass, yarrow, bush clover, and blazing star to occur earlier (non-responders).

Table 1. Traits and Phases based on average percentage phenophases of native Minnesota prairie plants that are either responders or non-responders to heat treatments.

Response to Heat Treatment	Common name (Scientist)	Native	Phenophases	t-value	p-value
Responder	Lead Plant (Andrew Arlt)		Flower Bud Open Flower Fruit Ripe Fruit Fruit Drop	7.62 1.14 1.00 1.75 1.14	0.00 0.25 0.32 0.08 0.25
Responder	Purple Prairie Clover (Juliane Chapman)		Flower Bud Open Flower	1.00 1.00	0.32 0.32
Non-Responder	Switch Grass (Nancy Geving)		Flower Bud	0.71	0.48
Non-Responder	Yarrow (Amy Johnson)		Flower Bud Open Flower Fruit Ripe Fruit	1.17 0.90 1.00 1.00	0.25 0.35 0.32 0.32
Non-Responder	Bush Clover (Greg Elseth)		Flower Bud	1.00	0.32

¹Global Warming: Is it significant? www.usanpn.org/mnprn
²in the Bradford paper: www.usanpn.org/mnprn



Big Idea

Temperature changes associated with climate change could affect the reproductive phenology in prairie plant communities. These changes may cause population dynamics within the communities to shift over time.

Conclusions

*Heat treatment caused reproductive phenophases in lead plant, lupine, and purple prairie clover to occur earlier (responders).

Lupine phenophases may have occurred prior to the sampling time. Bradley et al. found lupine to be a non-responder³.

*Heat treatment did not cause reproductive phenophases in switch grass, yarrow, bush clover, and blazing star to occur earlier (non-responders).

Plants may have other triggers, such as photoperiod (light amount).

Small sample size limited ability to include white prairie clover and butterfly weed.

Butterfly weed seemed to occur in greater abundance outside our sampling area in the heat treated area. Bradley et al. found butterfly weed to be a responder⁴.

Future Research:

*Heat may increase competitive advantage between responders and non-responders.

Do these shifts limit nutrient availabilities?

*Plant pollinator's interactions impact seed production, but mismatches in phenology decrease success⁵.

Do these shifts create differences in plant success?

Further information

Information about phenology and phenophases can be obtained from MN Phenology Network. www.usanpn.org/mnprn
To participate in citizen science using

Acknowledgments

We thank the following for their assistance with the our study

Christopher Buyanski
Rebecca Montgomery
Gillian Roehrig
Sarah Weisner

Work cited

Phenology. easy. Chilling Experiment

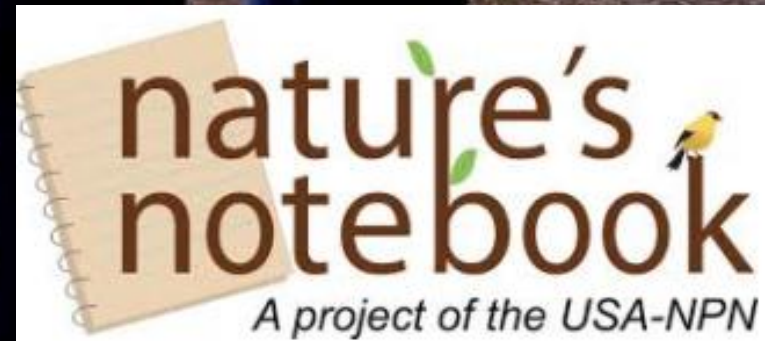


Learn

Major obstacles

Entering student observations into CitSci apps

- Creating an Account
- Student contact info
- Internet access in the field
- Sharing observations
- Student accuracy



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Phenology – Solution (phinally)!



STUDENT VIEW

REGISTER NEW STAFF

USER LIST

LOG OUT

CE

< BACK

Data for Class 1

PLANTS

MAMMALS

BIRDS

BUR OAK

RED OAK

PIN OAK

QUAKING ASPEN

COMMON
BUCKTHORN

PAPER BIRCH

COMMON
MILKWEED

	Bur Oak			Site 1			Site 2			Site 3		
	Y	N	?	Y	N	?	Y	N	?	Y	N	?
Breaking Leaf Buds												
Leaves												
Increasing Leaf Size												
Colored Leaves												
Falling Leaves												

SEL

BA

Happy Scientists!

Thank you UMN
D2D2 Program!

Rob Blair
Karen Oberhauser
Sarah Weaver
Chris Buyarski
Rebecca
Montgomery
Andrea Lorek Straus