The Chesapeake Bay Foundation’s Virginia Watershed Environmental Education Program gives participants an exciting new perspective on their own local tributary and its connection to the Bay. While paddling freshwater, non-tidal rivers and streams, students and educators examine the relationship between human activities and water quality in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Hands-on activities encourage sensitivity and knowledge of local ecosystems, giving relevance and greater understanding to classroom curricula.

Our program staff provides opportunities for careful observations, data collection, analysis, and synthesis of information gathered during the field study experience. They encourage participants to explore the complexity of the watershed, and to see themselves as part of the solution.

PROGRAM SITE LOCATIONS
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PROGRAM CONCEPTS
Here are some of the concepts that may be emphasized during your field experience. Programs are tailored to your students’ needs, and CBF’s staff will work with you prior to your visit in order to ensure that your experience complements your classroom curriculum.

- food webs
- point source/non-point source pollution
- freshwater and estuarine ecosystems
- watershed dynamics
- flora, fauna, and habitats
- sedimentation, eutrophication, human impact
- natural resource management
- map skills
- conservation behaviors
- environmentally conscious practices

SAMPLE PROGRAM
For grades six and up. Maximum capacity is 23 participants (including chaperones).

To apply for a field experience, visit our website at cbf.org/apply. For inquiries, contact the CBF Scheduling Department at 410/268-8816.

- Introduction, paddle and safety instruction.
- Canoeing, investigation activities
- Lunch on shore
- Canoeing, aquatic invertebrate stream survey, activities adapted to support grade and classroom studies
- Summary and wrap-up
- Board bus for departure