

This video was created to showcase the transformative hands-on learning experiences made possible through Chesterfield County Public Schools partnership with the James River Association. By documenting both classroom interactions and field explorations, the video demonstrates how environmental education comes alive through experiential learning, deepening students' understanding of watershed ecosystems and water quality. The production serves as both a celebration of student engagement and a powerful demonstration of how community partnerships enhance educational outcomes. More than 1,000 fourth graders from several Chesterfield schools explored the outdoors this year thanks to the James River Association. Wading in streams at Bellemeade Park and Rockwood Park, students found snails, beetle larvae and more while learning about the James River watershed and water quality. This video shows how lessons came to life in Chesterfield County Public Schools. The target audience for this production is parents and families, CCPS staff, current and prospective community partners and the broader Chesterfield County community. The James River, a vital waterway flowing through central Virginia, serves as both an ecological lifeline and a centerpiece for our community. The video has been strategically shared across multiple platforms, including:

- Division social media channels
- The division website (oneccps.org)
- Individual school websites of participating schools
- School Board meeting to highlight innovative learning experiences
- Community presentations to showcase educational partnerships
- School division internal and external digital newsletters

It supports effective communication in many ways. The footage creates a narrative between learning in the classroom and getting hands-on experience in the parks near these schools. The video interviews give a connection to the curriculum and learning experiences of the students. This video makes environmental education accessible and compelling to a diverse audience regardless of their knowledge about education or Chesterfield County Public Schools. This video has been exceptionally well-received, reaching over 7,000 views across our digital platforms, generating numerous positive

reactions and comments. The visual showcase of this partnership has proven more effective in communicating educational value and helping to secure continued support for experiential learning initiatives throughout the district.