Connecting Youth with Nature

in the Ashokan Watershed and Beyond

Matt Savatgy Youth Education Program Lead Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program

Do you know this kid?

- Technology is both important and useful
- Kids are losing their connection to nature
- Parenting and the way kids play used to be a lot different



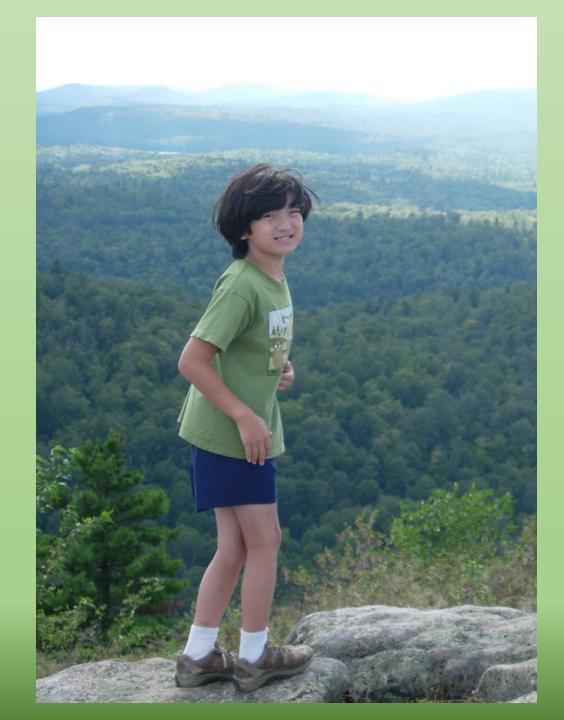


So, what are we going to do about it?

Get the kids outside!

Kids are naturally inquisitive.

They like to explore.



Outdoor challenges provide a sense of accomplishment.



Creating core memories...





...bonds kids with nature.

Fostering Future Environmental Stewards Kids who care about nature will:

- Advocate for wild spaces
- Pass on the importance of protecting our natural resources





The Ashokan Watershed is a great place to connect kids to the natural world!



Publicly accessible

- Streams
- Hiking trails
- Forests
- Campgrounds
- Day use areas
- AWSMP-sponsored
 programs



Wouldn't you LOVE to know this kid?

- Inquisitive
- Confident
- Self-reliant
- Adventurous
- Balanced
- Focused
- Healthy

Connected to nature!



