Looking around the Lake
Grades 6-8, Families

Explore life in and around Potter Lake, just a short walk west of the KU Natural History Museum.

Identify Trees
Choose one of the leaves below and underline the tree name. Find the tree that this leaf matches. Circle the characteristics of your chosen leaf.

- Leaves: lobed or unlobed
- Veins: one main vein down the middle or multiple large veins coming from the bottom

FUSULINIDS: Fossilized shells of a group of extinct small marine invertebrate animals.

Count and Compare
Go to the stone footbridge and find some fusulinid fossils.

- How many fusulinids would fit on your thumbnail? ________

Search for Other Fossils
Look for these other fossil marine invertebrate animals in the stones of the footbridge:

- brachiopods
- bryozoans
- crinoids

Observe Animals
Check each box when you see an animal doing that activity and describe what you saw.

- Flying
- Swimming
- Running, walking, or jumping
- Interacting with another animal (e.g. chasing, playing, eating)
- Interacting with a plant (e.g. sitting on, eating, hiding under)

HINT: The surface of a water lily pad is about 80 square centimeters.

Answers: oak - lobed & one main vein; sycamore - lobed & multiple large veins; cottonwood - unlobed & one main vein
Directions to Potter Lake:
Exit the Kansas Union through Level 1 on the Mississippi Street side. Cross Mississippi Street. Walk around and behind the Spencer Museum of Art and then walk through the grassy area behind the Spencer Museum of Art. You will have to go up and down some hills. On your right, you will pass the football field and the Campanile/Bell Tower. Potter Lake will be straight ahead.