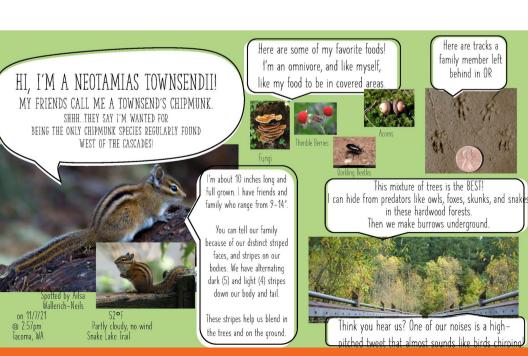


## Success Story:

## Fostering Outdoor Observation Skills

PEI is using a new delivery format for professional learning this year. Each FieldSTEM workshop begins with a 2-hour virtual, state-wide convening followed by asynchronous assignments, and ending with a 2-hour virtual regional session. This format allows us to reach a large state-wide audience while also creating an opportunity for coordinators to address the specific needs of the educators in their regions. On October 26, FieldSTEM Coordinators Julie Tennis, Karen Lippy and Lara Tukarski introduced the concepts presented in the Fostering Outdoor Observation Skills (FOOS) guide to 71 educators, representing 33 districts from Ocean Beach to Pullman. For the next two weeks, teachers worked on projects ranging from a "hike through the guide" to the development of a "Wanted Poster" for a critter or plant they observed in their yards during a sit spot activity.





## Success Story Cont'd:

On November 9, the FieldSTEM Coordinators formed three PEI teams and followed up with region-specific, place-based teaching on the FOOS Guide to these same teachers in a smaller virtual setting. Teachers who attended both sessions and completed their asynchronous work received 6 STEM Clock Hours. According to evaluations, teachers appreciated the opportunity to engage with the materials during the asynchronous time and benefited from reflecting together with their job-alike colleagues during the virtual sessions. One teacher shared, "This experience was the perfect mix of handson, discussion and reflection. I feel as if I could go into the classroom right now and implement with no problem."



