What is SERC?

The Schoodic Education and Research Center (SERC) is one of about 20 research learning centers located at national parks across the country.

SERC is dedicated to supporting scientific research in Acadia National Park and throughout the region, providing professional development for teachers, and educating students to become a new generation of stewards who will help conserve our natural and cultural treasures.

SERC is co-managed by the National Park Service and SERC Institute.

For more information:
sercinstitute.org
www.nps.gov/acad/serc.htm

Participatory Science at the Schoodic Education and Research Center in Acadia National Park

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Schoodic Education Adventure

The Schoodic Education Adventure provides residential programs to 4th through 8th grade students. The curriculum-based classroom activities and hands-on field experiences offer an invaluable learning experience.

Acadia Learning

Acadia Learning takes research issues and topics of interest to national parks out to teachers and schools across Maine, engaging students in useful citizen science research while providing them with enriched science education. The initiative is made of a number of interconnected projects that focus on different scientific and educational research problems.

Partners include Maine Sea Grant and University of Maine.

Biodiversity Discovery and Phenology Monitoring

Since 2003, the SERC has hosted annual bioblitzes, 24-hour events in which biologists and volunteers rapidly document a specific group of animals, plants, or fungi.

SERC is now starting an effort to monitor phenology—that is, the timing of seasonal events like flowering, migrations, and fall foliage.

Together, these efforts inform park managers of the full breadth of the park's biodiversity and the timing of key events, helping the park to improve the management of its resources.

Partners include Maine Audubon, Maine Entomological Society, Maine Maritime Academy, Maine Sea Grant, University of Maine, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, University of New Hampshire, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.