The success of Spring 97 research projects made me feel rather optomistic about the quality of work in the 97/98 school year. I decided to initiate the research project in the Fall. I felt it would be more timely due to the content presented in the begining of the year (ecology). Our initial trips to the creek revealed a habitat rich in flora and fauna but void of some cornerstone species that were seen the previous year. No Kingfishers, herons, squirells, gopher snakes, or racoon tracks were observed. Bullforgs and their tadpoles were rare. Students hypothesized that this could be the result of [development](http://docs.google.com/develop.html) on the North bank of the study area or the consequence of an increased number of joggers along within the creek channel. Insect and fish species were as diverse as had ever been previously observed.Fall foiliage lacked the beauty and color of spring but still showed significant diversity.

Lawrence Livermore Lab provided me with seven outdated/discarded Macintosh CI's. I spent the later part of August and the first three weeks of September running wire, acquiring essential hardware, and installing appropriate software that would enable my students to access the Internet and use the machines for building WEB pages. I now require students to submit their research in WEB page format.

Many of the Fall 97 research projects can be viewed here. Topics included population studies, animal behavior,chemical analysis of water and soil samples, and studying the impact of abiotic factors on the distribution of flora and fauna. A noticeable improvement in the overall quality of work was observed. My hope that WEB pages would provide adequate example needed to support the acquistion of reliable and meaningfull data seems to be coming to fruition.

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