

Letters to David: Our Lake System (I)

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To: art@gardensbythebay.com.sg

From: education@gardensbythebay.com.sg

Subject: Our Lake System

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Dear Art,

Thanks for helping out at the lake survey yesterday! The kids learnt a lot about the **Dragonfly Lake** and **Kingfisher Lake** and so did I! I have always known that water from the Marina Reservoir is pumped into the wetland and fed into our Kingfisher Lake, then circulated through, into the Dragonfly Lake. Then, it is discharged back into the Marina Reservoir.

But I didn't realise this process of running the water through the Gardens and through our plant **eco-filters** actually helps to clean the water! I had no idea that our aquatic plants were natural eco-filters, absorbing excess nutrients from the water.

I made a table listing the plants we saw yesterday at the lakes. I have attached it below with some photos I took. Perhaps you can share your photos of the animals too!

Once again, I had a great time. Can't wait for the next survey!

Best regards,
David

Using David's photos, see if you can spot these floating or emergent aquatic plants at the lakes and complete the table by circling 'floating' or 'emergent'.

Name	Type of Aquatic Plant	Photo
Lotus	Floating / Emergent	
Bullrush	Floating / Emergent	
Water Hyacinth	Floating / Emergent	
Mosaic Plant	Floating / Emergent	
Papyrus	Floating / Emergent	

Letters to David: Our Lake System (II)

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To: education@gardensbythebay.com.sg

From: art@gardensbythebay.com.sg

Subject: Re: Our Lake System

Hi Dave!

I'm so glad you enjoyed the survey! It's hard work but it's so great to see the Gardens change and grow.

Thanks for sending the table over. You are right about our aquatic plants being natural **eco-filters**. They are also crucial to the animals that live at the lakes. These plants provide shelter as well as food and even a safe place for animals such as dragonflies and birds to lay their eggs.

I have attached a chart I put together, of animals that are commonly seen along the two lakes. You may find it useful if you want to do your own survey in future! You are always welcome to come on the ones we conduct too, of course.

Regards,
Art

Take a walk along the Dragonfly Lake and Kingfisher Lake and see if you can spot any of these animals. Put a tick against the pictures of the animals you spotted.



Collared Kingfisher



Olive-backed Sunbird



Little Heron



Peaceful Dove



Common Scarlet (Dragonfly)



Common Bluetail (Damselfly)



Common Grass Yellow (Butterfly)



Common Parasol (Dragonfly)