On August 8 and 13, teachers attended a Summer Institute for professional development. Creek Connections staff shared new classroom resources and teaching ideas with teachers.

Teachers canoed and explored French Creek at this year’s Summer Institute. Teachers used nets to collect insects, fish, and even a 20-inch hellbender salamander.

Along the canoe trip, teachers collected water samples to test various chemical parameters. Then teachers participated in data analysis discussions and used topographic maps to interpret how the various land uses along French Creek affect the water quality.

During the different sessions, teachers had the opportunity to exchange ideas, compare teaching strategies, and develop collaborations on research projects.