



COURTESY PHOTO

PAUL SCHOOL STUDENTS view zooplankton with bioscopes.

# Paul School students visit the sea

WAKEFIELD — This spring students from the headwaters communities of Wakefield and Acton, Maine, connected to the sea with visits to the Gundalow Company's new boat Piscataqua.

Both schools were blessed with perfect weather on May 23 for the sixth grade from Wakefield's Paul School and June 8 for Acton Elementary's fifth and sixth grades.

With support from the Dorr Foundation, AWWA enriched the schools' science curriculum by engag-

ing the students in a series of classroom activities focused on watershed science, biodiversity and animal adaptations through the "AWWA in the Schools - Watershed Science for Our Future Community Leaders" program.

Of particular interest to the students were the live macroinvertebrates brought into the classroom for hands-on study.

The culminating event included setting sail on the Piscataqua to learn about marine communities and human impacts to the Great Bay estuary where

waters of Wakefield and Acton flow, experience the history of gundalows, and to investigate the inhabitants of the tide pools along the river's edge.

The excitement and engagement of the students was palpable and all went home with a new appreciation of the connections between the headwaters and downstream.

The classroom activities and field trip were supported with funds from the Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance, the Dorr Foundation and the Royal Bank of Canada.