

The Nature Effect

Academic Vocabulary

analysis noun that means a careful study

Comprehension

Correct or Confirm Predictions

Make a prediction about how nature will affect Thoreau's writing.

Ralph Waldo Emerson led a movement in the mid-1800s to connect people to nature. It started when he published a book called *Nature* in 1836. Some people did a careful analysis of his book. They closely examined what Emerson wrote to understand it better. Then they decided to join the movement.

Thoreau Meets Emerson

Emerson had many followers. Many of them were writers. A man named Henry David Thoreau was one of them. He worked as a teacher. He also worked for his father at the family's pencil factory. He even helped Emerson with odd jobs around his home.

Emerson's ideas had a great effect on Thoreau. Thoreau began to write. He wrote poems and essays. But working at the pencil factory was hard work. Thoreau wanted to be closer to nature and to write. So he went to live in a cabin by Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts. He lived in the cabin for more than two years.