



Alex fishing at Forked Lake Campground

Adirondack Trip

What you can't see in the picture above are the swarms of black flies. These are not merely flies that are black, oh, no. Black flies are flesh-eating and blood-sucking jaws with wings.

They tormented us all at our Forked Lake camp. Colin pleaded for an explanation why God would put these bugs on earth. Indeed!

Our trip was quite good despite the flies. We visited the Adirondack Museum, climbed Goodnow Mountain, toured the Wild Center, saw the Olympic facilities, shopped in Lake Placid, visited John Brown's farm, swam, fished, kayaked, and ate S'mores. The pictures on the last pages show more.



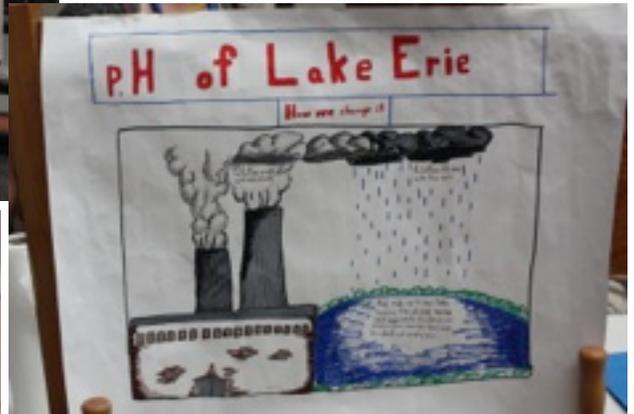
Memorial Day

Our annual trip to the Pioneer Cemetery on Memorial Day (the real date!) was an opportunity to think about those who have gone before. We read poems by Rupert Brooke and John McCrae who died in World War I as well as works by Carl Sandburg, Seamus Heaney, Langston Hughes, and Ed McCurdy. We also discussed cemetery etiquette.



The **Great Lakes Student Summit** was started in 1994 as a biennial meeting where students could share their knowledge as well as learn from experts. (Dr. John was a founder!)

Mandala students set up a table to teach about pH and the effects of acid rain on lakes, statues, and animals.



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service demonstrating fish capture.



Field of Dream's Ken Brown teaching about forest ecology.



Public Science at the Library

We used rope to map out the Great Lakes then distributed ourselves based on the population around the lakes. Then we were given peanuts to represent the tons of fish from each lake. The peanut shells were tossed in the lake to represent pollution. These “flowed” through the watershed to end in Lake Ontario, the most polluted lake.





Cattail Study

At Sinking Ponds we sketched cattails and discussed the many ways they affect or are affected by the environment.

Ideas included: capturing soil & floating matter to make soil, holding soil, dampening wave action, shelter for animals, capturing CO₂, resting places for birds, and filling in the pond.

The upper picture shows *succession*, the gradual change in the ecology. From the open pond to cattails to phragmites to “wet” trees to upland forest.



Where there's pattern, there's mathematics.

Wildflowers

On our hikes we found Trout Lilies, Cut-Leafed Toothwort, Bunchberry, Foam Flower, Star Flower, Bloodroot, Partridge Berry, and Jack-in-the-Pulpit.



Flower crown craft passed on from elders.



Will juggling at rec.



Jack-in-the-Pulpit

