

TMS TIMES: Vol. 2 | Oct. 2025

*Echo Hill Outdoor School
Trip 2025*



By: Upper Elementary 2025-2026

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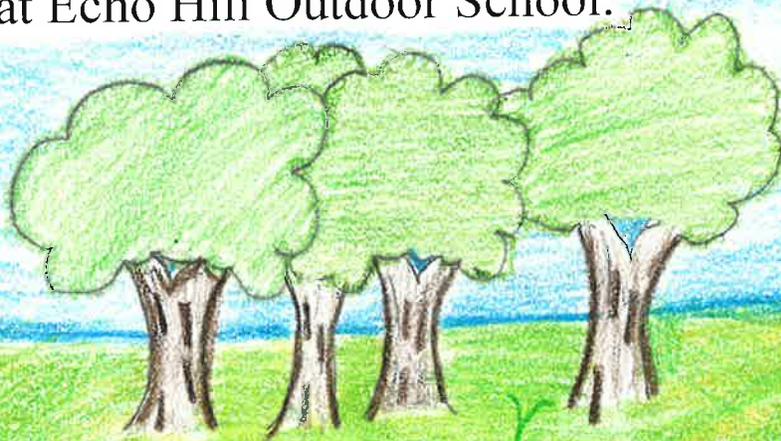
Classes



Swamp

By: Callen

Have you ever been on a boardwalk walking through a swamp? Well I have! At Echo Hill Outdoor School during swamp studies class we went to the big marsh/swamp. There we were walking and we learned about decomposition and that methane is made in the process. While sconoeing (swamp canoeing) we saw an excavator that was left there by a company called Black Beauty Peat. Then we saw a beaver lodge and learned that the entrance is underwater. We also saw a bunch of plants like lotus, duckweed, and a lot of trees. That is some about our experience on our scanoeing trip on our trimeran at Echo Hill Outdoor School.



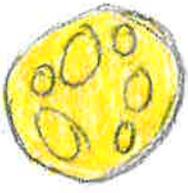


Swamp Studies

By: Naaya

At Echo Hill Outdoor school I learned about the swamp in swamp studies. There were so many bugs and animals, some types of bugs are stink bugs, dragon flies, spiders, and worms. The animals that I saw were frogs, geese, birds, and I even saw a beaver den called a lodge! The swamp smelled so bad because of decomposition. Decomposition is when old leaves fall off trees and turn into mud. Our instructors (or counselors) were Matt and Christy. Matt showed us a stick that was 20' long! It was very fun to learn about the swamp during class.





Night Hike

By: Constantine



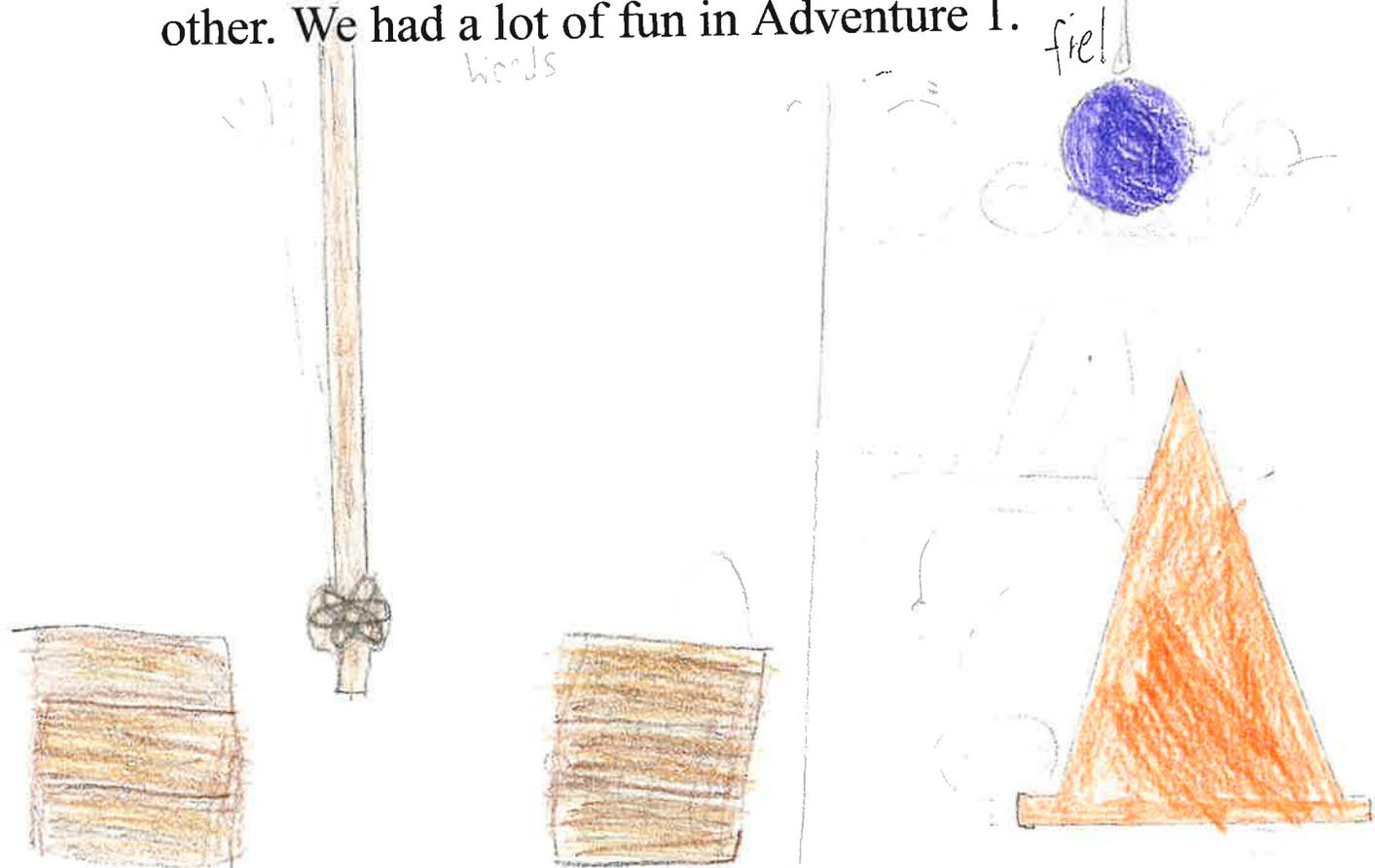
Today I am going to tell you about what we did on the Night Hike (*we had no flash lights*). We started at the WHIP (read Ellie's to know about) where it was really light. When we started walking it was pretty light. The next half was much darker. We saw Harris Hall and the Adventure 1 course (read Evan's to know about it). Ten minutes after that we got to a field. The first two minutes we sat and looked at the stars. Then we played "Bat and Moth". To play you need a "Bat" and a "Moth" in a circle of people, the people are trees. When the bat gets to close to the trees they yell "tree" (the bat has their eyes closed). When he/she claps his/her hands the moth has to clap back, and try not to get tagged by the bat. On the hike we all were on-edge and exhausted, but we experienced the night. Walking in the night is super challenging. I hope we do it next year!! Bye!:)



Adventure 1

By: Evan

Adventure 1 is the outdoor course we were on. We were supposed to work together to solve the puzzles. We played human knot. The objective was to untangle each other. To play Dino Red Light Green Light, we had to bring the dino back to the start without getting caught. We also played Lions and Zebras which was my favorite. We played a lot of games in Adventure 1. We played most of the games on the game field, but some in the woods and our counselor was Payton. All of these games were supposed to help us with teamwork and listening to each other. We had a lot of fun in Adventure 1.

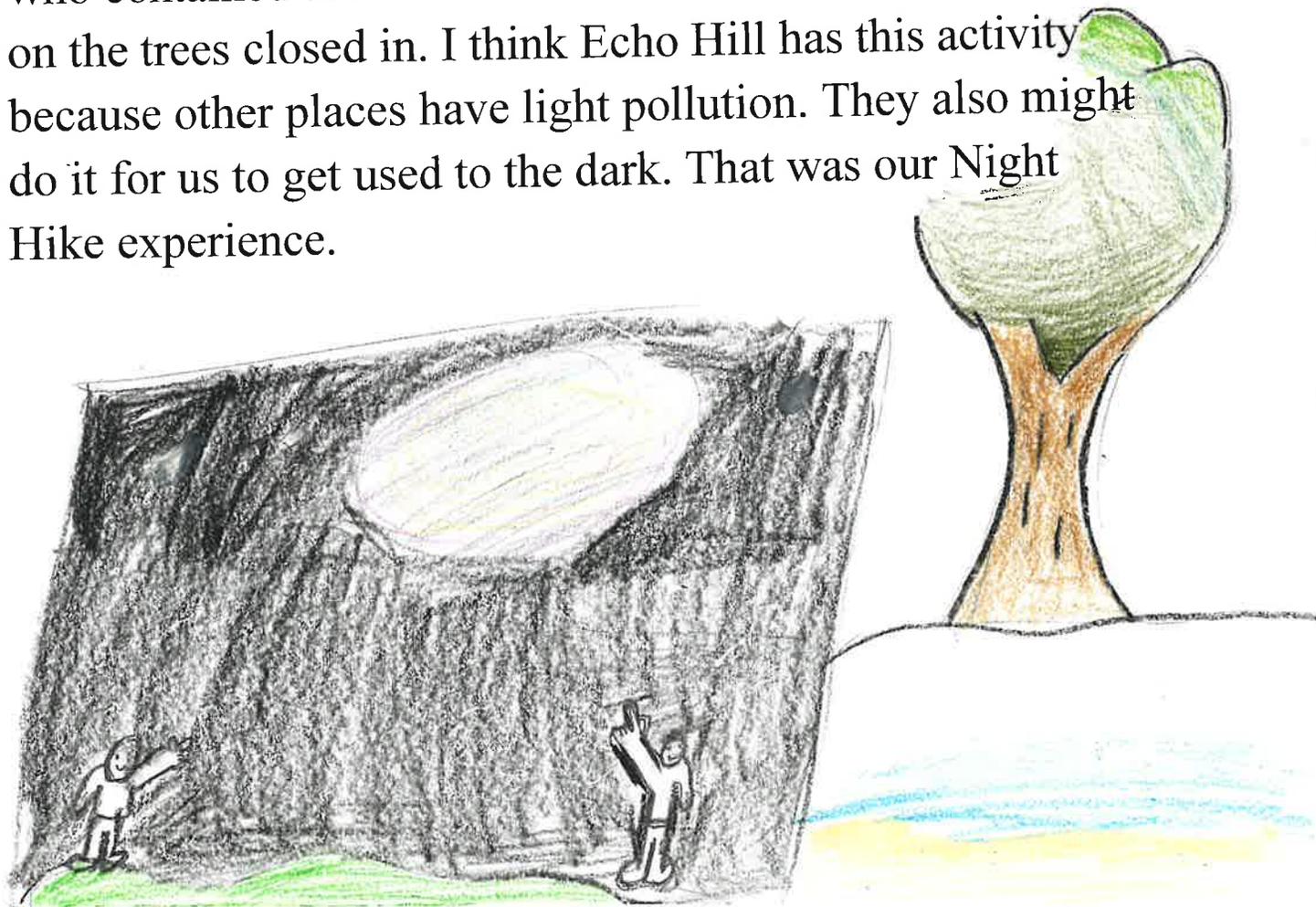


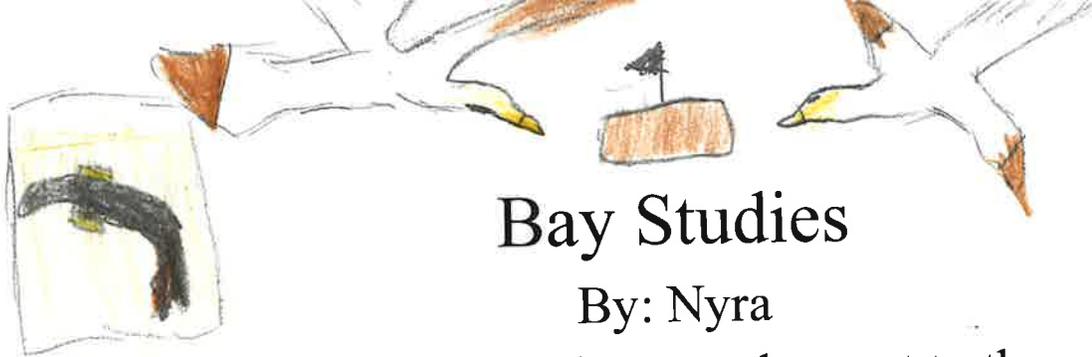


Night Hike

By: Tom

Have you ever been on a night hike with no light? At Echo Hill Outdoor School night hike is one of the most popular activities. Our teachers Julia and Becca led us through the woods in the dark. As we walked we all felt tired, confused and on edge. We all felt that way because we had no flashlight and we couldn't see very well. We eventually got to a field and saw some stars as we laid down. After that we played Bat and Moth which is a game where someone is a “blind bat” and they use “echolocation” to catch their “prey”. There were also trees who contained the bat and the moth but as the game went on the trees closed in. I think Echo Hill has this activity because other places have light pollution. They also might do it for us to get used to the dark. That was our Night Hike experience.



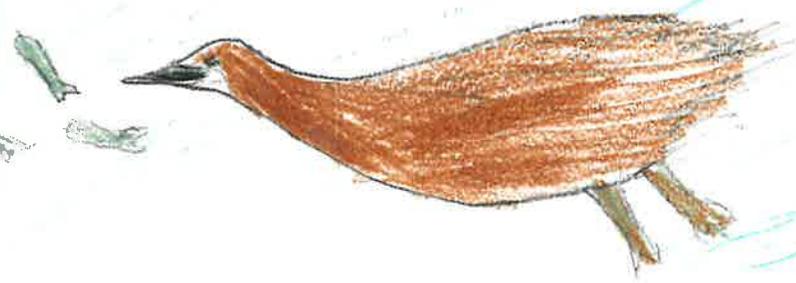
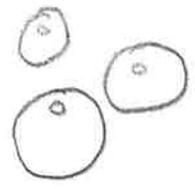
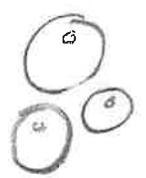
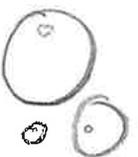


Bay Studies

By: Nyra



Hello! I'm Nyra and I recently went to the Chesapeake Bay to learn about marine life. One of the things I did there was go on a boat and learn about eels, jellyfish, and brackish water. Let's get started on brackish water. If you didn't know brackish water is a mix of fresh and salt water, also 70-75% of marine life depends on it. 0.0035% of water in the world is brackish water. Our new topic is jellyfish! Jellyfish live in brackish water when the water gets cold jellyfish come up to the shore. If you get stung by a jellyfish the part where it stung you becomes red. I saved the best for last, our new topic is eels! Eels live in brackish water but they didn't start there. They begin their life in the Sargasso Sea. When they were in fresh water, their bellies were white. Then after coming into brackish water, their bellies become brown. Later, they return to the Sargasso Sea to lay their eggs. Sadly only 5 or 7 of the thousands of eggs laid survive due to predators. To make it even more sad the mom or dad dies. Well I hope you liked my paragraph about the Chesapeake Bay. BYE!!



Echo Hill Outdoor School Tentside

By: Daniel

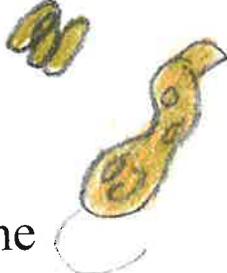
Hi! My name is Daniel, and today I'm going to tell you about Tentside at Echo Hill. Tentside was the place where we stayed. The boys were on Far Side and the girls were on the Near Side. The boys' tent was called "Beaver" and the girls' tent was called "Skink." At Echo Hill, the bathrooms were called privies. They were stinky, hot and nasty. When I arrived, I described them with one word: pighthouse. (My grandparents lived on a farm, and had a barn with two pigs in it, so I knew what I was talking about). Anyways, our time at Echo Hill was very fun, and it wouldn't be the same without Tentside.





Early American Studies

By: Keira



This is a little bit about Early American Studies that we took with Jessie and Seth. We are going to talk about location. About 400 years ago there were early Native Americans in the area. They lived in Longhouses and Wigwams. The bay used to be very close to the Longhouse and Wigwams. The shore moved back and the bay provided oysters, clams and sea shells. The parents were the teachers and would teach the children how to hunt and build fires. They would use bowdrills to create fires and they would collect tinder, kindling, and fuel. The fires in the homes would dry out the air and would keep the bugs away. They would have holes in the Longhouse and Wigwam used as a chimney because they would build fires to cook food in the Longhouse and Wigwams. The food was inspired by the 3 sisters which are beans, squash, and corn, because they need each other to live. Jessie and Seth gave us pears, apples, popcorn, and figs to enjoy the experience even more. That is what we learned in Early American Studies with Jessie and Seth.



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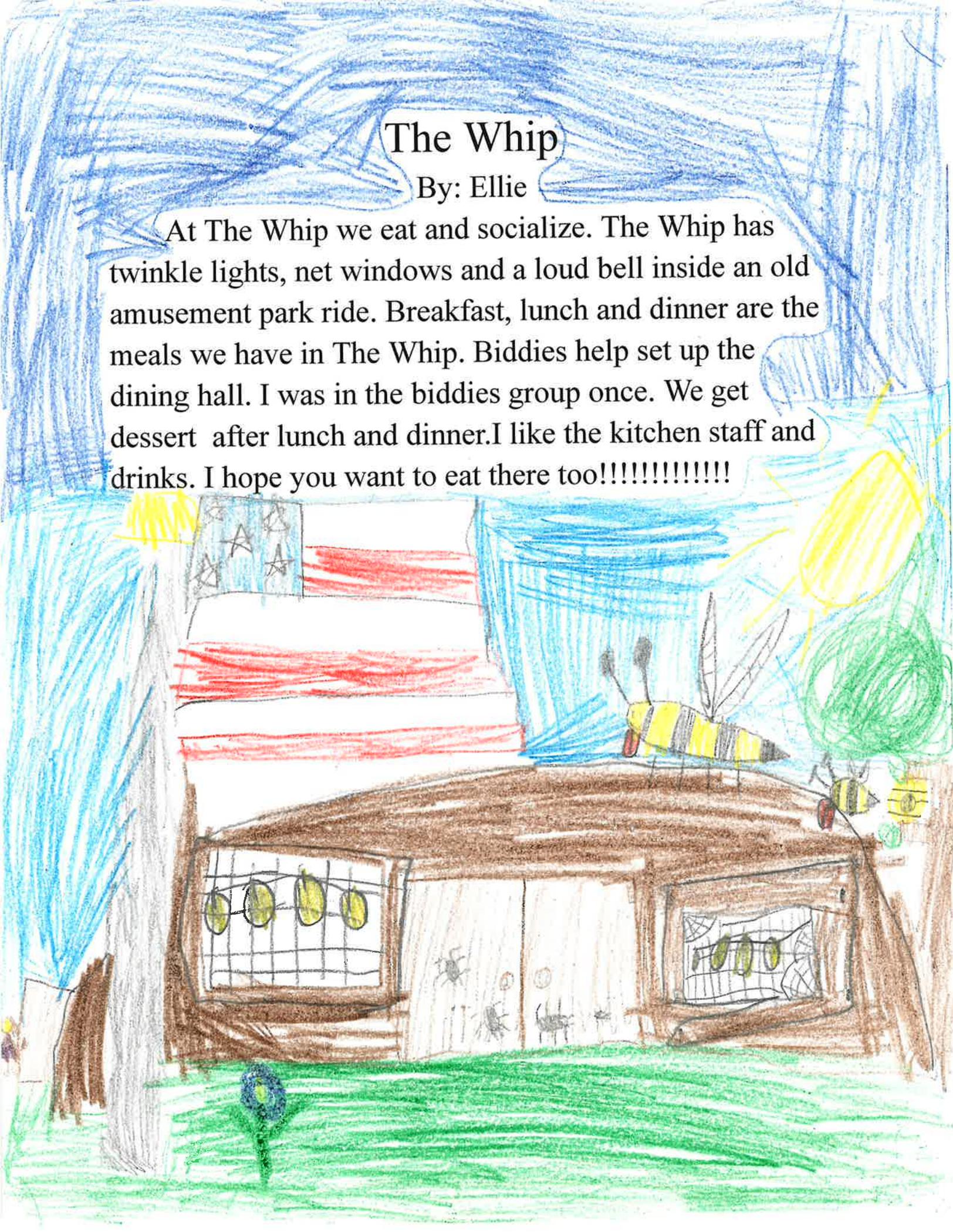
Residential Life



The Whip

By: Ellie

At The Whip we eat and socialize. The Whip has twinkle lights, net windows and a loud bell inside an old amusement park ride. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are the meals we have in The Whip. Biddies help set up the dining hall. I was in the biddies group once. We get dessert after lunch and dinner. I like the kitchen staff and drinks. I hope you want to eat there too!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

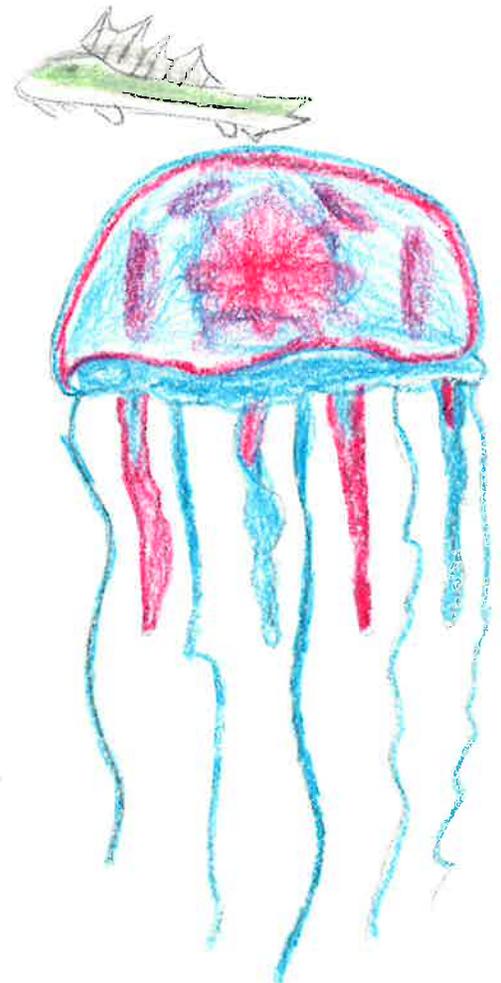


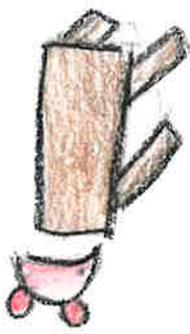
Echo Hill Outdoor School Tentside

Paragraph

By: Miles

Tentside is where you live during your stay at Echo Hill Outdoor School. The tents are on a raised platform. Each tent has a name. The TMS boys had Beaver, while the TMS girls bunked in Skink. The OD (On-Duty) are at the Tentside to watch the children. Rest Hour is an hour when you have to stay at Tentside with your On-Duty staff members. The wildlife includes bald eagles, fish, ospreys, jellyfish and crabs. That is what Tentside is like at Echo Hill Outdoor School!





The Whip

By: Monica



The Whip is a place where you go to eat, but you also learn many things. At the Whip I learned about S.L.O.P. It stands for stuff left on plate. It is a bucket where the food you didn't finish goes. It helps decide portions and amount of food you take. If there is too much SLOP, then the portions should be smaller.

You'll also have to eat with awareness which means not taking too much, not being selfish, not taking more when you're not hungry, etc. SLOP helps to keep track of what we use and what we waste. It helps the cooks not make unnecessary food so we can just throw it out. The menu was also very good. We had three meal times a day. They had about 14 bottles of hot sauce. I

tried some since my spice tolerance is rather low. So naturally it was very spicy; the hot sauce was named "Texas Pete". After every meal, we got dessert. We didn't get to eat dessert or juice for breakfast though. The dessert was mainly ice cream or popsicles. Sometimes my popsicle would melt and fall on the

ground which would be very sad. During our last dinner we got a cookout, which was nice. I ate four burgers. We got to say thank you to the kitchen staff. The staff was really astounding.

The Whip used to be an amusement park ride and some of the original interior was left from then. It was also made in 1952. The food was really good and that's why I recommend going to the Whip!





Free Time and Rest Time

By: Art

At Echo Hill Outdoor School education is important, but so is free time. Rest Hour comes first and is after lunch. Extra Time is 2nd and is after dinner. During Rest Hour you can relax by playing cards, sleeping or reading. You can also shower but you have to stay on your Tentside. For free time you can play basketball, soccer and 4 square. You can also go to the beach to swim and hike. Free Time is a chance to rest and play with the EHOS community.



Extra Time and Rest Hour at EHOS

By: Eddie

At Echo Hill, you get an hour of breaktime after each of the two classes you have each day, one for resting one for recess. The first hour of breaktime is called Rest Hour. Rest Hour is a time for resting only on your tentside. Even if Rest Hour is for resting, you can still play games on the field, play cards with your friends, pick pawpaws (a fruit), and talk or play with the OD or the other tentside residents. Extra Time is basically the same, expect you can move freely, like going to the beach and basketball court. You can also go and socialize with the other tentside. This is a routine and it is in between classes. Many people have fun and charge-up in this time before the next class. When you have a boring class next time at Echo Hill, just think about the fun afterwards!

