
NEWS FROM SINGING CREEK

Rappahannock Nature Camp 2018



OXALIS



MIMOSA



ST JOHN'S
WORT



CROCOSMIA



HAY-SCENTED
FERN



CLEOME



SOAPWORT



CHRISTMAS
FERN

EVENING PRIMROSE

by Mariel Scoville and Savannah Scoville

The Evening Primrose is a native of North America but found its way over to Europe and back to our continent where it is considered a weed. There are two different kinds of Evening Primrose: the weed, and the kind you plant in your garden. It blooms anytime from 4:00 to 10:00 p.m. It is a biennial, which means it starts out on the first year as a flat plant with no stalk. Then the second year it grows a stalk with flowers.



EVENING PRIMROSE

by Sarah Johnson and Harley Kerr

Our presentation is about the Tina James Magical Evening Primrose. The primrose has yellow blooms. At dusk, it opens its blooms within the same minute. After a few days, the blooms fall off, and there are seeds next to the stems.

Tina James magical evening primrose Blooming at dusk



Evening Primrose
 I ^{eye} see yellow.
 I ^{nose} smell honeysuckle.
 I did not ^{tongue} taste it!
 I ^{ear} hear bees.
 It ^{hand} feels soft like fur.

the tina James magical evening primrose

the tina James magical evening Primrose is a biennial which means that the Primrose lives for two years.

the Primrose has two stages in life. Stage one, it makes a rosette. Stage two, it shoots up stalks and the beautiful yellow flowers bloom at dusk at the same time.



Reagan





by Katie Johnson

At Rapp Nature Camp, Lyt has a Moth Light that he turns on at night, so in the morning everybody can catch moths and put them in the Moth Tent. Some common moths at the light are Rosy Maple Moth, Leopard Moth, Straw Besma, Wave Moths, Lichen Moths.



Name: Luna Moth



Nick



By: Brayden

The leopard moth is a beautiful creature usually known as a dalmation moth and if you look close, you will find that its eyes are green.

Location: Moth light



Location: Moth light



Name: Scarlet

winged lichen moth



Name: Ailanthus webworm

Location: garden



Name: May the grapevine beetle

Nick



leopard moth

Wyatt

MOTHS AND FRESHWATER INVERTEBRATES by Harley Kerr

We found these moths at our Moth Light:

Moss-eaters:

1. Goldcap Moss-eater
2. Silver-spotted Ghost Moth
3. Four-spotted Ghost Moth
4. Willow Ghost Moth

Apetelodid Moths:

1. Large Totype Moth
2. Larch Totype Moth
3. Small Totype Moth
4. Dot-lined White Moth

We found these insect larvae in the Hazel River:

1. Flat-headed Mayfly
2. Narrow-winged Damselfly
3. Spread-winged Damselfly



NATURE POEM
by Will Wofford

Water rushes all around
In the bed and on the ground
It flows downstream so cold and clear
It makes you feel really swell
Like the river in the rain
And please
KEEP THE STREAM CLEAN!



ANTS
by Daniel Fletcher

Queen

The queen's job is to lay eggs to keep the colony going. She does not get her own food for the first month. Only unmated queens have wings. Queens sometimes live up to 27 years.

Drones

Drones are the only male ants. Their job is to mate with the queen. Once it has mated, it dies because its job is done.

Workers

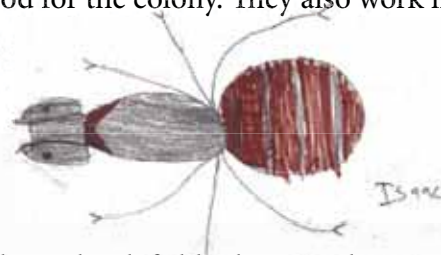
Worker ants are smaller and have no wings. Their job is to get food for the colony. They also work in the aphid farm. Worker ants also explore.

Warriors

Warrior ants will attack for the colony or defend it.

Super majors

Super majors command their troops (warrior ants) like a general on a battlefield. They are also royal guards.



NATURE POEM
by Will Wofford

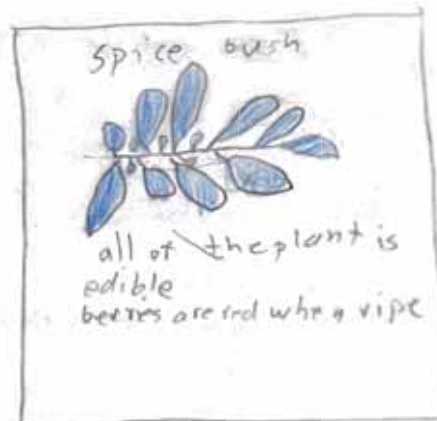
The breeze blows
and a tree sways
and the stars shine above.

It's all silent
except for the rustling leaves.

Then there is a glip and a glop
and the glassy water on the pond
is broken.

A deer pokes its head through a bush
and a turtle crawls on a rock
and a bear climbs down his tree
and a hunter comes into the clearing
with the frog and turtle and deer and bear.

And they all turn and flee.



BUTTERFLIES

by Webber Moore

When the butterfly comes out of its chrysalis, it can't fly. It has to let blood flow into its wings. To get nectar, the butterfly fuses the two halves of its tongue, called a proboscis. By using very small muscles, the butterfly makes the tubes come together. It will use the tubes to suck up nectar from flowers.



BUTTERFLY !



E lly - A n n e



PUCKWUDGIES

by Webber Moore

Puckwudgies are little gnomes that love pineapples. They like the smell of pineapples, but they do not eat anything. They like to play tricks on people because people never see them.



PUCKWUDGIES!

by: Declan Perrot

Puckwudgies are beardless gnomes that like the smell of pineapples. They also like to play tricks on people. The Puckwudgie tree fell over so everyone wish them good luck!



PUCKWUDGIE GARDEN

by Tanner Gerndt

The Puckwudgie Garden is where puckwudgies can be safe. There is a house with a wooden fence and a stone structure to be mighty strong. The Puckwudgie Hole is a mystery all its own. It is just a hole in the ground and it will always be a mystery. The Puckwudgies at camp lost their home when a big beech tree fell in a storm. Half of the tree went downstream. We have made things from clay for the Puckwudgies, like pots, plates and other things, so they can have a good and mischievous life.



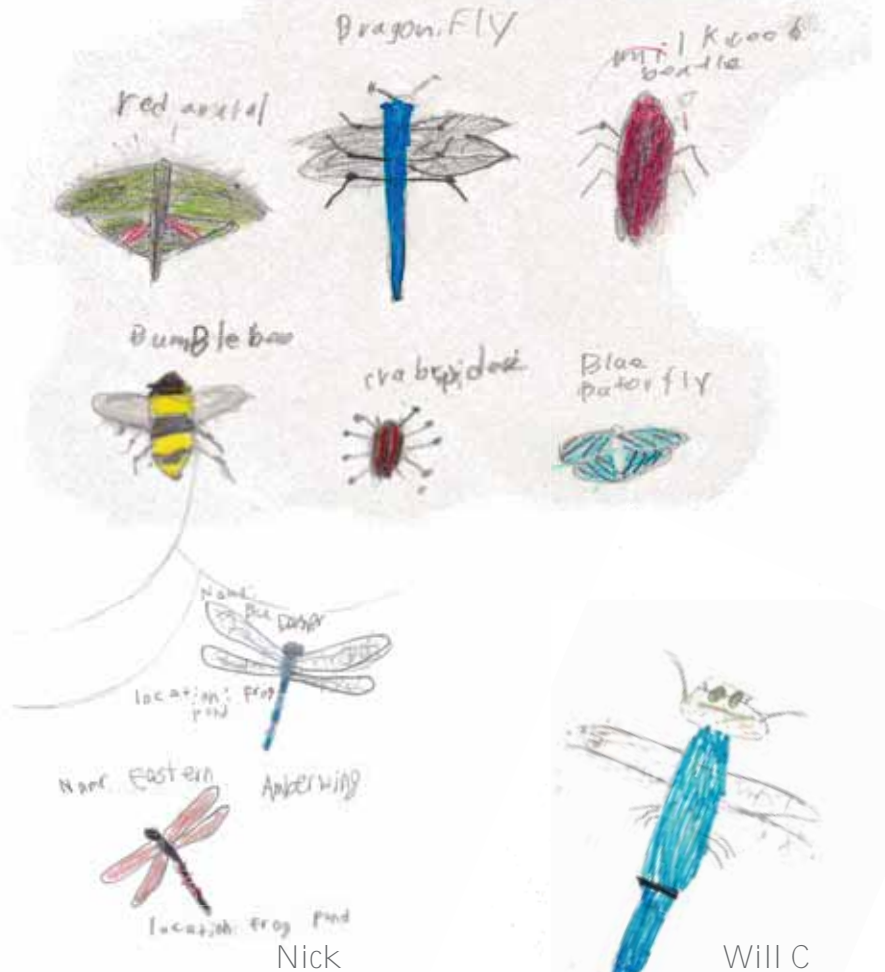
By: Brayden Shemwell

Ian Lopez

THE FROG POND

by Will Collins, David Look and Andrew Look

The Frog Pond is home to many plants and animals. It is a very fragile ecosystem. Our favorite animals that live in the pond are the frogs and dragonflies. Ones of the types of frog in the pond are Green Frogs. One time when we were in the barn next to the pond, we saw two frogs fighting and making a lot of noise. We have seen 12 different frogs so far at camp. We also got to see the different stages of the frogs as they got older. Another animal that lives in the pond is the dragonfly. Even though you usually see them in the air flying around, they live most of their lives in the water as larvae. The most common dragonflies in the Frog Pond are Blue Dashers and Common Whitetails. Another kind of dragonfly is The Prince. It lives in larger ponds.



water rock rock
bridge rock tree
tree water



Story of the Day

Day 1 Our Dam

Creeks all coming together
to keep the river flowing.
Camp community all coming together.
Our dam keeps getting bigger.

Day 2 The Frog

The "Stone Frog" (really a Gray Tree Frog)
camouflages itself so well that it might be
overlooked by the less observant. It holds
very still and can be caught easily if the
observer moves slowly and quietly.

Day 3 Thunderstorm

THUNDER CLAP! Out of nowhere.
Struck right in the middle of all of us,
making us vulnerable.
But we are safe
in the quiet of our Nature Camp.

Day 4 Our Quiet Spots

Slipping, searching.
We find our Quiet Spots this day.

Day 5 No Camp Today!

Is there a story
when there is no one present to tell it?
Many inches of rain fell overnight...
The river is raging...
Still, the night moths flew to the lights.



Liza

Day 6 Secret Garden

Special moments of observation as we wander through secret gardens, visit flowers and seek out insects.

We went to the Secret Garden
and I found a Balloon Flower.
The bottom of it is round and
looks like a balloon.

Day 7 Listening

A perfect harmony of voices:
croaking frogs, singing birds,
roaring river and laughing people.
Our community harmonizes in a
beautiful song as we listen with
our whole bodies.

By Tana



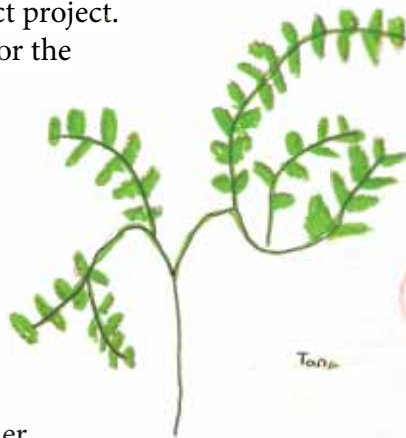
Maidenhair
Fern



2009
Description
not high green stem
the petals are a light pink
with a light green center
the petals are
flower was found
in this vegetable
garden

Day 8 Project Time

Hands have explored, minds wandered
and feet tread in search of the perfect project.
Now the time has come to prepare for the
Nature Camp stage.



Tana

Day 9 Now

The story of this day is now,
this moment. It's friendship,
cooperation and preparation
for our last evening, camping together
as the moon rises on our last day.



Liza

Day 10 Our Story Spreads

Our Nature Camp Story of the Day is one of past
memories, present joys and anticipation of our
future. As the smoke from this summer's camp-
fire drifts quietly away, it spreads our story far
and wide, and the clear yellow Tina James Magic
Evening Primrose opens its blossoms at the end of
another magical day.



Tina James

WYATT SOAPWORT

SOAPWORT is a plant that you make soap out of and that's cool about the plant SOAPWORT. This is how you make soap out of a SOAPWORT, so you only need to grab some leaves from it and squish them in till they get lathrey and that's how you make soap out a plant called SOAPWORT.



QUIET SPOTS by Daniel Fletcher

My Quiet Spot is one of my favorite places at camp. It's so peaceful during Quiet Time when everyone is silent. Another great thing is that we can choose our own Quiet Spots.

MY QUIET SPOT Day 4

*I have a great quiet spot down next to the river where all the moss grows. The moss is a great place to sit comfortably. My quiet spot is a great place to observe critters of the creek. It is also a good place to draw the things you see, like yesterday when I saw a mouse and some spiders. Another good feature of quiet spot (time) is creating with wood (or bamboo) or cool rocks!

Day 5

Today is Friday the 6th July 2015 and it is very rainy outside... that means MUSHROOMS (and other fungi) we went on a fungi hike and saw lots of fungi including shelf mushrooms. And I drew fungi from day 3, I am very excited about talent show, Me and Joy will be doing fortune teller dances and drumming. I am also excited about singing creek songs. My turtle that I found on the road is getting ready for the Big turtle race the turtle's name is Pedro. And it's me and fins turtle (foote). We even do tongue twisters. And songs.



CLOUDS by Lilly Smith

There are several types of different clouds that are low. They can be nice and fluffy or they can be your worst nightmare. They can be dark and grey and a rainy mess. Or, they can be just a white blanket across the sky. It just all depends on the weather, which is a totally different subject



LOW CLOUDS:

Cumulus
Cumulonimbus
Stratocumulus
Stratus

MEDIUM CLOUDS:

Altostratus
Nimbostratus
Alto cumulus

HIGH CLOUDS:

Cirrus
Cirro cumulus
Cirro stratus



This diagram is of a shelf mushroom attached to an oak tree. (on right). And mushroom (on left) is red on the head and has gills instead of spores, and has a brown stripe.

And the shelf mushrooms are called Nestcap!



Reilly



Reilly

SPIDER FACTS

by Isaac Plaksin and Declan Perrot

1. The fear of spiders is arachnophobia.
2. Most spiders are harmless.
3. Spiders get rid of bugs like mosquitoes.
4. Poisonous spiders in Virginia are Black Widows and Brown Recluses.
5. There are about 40,000 species known worldwide.
6. Not all spiders weave orb webs. Other types of spider webs are cobwebs, funnel webs and sheet webs. Some spiders, like Crab Spiders, don't build webs at all.



Reilly

FUNGI by J Switzer

Fungi (Fun-guy) have very interesting and unique features. Some are very similar to plant parts, but with different names.

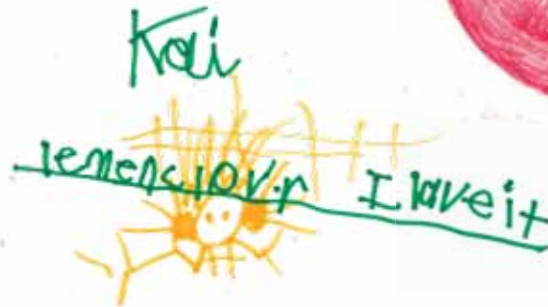


CHERRIES AND MILKWEED

by Tanner Gerndt

Cherries are very good for you so you should always eat cherries. You can also put them in medicine candy, fruit snacks and other stuff. The cherry tree is in the corner of the garden at camp. The birds love to eat the cherries and we do too.

This is milkweed. It is very good for monarch caterpillars and many butterflies, but is poisonous for most animals. Monarch butterflies (and their offspring) travel thousands of miles to get to Mexico and then they land to lay eggs. Then they (and their offspring) come back north and lay eggs. It has happened thousands and thousands of times.



CHERRIES AND HOW THEY GROW

by Elly-Anne Chávez

First, Plant the seed.
Second, Water the seed and wait.
Third, The tree begins to grow.
Fourth, Wait and wait and wait.
Fifth, The cherries begin to grow.
Sixth, Pluck the cherries.
Seventh, Eat the cherries



By: Elly-Anne Nasturtium

Firefly Poem

The fireflies light, it shines so bright,
for they have come to say goodnight

By Evelyn and Reagan

Fireflies

Light produce by beetles and other living organisms is called bioluminescence. Adult fireflies have whitish or yellowish bioluminescent organs on the underside of the abdomen. These organs are generously supplied with oxygen by an intricate network of breathing tubes.

By Evelyn and Reagan

Firefly Stages in Life

Larva



Adult Female



Adult Male (Flying)

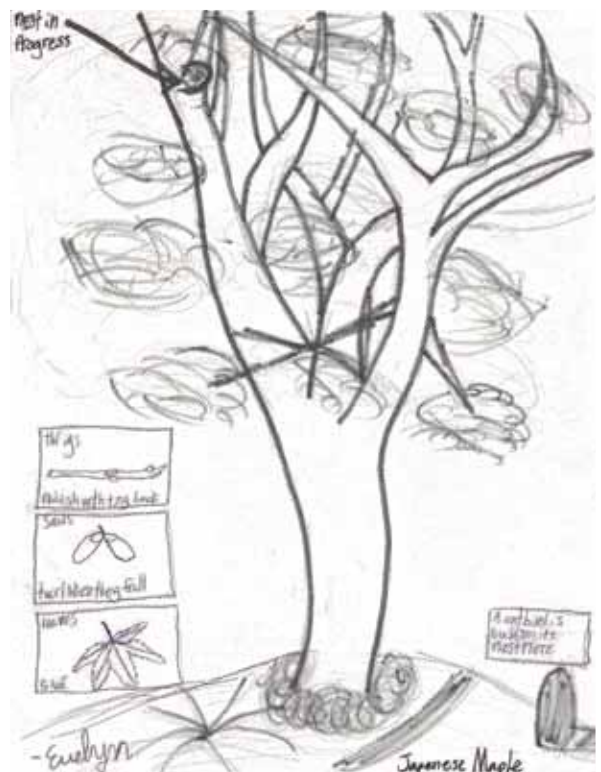


By Evelyn and Reagan



The fireflies
shine so bright
at night and the
river flows gracefully.
Coyotes howl in the
night as the trees
sing with the wind.
The bees buzz and the
butterflies fly as the grass
grows greener and greener
and Mother Nature continues.

By: Savannah, Maricel, and
Tara



THE GHOST OWL

by Lyt Wood



I am going to tell you about the Ghost Owl.

The Ghost Owl is real and it lives at Rapp Nature Camp.

Like the White Horse, the Ghost Owl keeps watch over its own territory.

Like Magic Primroses, the Ghost Owl comes out at night.

Like the Puckwudgie Hole, the Ghost Owl is a great mystery.

Like the Stone Frog, most people call it by another name. The Stone Frog is really a Gray Tree Frog, and the Ghost Owl is really a Great Horned Owl. I call it the Ghost Owl because I hardly ever get a glimpse of it, no matter how hard I try. It seems to be invisible. Plus, it likes to make scary noises. It doesn't often hoot like other Great Horned Owls. Instead, it hisses and screams and squeals and sneezes. Sometimes, it sounds like rushing water. Sometimes, it whistles like fireworks.

I am writing this in January. The Camp Barn is empty and the Frog Pond is icy. This is the time of year that Great Horned Owls build their nests and lay their eggs. Why?

Well, just imagine that every year, you have the task of keeping a bunch of eggs warm, and then protecting and feeding a bunch of baby owls until they learn to hunt. But then, my friends, those baby owls don't learn to hunt all by themselves. You have to teach them! This is a lot easier during the spring, when there are lots of baby rodents and rabbits around for those little owls to catch and eat. As we discover at camp, Nature is very wise. Owls know when to build their nests.

But right now, it is a cold morning, just before daybreak in the middle of winter. The night air is bright and clear and silver under a full moon. I am standing in our campfire circle at Azalea Rocks. A minute ago, I heard our Ghost Owl making loud, wheezy noises down by the Hazel River, near the fallen Puckwudgie Tree. Then I heard it right behind me! But I turned around, and there was no owl to be seen! Then I heard it way over at the Secret Garden!

I have similar experiences almost every time I go out looking for the Ghost Owl. It happens during the night, at dawn, at dusk, and sometimes even in the light of day. Is the Ghost Owl trying to teach me something? Is it laughing at me? Like a Puckwudgie, is it playing tricks on me? Or does it just like to make funny noises?

We are lucky that our camp is part of the Ghost Owl's territory. Maybe this summer, the Ghost Owl will visit our campsite!



Session 1 Campers and Counselors pose behind the Pole Barn



Session 2 Campers and Counselors at the Frog Pond

RAPPAHANNOCK NATURE CAMP 2019

APPLY NOW - MARK YOUR CALENDARS - RECRUIT NEW CAMPERS!

SUMMER DAY CAMPS

Session 1: (ages 8 to 12) June 17 to June 28, 2019

Session 2: (ages 12 to 16) July 1 to July 12, 2019

12 year olds can attend both sessions

February 1:

Registration Day—for all summer camps in Rappahannock County
8:00am to 10:00am, Rappahannock County Elementary School

PERENNIAL CAMPERS

Rapp Nature Camp is happy once again to announce a series of nature education outings for adults – our “Perennial Campers!” We will have a special orientation meeting the afternoon of March 3, to be followed by excursions to interesting habitats in Rappahannock and surrounding counties. Some of our topics for study and observation will be: tree identification, butterflies and dragonflies, migrating birds, and sky phenomena. Attendance at all events will be optional, and all Perennial Campers will be able to bring along a guest! All fees charged will be in support of Rapp Nature Camp programs and activities. Stay tuned for our schedule of events, to be announced soon in the Rappahannock News and at rappnaturecamp.org.

March 3: **Perennial Campers Orientation Meeting** (time and place TBA)

March 31, April 7, May 5, May 19, September 1: **Perennial Campers Outings**

April 28: **Rapp Nature Camp** at the The Waterpenny Farm Plant Sale

