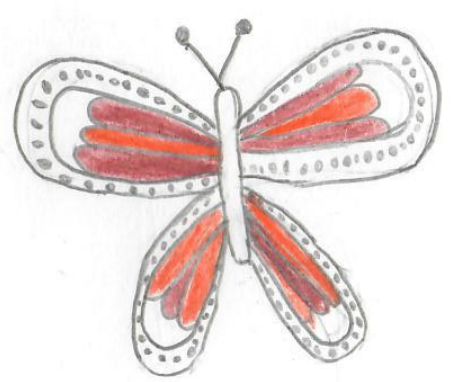
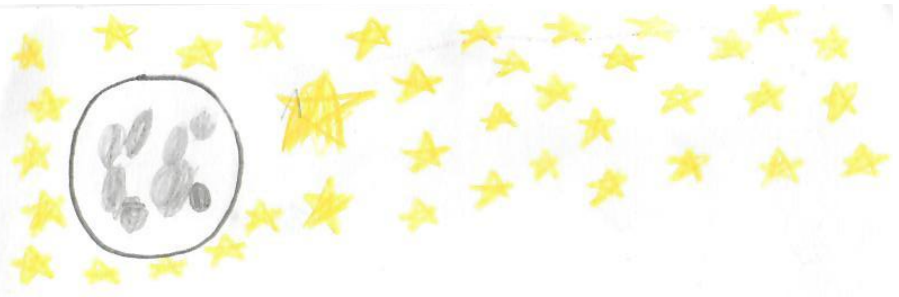


NEWS FROM SINGING CREEK

Rappahannock Nature Camp 2024



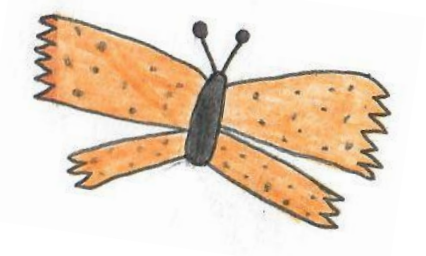
Heidi



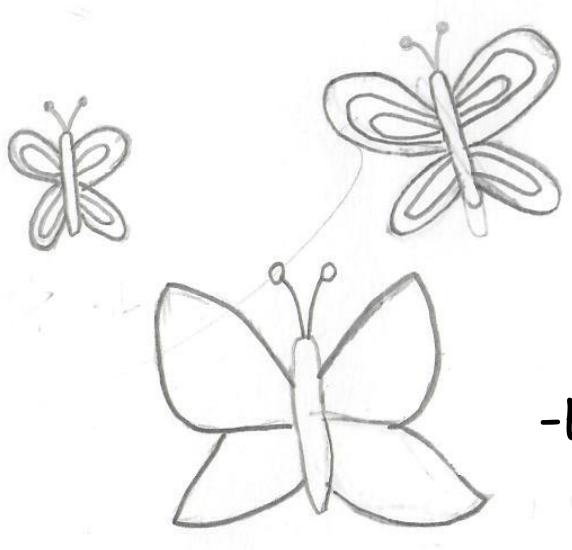
-Anne



Franklin



Chipping Sparrow



-Eve

a tree, the perfect home for animals.



-Jameson



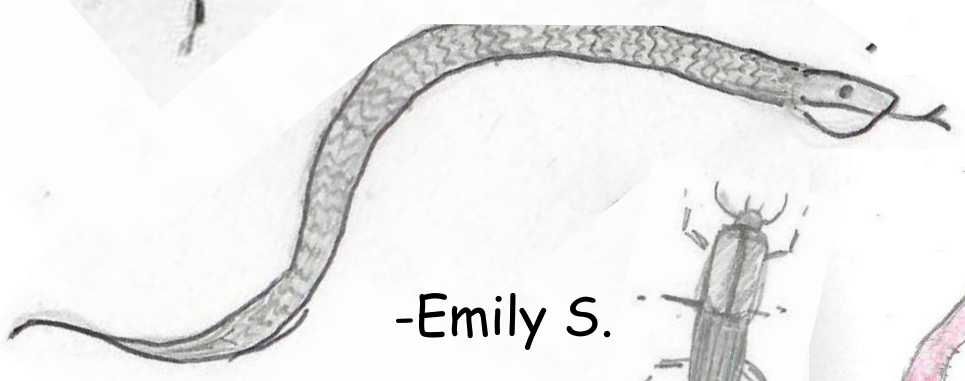
Gray Catbird

-Isaac



Ants

-Lloyd



-Emily S.



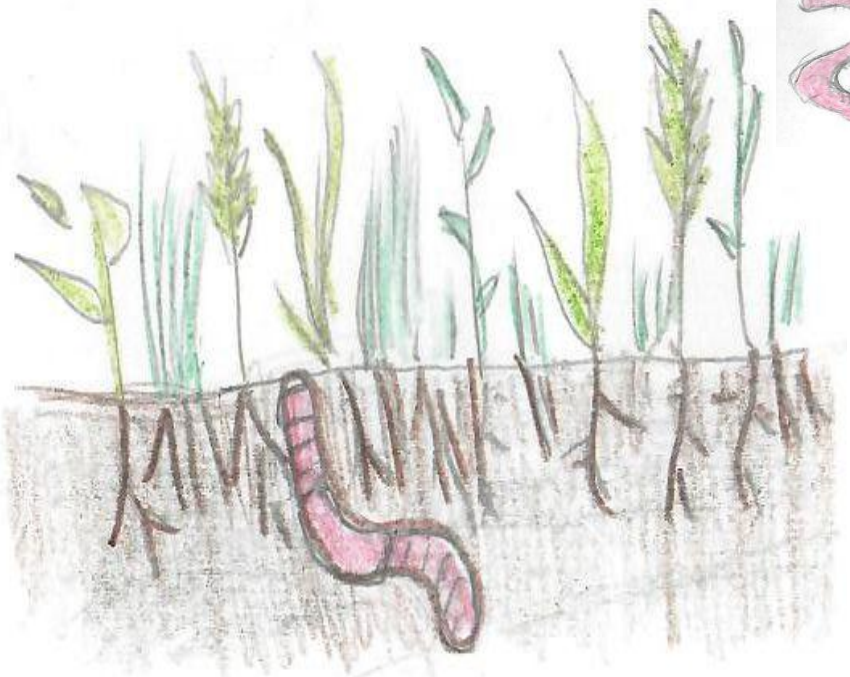
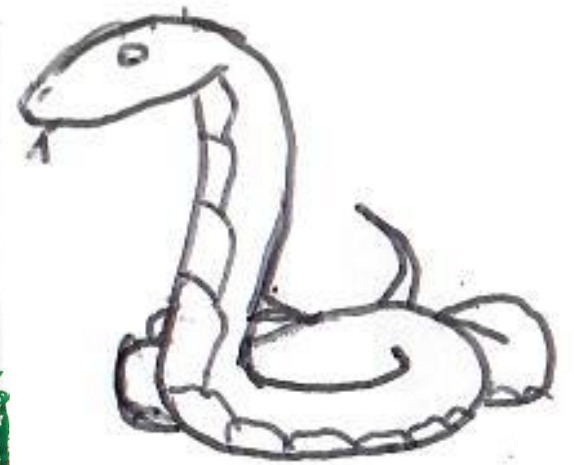
Bocstrtl



-Sam T.



-Walter



Emily & Josie



White Horses



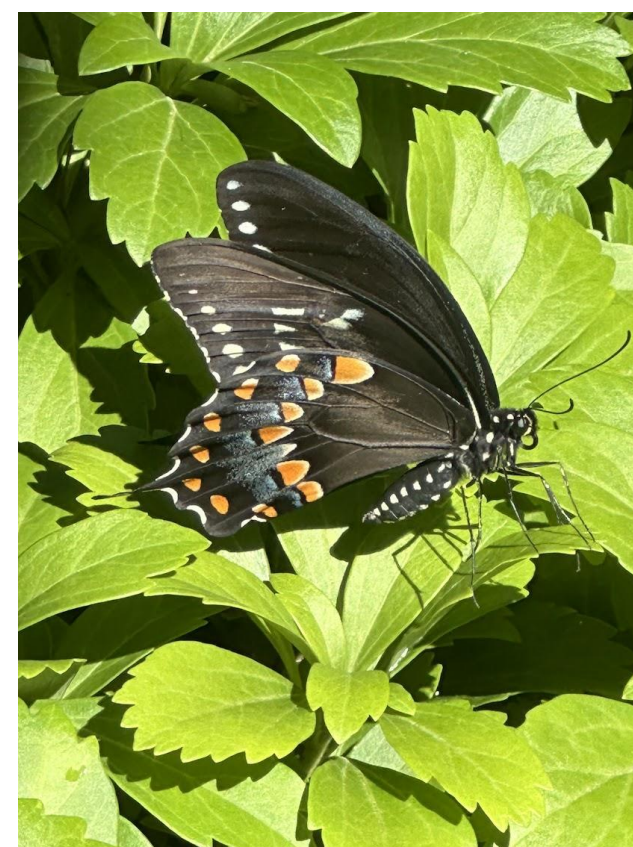
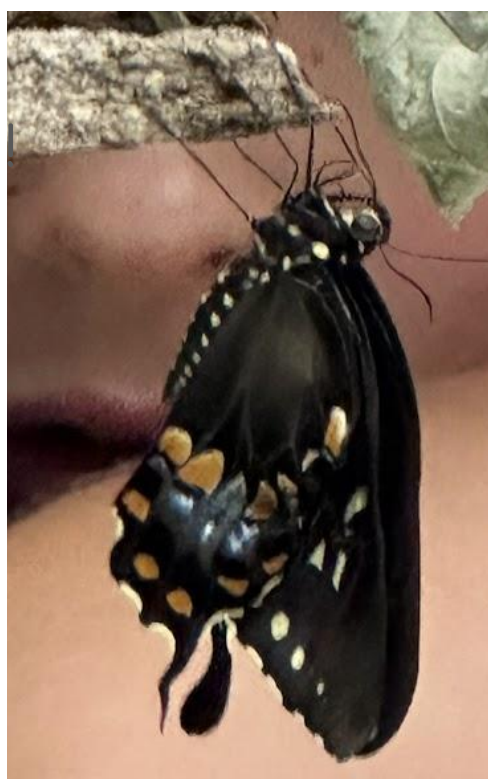
SHREW -

BERT.



-Eugene Lopinno

Spice's metamorphosis



Dear Campers,

It's been a joy this Fall to review our magical summer along the Singing Creek! Camp was filled with amazing discoveries. Each day brought us close encounters with the natural community we're a part of. Poetry and magic flowed during Quiet Time. Music was in the air. I loved being with you as we observed and learned about our Camp friends!

This summer, we had our first campout in several years; what fun to spend the night together at Azalea Rocks! We look forward to having another one for older campers in our first week of 2025. There were many stories that continued throughout the four weeks of Camp. Wood Frog tadpoles transformed to tiny froglets and left the Phoebe Pond. We found a Spicebush Swallowtail Caterpillar during week 2. We kept it safe and saw it transform to a Chrysalis, and we released "Spice" in our Story Circle during week 4. Newts were of great interest, and several began to transform to eftts right under logs by the Frog Pond. Low water throughout most of our Camp weeks meant that we were able to see lots of Crayfish, fish, and salamanders. Reptiles were important this summer--thanks to a well fed water snake, there were hardly any Noisy Frogs at the Frog Pond at the start of Camp! Under the bark of another log, a skink had laid her eggs. Each group also had a sighting or 2 of the Blind Black Snake.

We were reminded that Camp Never Ends on our last day of Summer Camps this year, when a Camper found a newly forming Chrysalis on her Quiet Spot stick. Have fun remembering Camp's many stories on the pages that follow!

Next year will be the 40th year of Camp! We will have Spring Gathering on April 5th at Azalea Rocks we hope you can attend. Next summer, our theme is Community. See dates and this year's group photos on the back cover. Mark your Calendar, and invite a friend! With Lyt retiring this summer, we will have a new Counselor, Smith, joining me, Nina, and Gus for a special summer of fun, magic, and Community along the Singing Creek. We can't wait!

~Rachel



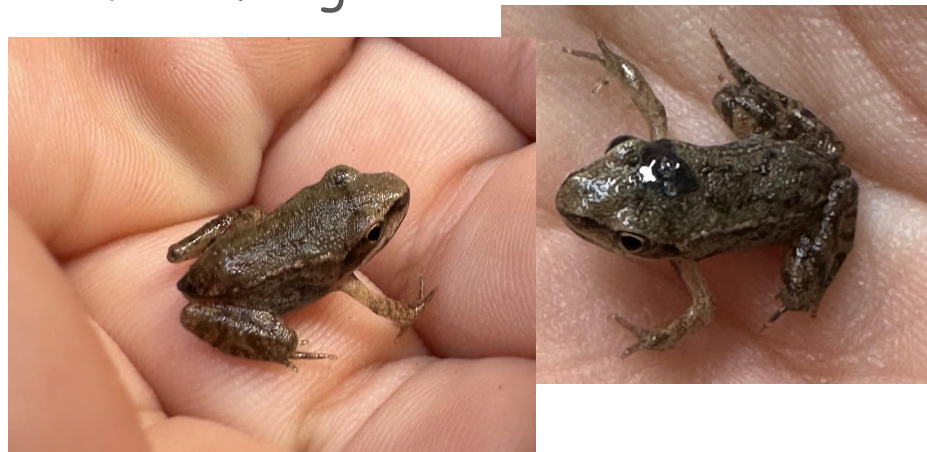
Newt and Eft



Skink family



Wood Froglets



Black Snake

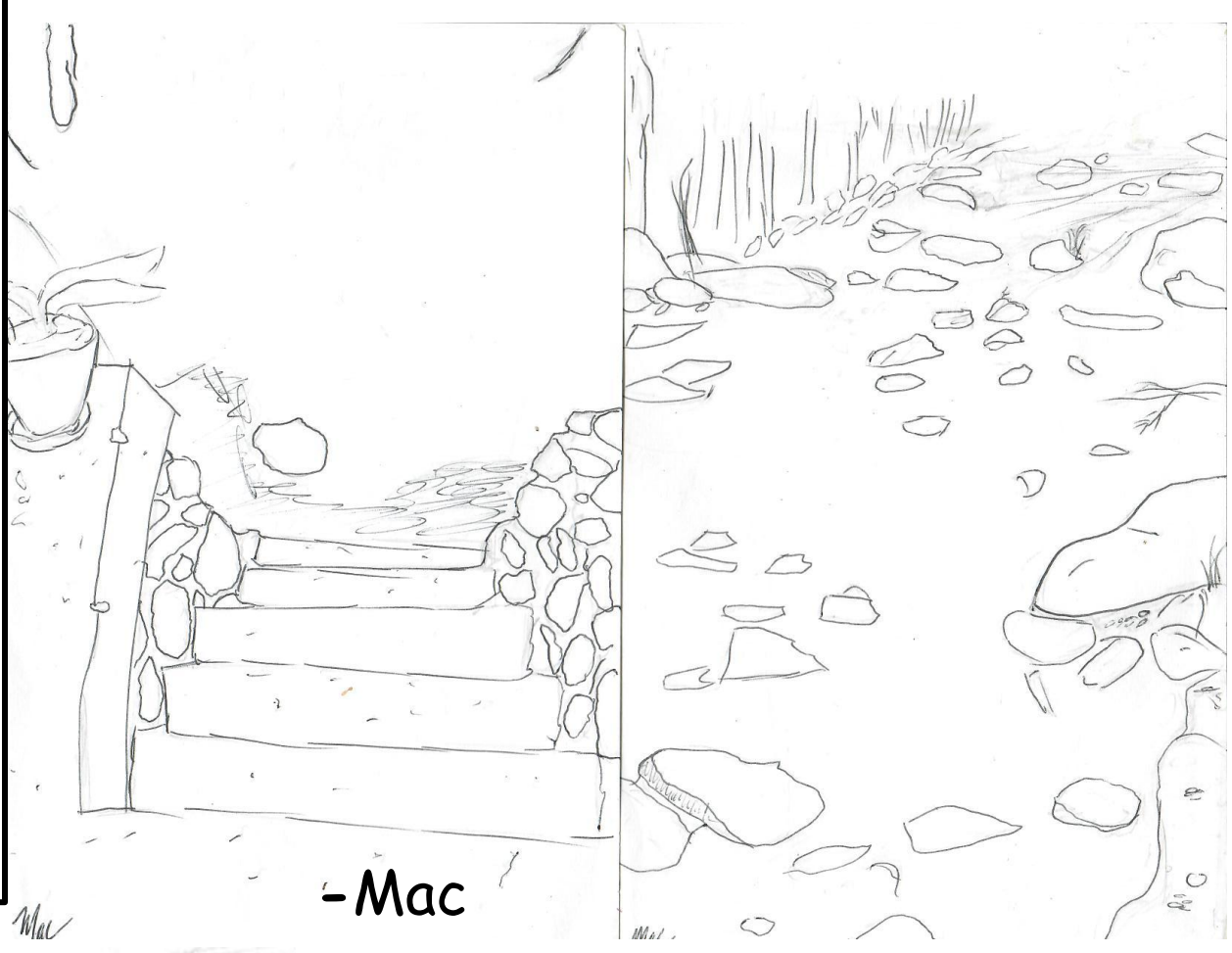


A new chrysalis forming

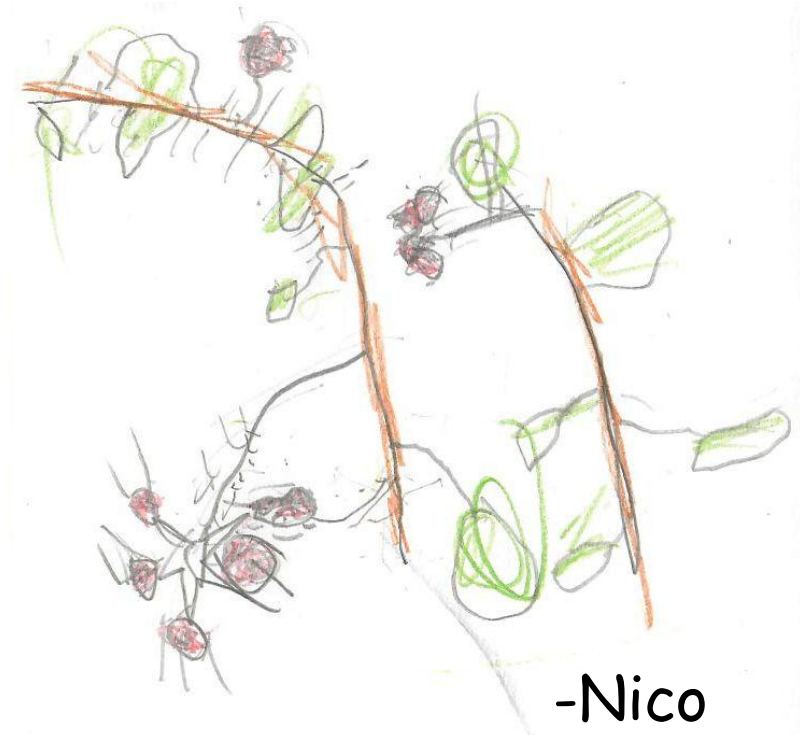
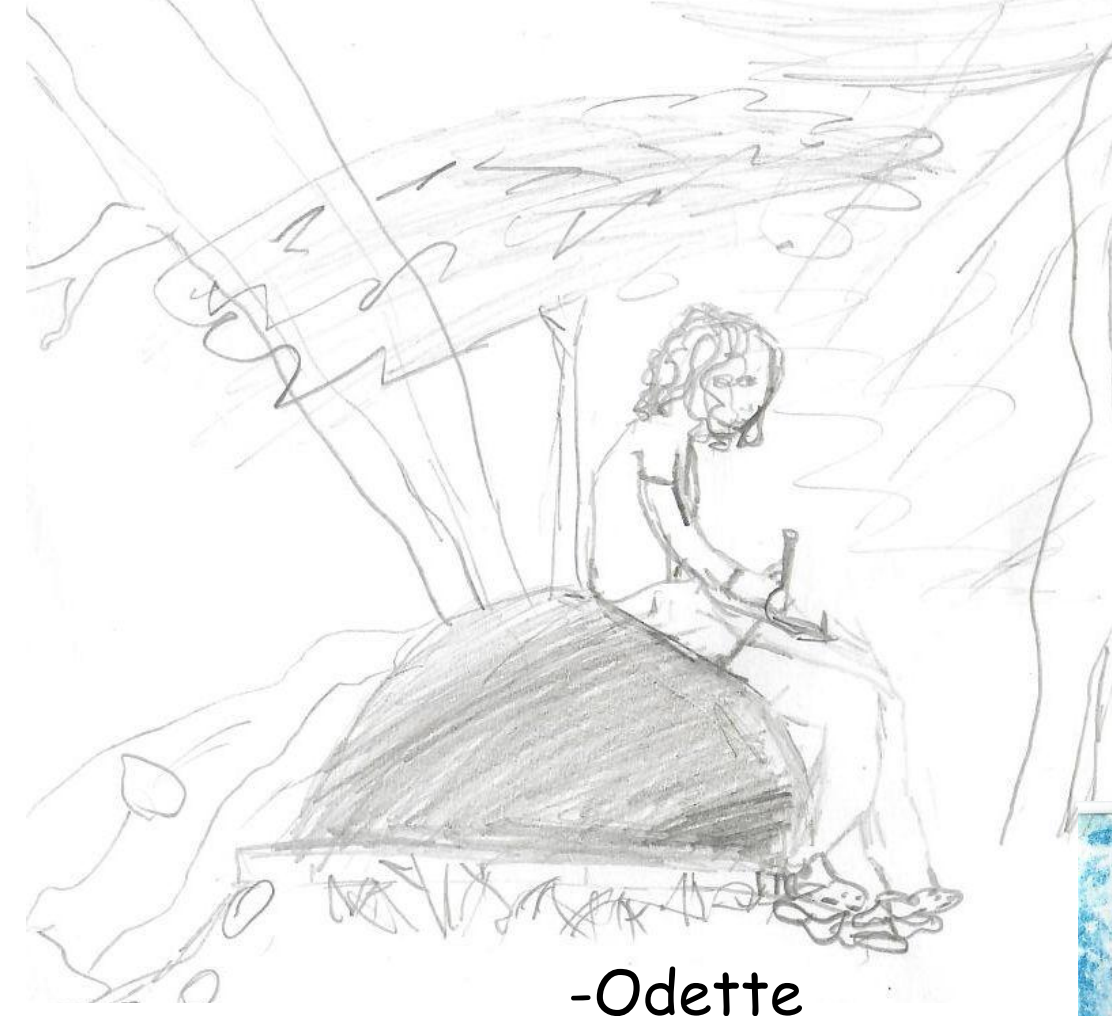


Quiet Time Song
 By Karla B.
 At quiet time I
 See bugs moving
 And if I am lucky
 I see a little fishy
 At quiet time
 I hear the sound
 Of the river going
 Down to the stream
 And I hear the sounds of
 Animals too

My Quiet Spot
 By Nico
 In my quiet spot, I
 Hear all the sounds of nature.
 I hear the Singing Creek
 Singing me a beautiful song.
 I hear a breeze blowing
 The trees leaves, and the
 Hazel River flowing.
 In my quiet Spot I feel
 connected to Earth.
 All in my Quiet Spot.



Quiet
 By Camryn Skillman
 Quiet is the word
 that I would use
 to describe this moment
 Even though
 the world around me is far
 from such
 The river
 which rocks I sit on
 is racing downstream
 carrying with it
 small fish
 and broken down rocks
 The mosquitoes buzz gets louder
 much to my annoyance;
 The gnats however
 keep their distance
 due to a purple coil I wear around
 my wrist
 To my left, a friend sits
 looking down into the river's
 clear water
 peering down at the fish
 Behind me
 is a stick of bamboo
 with a red "14" taped to the top
 I take it out of the dirt
 where it stands
 out comes an orange spider
 using its long legs to run around angrily
 I place his home right back, carefully
 I look to my right
 My Friend, her arms decorated
 with colorful bracelets
 one of which I made for her
 just the day before
 She's looking down
 Coloring masterpieces
 I hear no birds
 mayhaps because the flow of the river
 is really all I can hear.
 I have the urge to just Jump
 To jump into the river
 to rid myself of this hot
 sticky humidity.
 Before I have the chance
 I hear the melody of a flute
 echoing through the forest behind me.



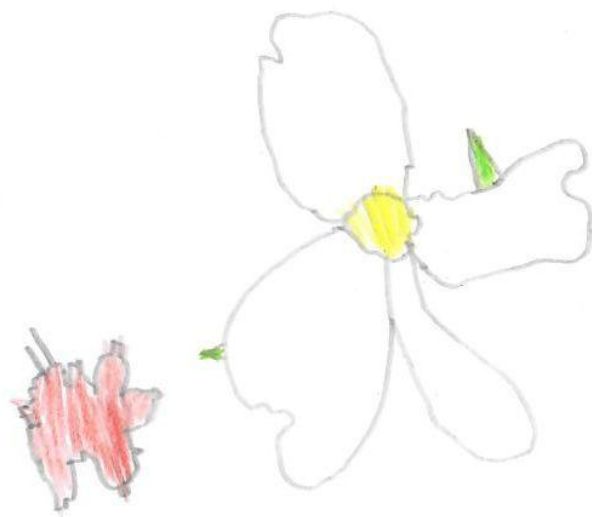
Quiet Time
 By Bella
 Quiet time is where I
 sit in the quiet with
 a tree above me.
 Next to me a rock sits
 water and dirt spotted on it.
 I put a leaf in the water
 as I watch it go by.
 I see a friend next to me
 with rocks stacked that they
 made yesterday.
 I feel a cold breeze run by
 And that is quiet time.



All About Dogwoods By Lloyd



Lloyd Grigsby



drawing of a dogwood fruit & flower

Dogwood Fun Facts

Lloyd Grigsby

- If you break a leaf in half carefully, there is a sticky substance that will hold the leaf together and make the bottom half look like it's floating
- It is the state tree and flower of Virginia
- The twigs can look purple
- The wood is red and very hard

I know the tree is a Dogwood because the leaves are smooth, broad, and are not lobed.

I also know because the bark is rough, light in some places, dark in others.

Dogwood Joke:

Person 1: Why are dogwood trees called dogwoods?

Person 2: Because of their Bark!

The Forest

by Emily Scoville

The Sun shines through a canopy of Emerald Green leaves. Nothing is heard except the subtle sound of rushing water and a faroff Pheobe. The stones feel cold against my back as I stare out into the forest. The forest shines a glowing, peacock green. The forest is alive....



Frog

Author unknown

Oh what a wonderful bird the frog are.

When he hop, he fly almost.

When he stand, he sit almost.

He ain't got no sense hardly.

He ain't got no tail hardly neither.

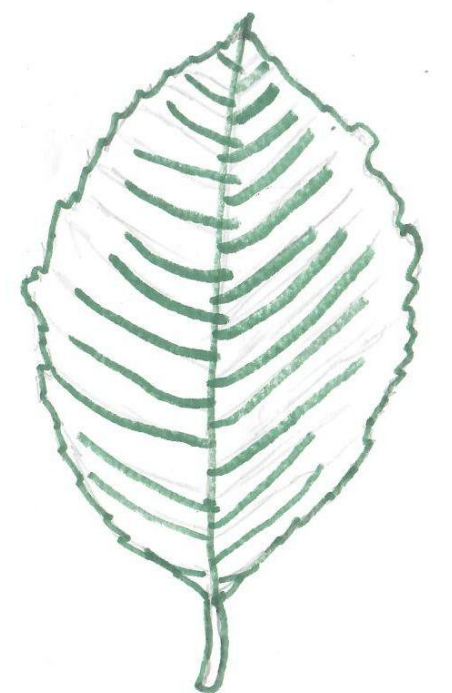
When he sit, he sit on what he ain't got almost.

Oh what a wonderful bird the frog are



It's A Leaf!

-Illy



Deer (based on Frog)

By Penelope Thomas

What amazing magic has the deer

When she walk, she run almost

When she jump, she fly almost

She got enough sense, I suppose.

When she still, she almost pose.

What amazing magic the deer has!

Trees

By Beckett Handy

Trees are life

Beauty, nature

Home to many animals

Big and small

many more

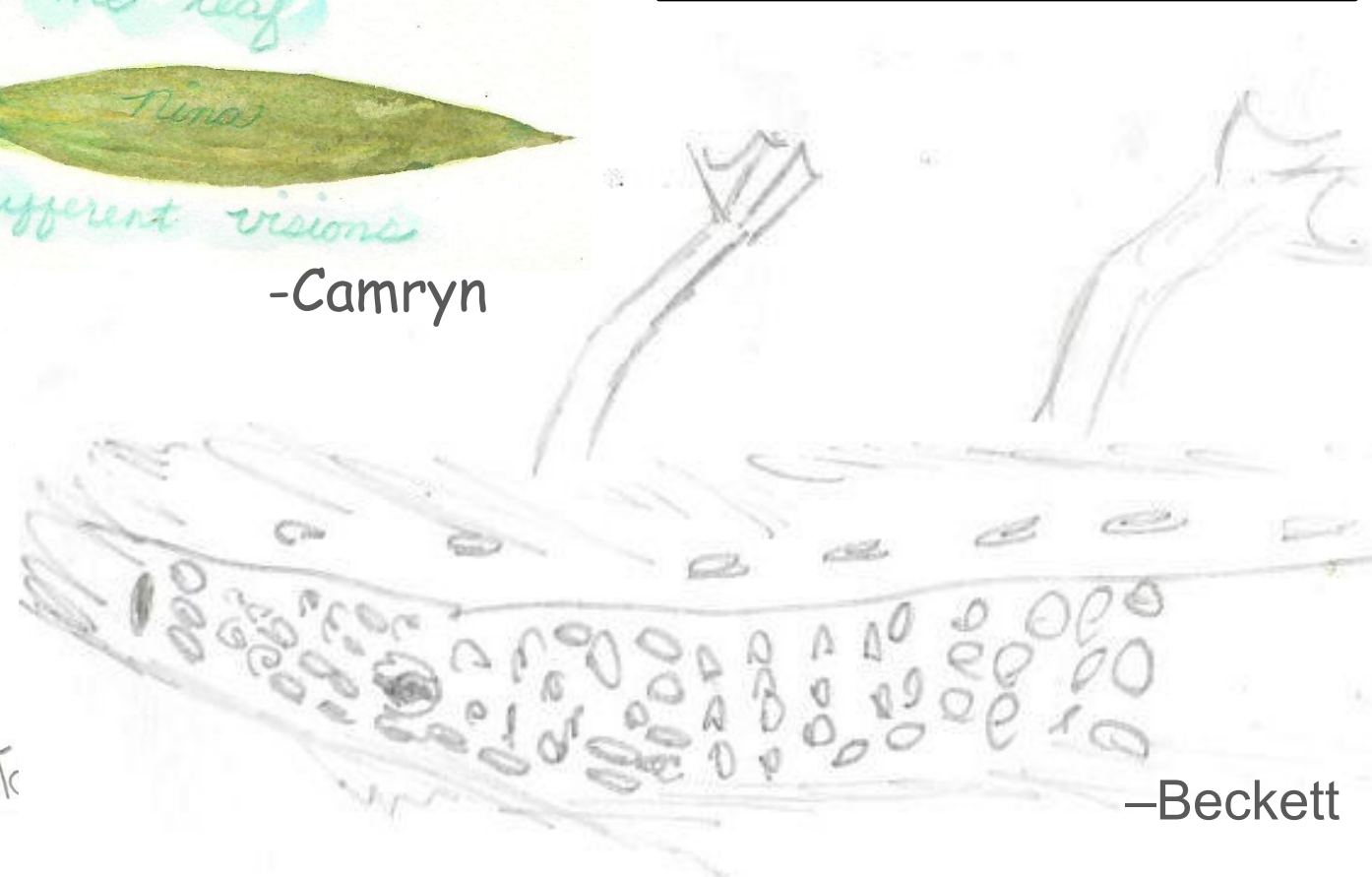
Also trees keep us alive

Without trees

we'd be dead



-Camryn



By Emily B.

Fascinating

Pluteus Cervinus

Common Name: Fawn Mushroom, Deer Mushroom

Family: Pluteaceae

Classification: Gilled mushroom of a deer mushroom

The fawn mushroom has a cap which is about 3-12 centimeters wide. At first this cap has a convex shape (look at photo below) but with age it flattens out. Under the cap there are gills, which can help with storage and can release spores. This fungus is a decomposer of wood. So we can find them in small groups on rotting wood. There is no specific tree that this grows on so it is found all over North America. Even though this mushroom is edible there are so many mushrooms and fungi similar to this that you have to be cautious.



Pluteus cervinus



Fly Agaric



Astraeus hygrometricus

Common Name: Barometer Earthstar



Family: Diplocystidiaceae

Classification: Earthstar

It has a sphere structure, which is the spore case. It is a grayish-brown color. It also has a rough surface that is 10-25 millimeters wide. This earthstar can be found on the ground, trees or any natural area in North America. They are sometimes found in small groups. If a dried earthstar is placed in water it expands its rays.

Phellinus robiniae

Common name: Cracked Cap Polypore

Family: Hymenochaetaceae

Classification: Polypores

This polypore has a cap that's size can range from 3-35 centimeters. The cap is a shelf-like shape. It feels rough and woody. It is a dark brown on the top and a yellowish-brown on the bottom. You can find this mushroom-like fungus on living or dead breast trees. It releases spores during summer and fall. It is a decomposer of wood.

Animal Sights and Tracks

By Sam T.

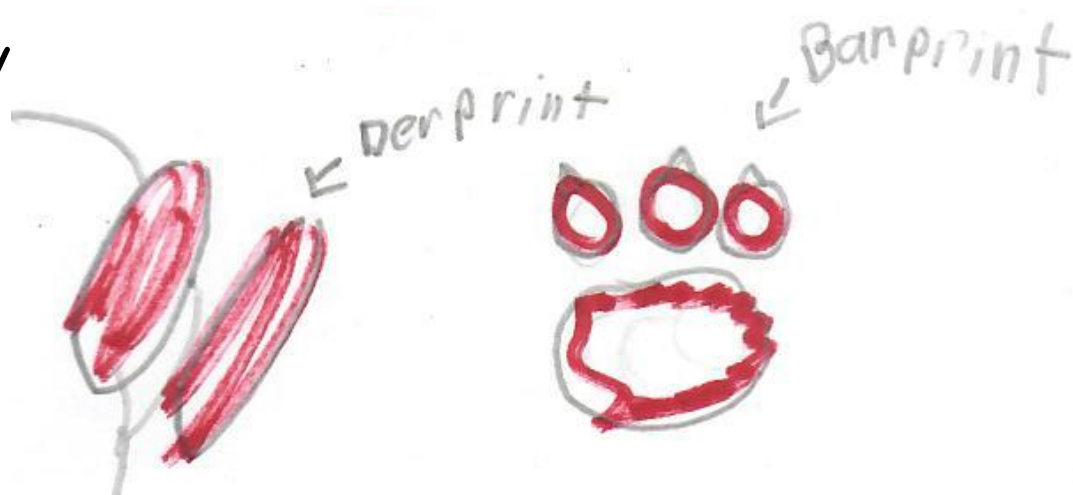
I chose Animal Sights and Tracks because I thought it would be cool and fun.

I have learned that predators are dangerous to almost all animals. And I loved the patterns and the tracks.

Animal Sights and tracks

Sam and Quin

- Pileated Woodpecker back tail feathe
 - It would use it to climb
- Hornet nest
- Owl Nest
- Ant Nest
- Caterpillar eating leaves
- A bird ate a butterfly
- Deer track
- Beetle larva
- Bear track
- Sap sucker holes
- Wild turkey feather



What I learned:

I learned that there are hundreds of thousands of fungus types. Fungi grows really fast because of mycelium network which contains new cells. Mycelium network can transfer water, Nitrogen, Carbon, and other materials. Even though we think of fungus as a mushroom the main part is the mycelium network which gives Nutrience to surrounding plants. So basically this network connects plants in a forest to communicate. So mother trees can give nutrience to their saplings.

Emily

Deer Perrot
Rattlesnake Master



"Chantrel Guy"

- Isaac

Majestic Milk Weed

What is Milk Weed?

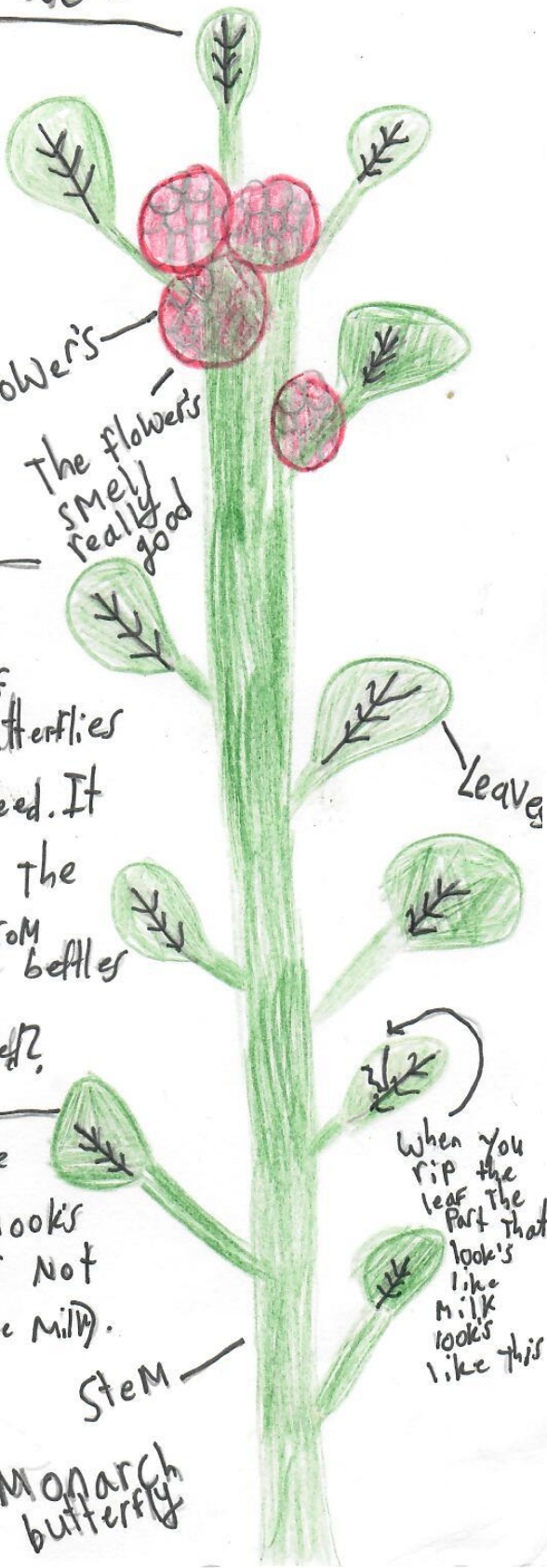
Milk weed is a plant that attracts butterflies and some bees. It also looks like milk when you snap the leaf.

Does Milkweed attract anything?

Yes, Milkweed does attract things for example it attracts a lot of butterflies. But the monarch butterflies lay their eggs on the Milkweed. It also has a lot of bees on the Milkweed getting the pollen from it. There are sometimes Milkweed beetles on the plant.

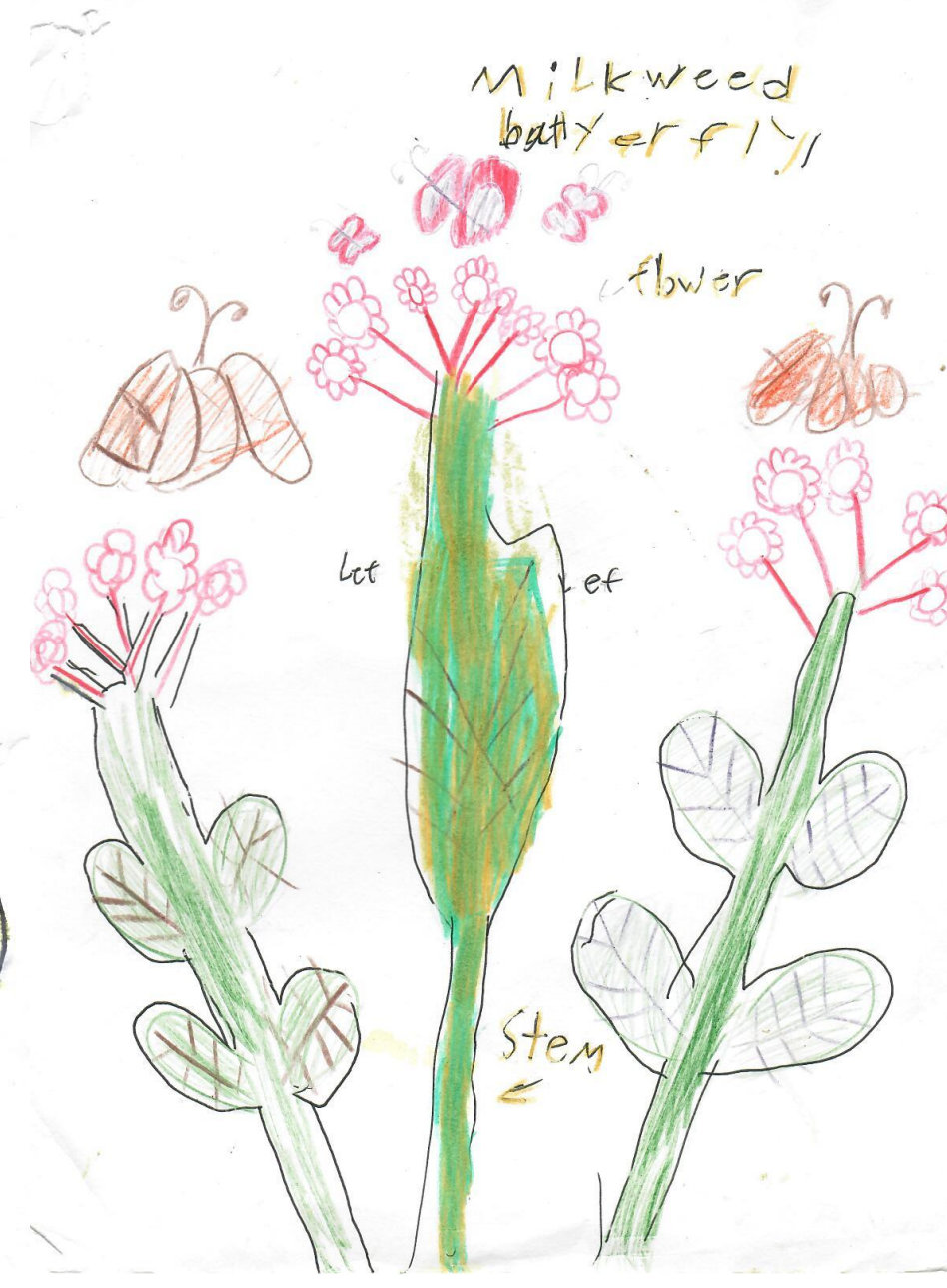
Why is it called Milkweed?

It is called Milkweed because when you snap its leaf it looks a lot like milk. But it does not smell like milk or taste like milk.



When you rip the leaf the part that looks like milk looks like this

Here's all the things that go on milk weed.



-Odette



Monarda, the Bursting Flower!
By Jace

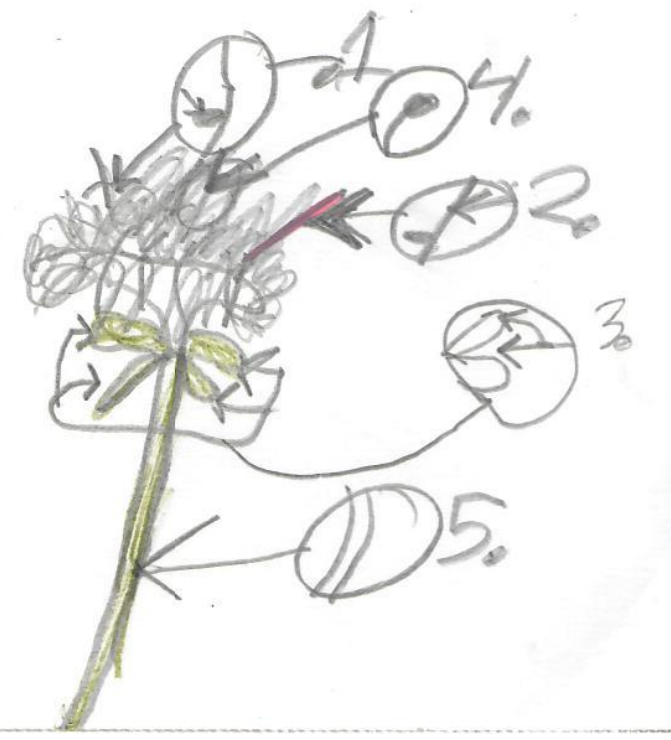
- Monarda Fun Facts:**
- It's shades of blue, pink, and purple
 - It's a compound flower
 - Leaves are simple, fuzzy, and opposite

- Perfect parts:**
1. Pistol (female)
 2. Flower
 3. Leaves
 4. Stamen (male)
 5. Stem

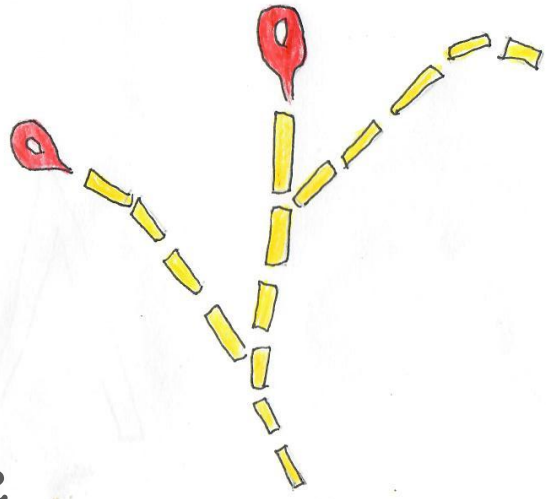
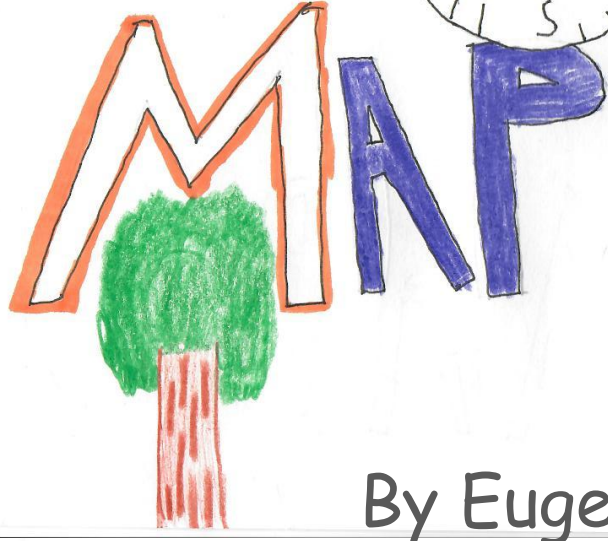
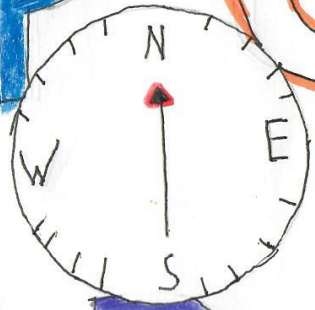
- Numerous Names:**
1. Bee Balm
 2. Monarda
 3. Wild Bergamont
 4. Monarda Fistulosa
 5. The Bursting Flower!



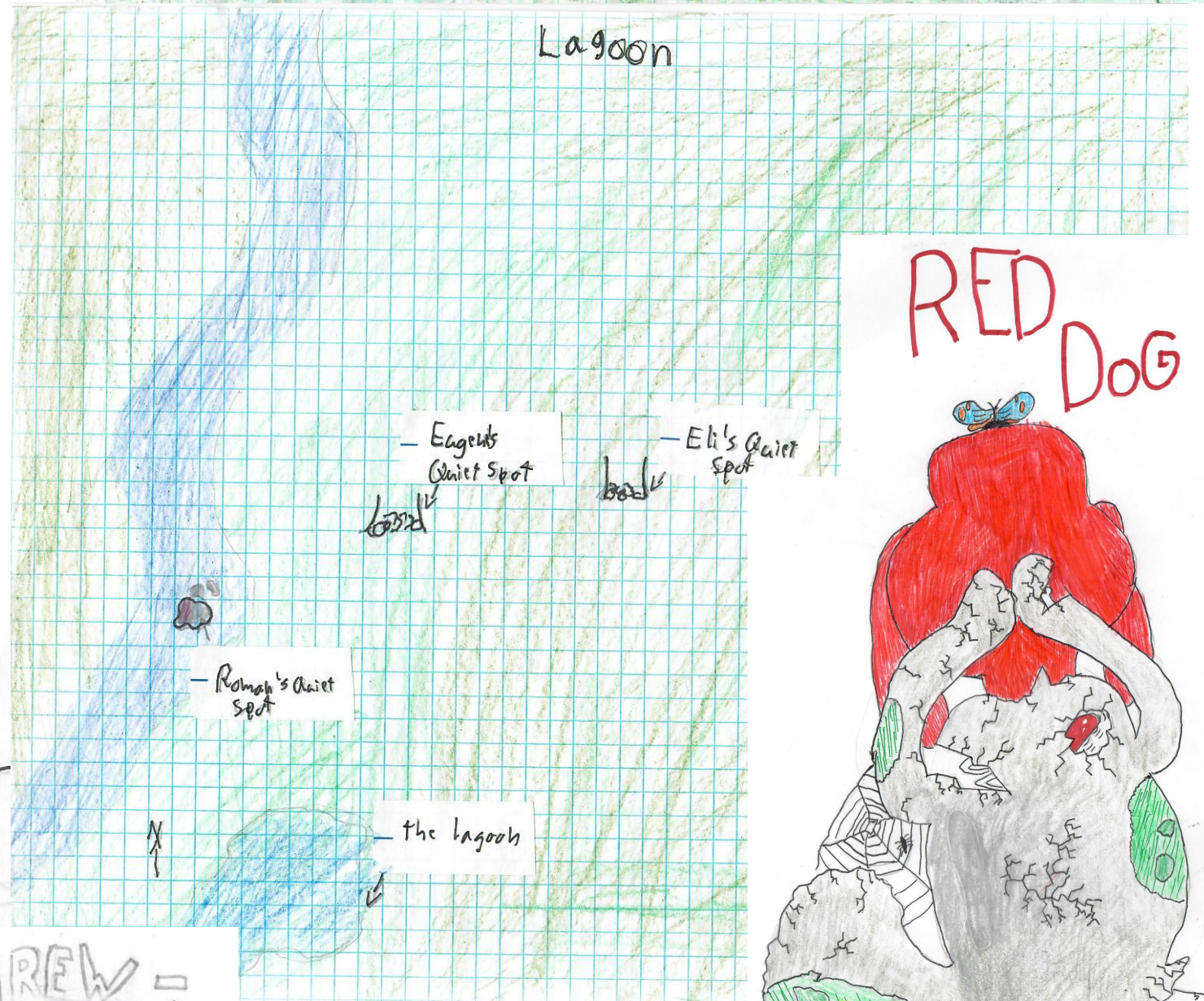
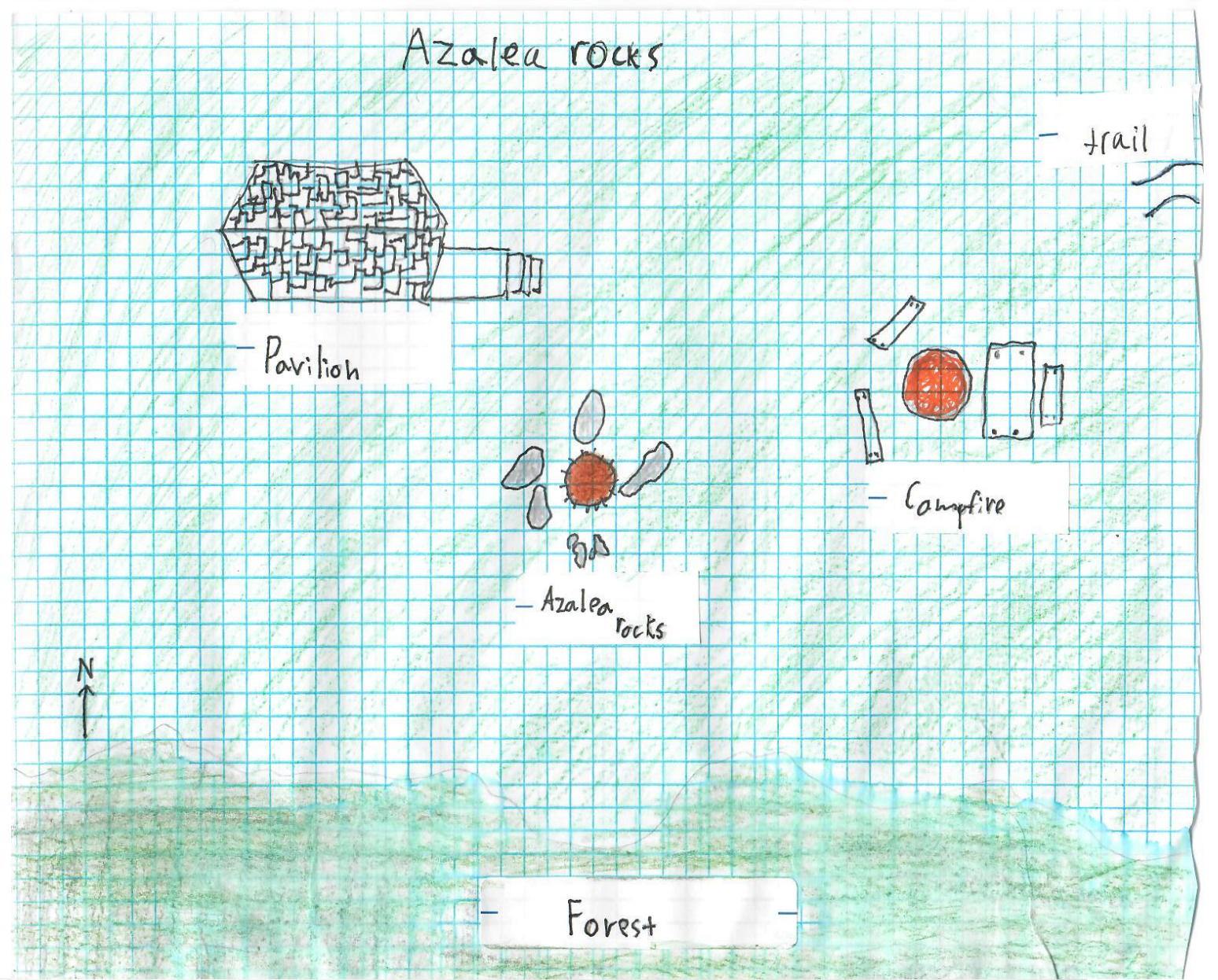
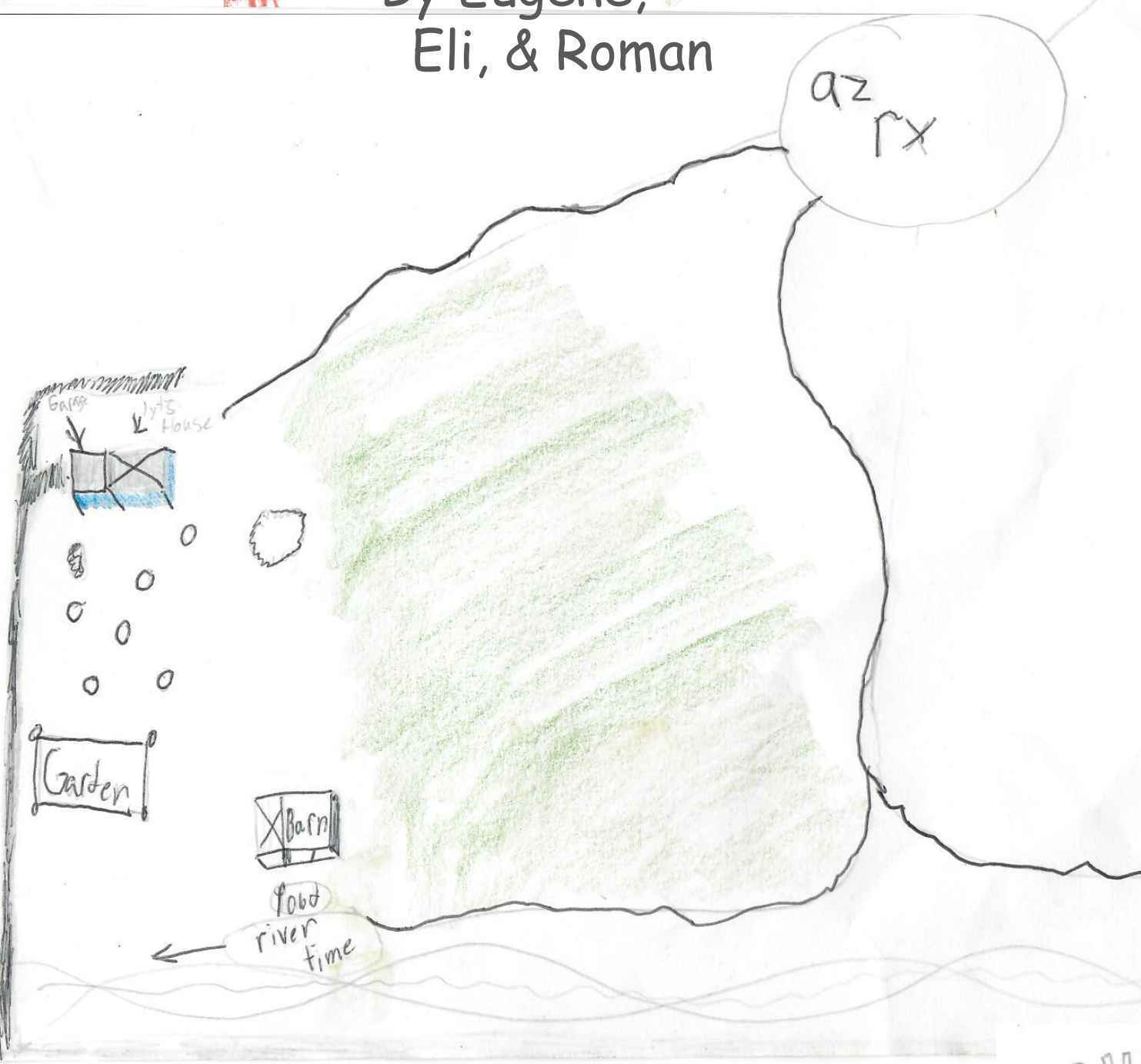
-Rachel



RAPP CAMP



By Eugene,
Eli, & Roman



Meet the Mint Family

By Karla B.

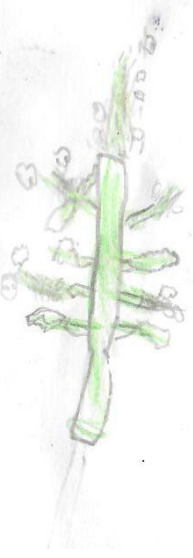
What Mints Have in Common:

- Stem is square
- Opposite leaves
- Fragrant plants
- Pollinators love them!



Catnip:

Bees, many kinds,
Ants

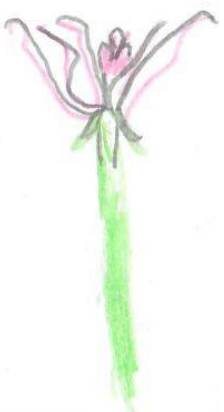


Lemon Balm: Small
wasps, small bees



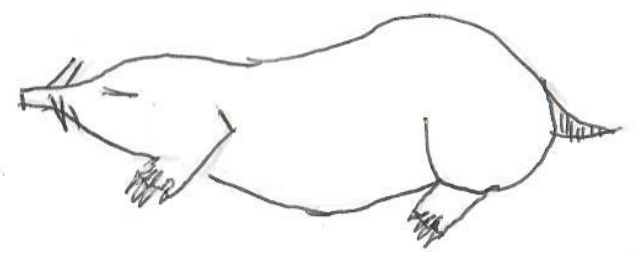
Bee Balm/Monarda:

Hummingbird, hummingbird
moth, skipper butterfly,
bees, many kinds

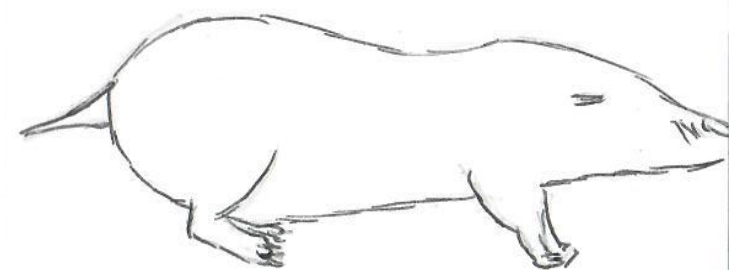


SHREWS, MOLES MOLES 3 MORE! THE WILD RODENTS OF RAPPAHANNOCK

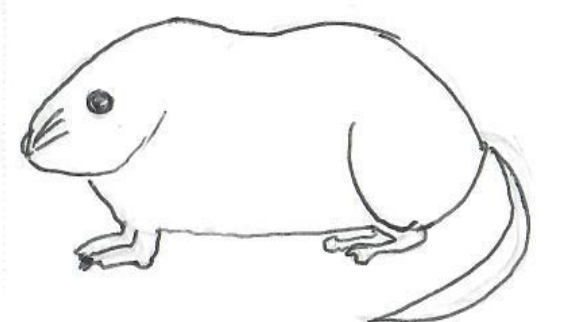
Eastern mole



shrew-bert



Meadow vole



Story of the Day Session 1

Day 1

Welcome Campers!
 A perfect first day unfolding
 Finding sticks, and
 find a magical dogwood
 with new and old friends
 Shrewbert leads the way
 for our first quiet time.
 Caterpillar, Moths to see
 Music in the air!
 Splashy River time.
 River creatures,
 Toad



Day 3

Treasure discovered.
 Projects reveal
 The details of camp
 Jack the Snapper,
 Gary watersnake
 Frogs, tadpoles, newts.
 Visitor reveals: Two-lined
 Salamander
 That fights the Chitrid
 Music, singing
 Kentucky Warbler



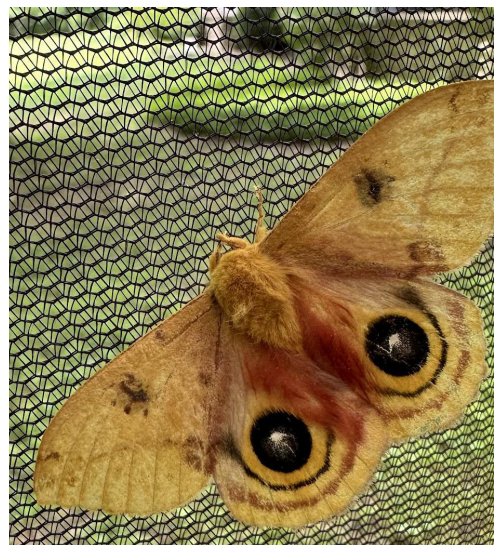
Story of the Night

A scrumptious dinner.
 Many hands make the work fun
 Builds community
 Sweet s'mores, bananas
 Night falls, eyes adjust
 Dark hike reveals
 Active crayfish, treefrog song
 Bright entertainment!
 Seeing stars, campfire closeness
 A perfect night for camping



Day 2

A day for seeing.
 Trees with personality
 persimmon moth
 Foxlike deer
 Projects starting!
 Silk Moths, Leopard
 New song to sing
 Blind Snake visitor
 Aha! A shrew skull
 Mapping our Camp Home



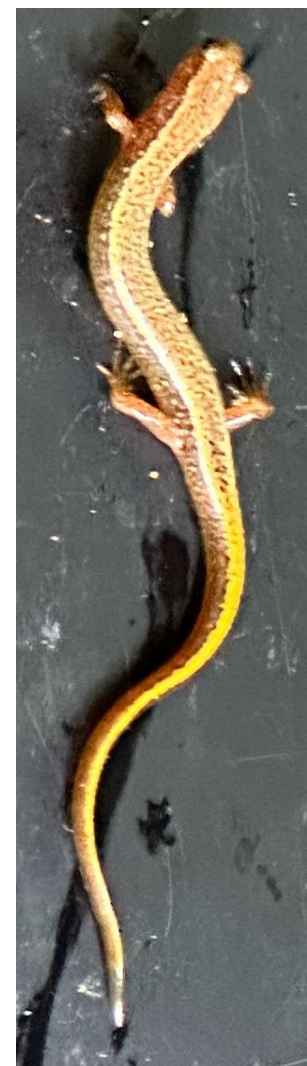
Day 4

Exciting morning of project work
 Culminates in a peaceful Quiet
 Time,
 Crayfish, salamander hunts'
 remains in view.
 River sings to us a song
 Spirit play in mountain water
 Thinking of our home and
 Those who went before
 On Manahoac Trail
 to visit friends.



Day 5

Projects polished
 Enlightening each other
 with deep exploration
 Our favorite group for fun-
 Comfortable together.
 Expect the unexpected
 Be true to your selves
 Out in the world.
 Remember..
 The most relaxing
 quiet walk and time.
 Camp Never Ends...



Story of the Day

Story of the Day Session 2

Day 1

Camp is alive with discovery!
 Observation Pond reveals
 Tiny turtles, newts, frogs
 Singing Campers, Bird song,
 laughter
 Tiny froglets in the pool
 Nine crayfish, one with babies
 A wise box turtle snacks
 on mushroom
 Snakelike caterpillar
 Find a quiet spot
 Before a special story circle.

Day 2

Camp is in motion.
 Froglets disperse; Newts swim and splash
 Camp is still. Quiet time.
 Moving with partners to
 find special trees
 Welcome guest has us
 moving in new ways
 New songs, new ways of singing
 Our creek shows us
 Crawdads, soft and hard
 Fish with whiskers
 Cool ways to move together



Day 3

Look up! And you might see
 a shiny black snake in a tree
 Watch it slither silently.
 White Horse watches us as we
 Work on projects eagerly
 Higher, from another tree.
 Listen- high up, hear the
 laugh of woodpecker
 joining our story
 After a Cool time
 on the moss bed
 down in the river.



Day 4

Sun Stand Still.
 Projects completed, with
 Baby salamander,
 Art, drawing
 Water Thrush visits our Quiet Time
 Lagoon.
 Noisy Frogs return!
 River Hike to swimming hole
 Finish project- catch a crayfish
 Camp music continues!



Day 5

We sing in our last day of Camp.
 Snake in pond joins the fun,
 rattling black tail
 Friends enjoy our
 Quiet time together
 Sharing projects-
 Amazing camp discovery!
 Remember River.
 Where did the time go?
 But be happy, Campers.
 Camp never ends!



-Sam

Story of the Day Session 3

Day 1

New friends and old gather at camp
 Sharing songs and memories
 Tiny frogs flood from our pond;
 a moving forest floor
 Catch a rainbow of fish
 in our Hazel River time
 Quiet Spots reveal a turtle
 White horse watches
 As our breezy day blows by
 Eager for tomorrow

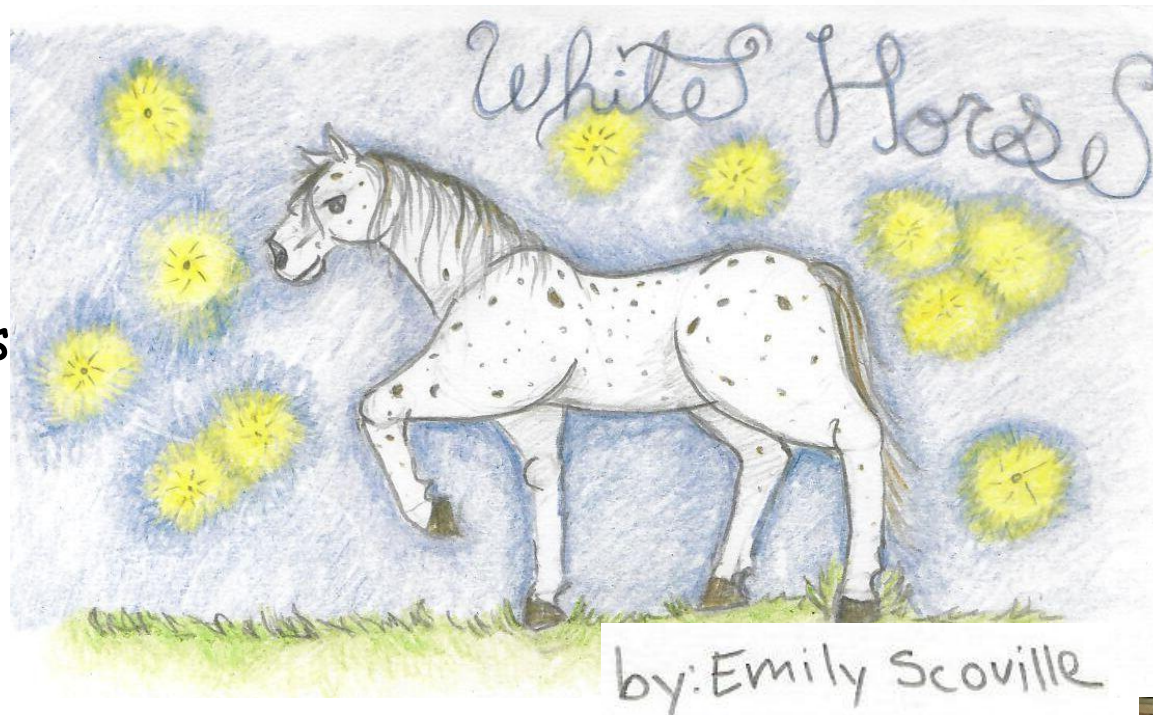


Day 2

Exploring Home, we see
 Blind black snake slither
 Worms, beetles shelter by our barn
 Woodpecker sights & sounds
 Quiet time excitement,
 Raven screaming
 Music fills our ears
 Friendly guest tells bird stories
 Shows nests and signs
 Fish in river
 Luna, Lemonade moths
 Released

Day 3

Peace and Poetry.
 A day for birds
 Wood Thrush hears our song
 as we walk from quiet time.
 Red Bellied Woodpecker
 Fledgling warbler Heidi
 happily joins our river time
 Sings a song for us.
 Happy Red Dog's sense of smell
 restored with a button!
 Projects reveal fish, newts,
 And more signs of animals
 Coyote Walk to Purple Cow,
 wineberries, Treasure!
 We are rich with nature.



Day 4

After the rain
 Sneaky Blind black snake
 snacks on bird box contents.
 We watch its calm descent.
 Project groups resume, busy
 Creating, discovering.
 Songs with uke and banjolele
 Singing beautifully
 Quiet time- our spots are changing.
 Snake skin feeds tadpoles, River water risen
 Friends together, berry snacks, fish to catch
 Red Dog hides again



Day 5

Grateful for our week together
 A kaleidoscope of amazing projects.
 Dazzling details:
 Ghost Owl, fireworks flower
 Wigglers, flyers, all around
 Our Camp is quiet and alive
 Happy faces and hearts
 Surrounded by our home
 in nature
 Music in the air
 Camp Never Ends.



-Emily S.

Story of the Day Session 4

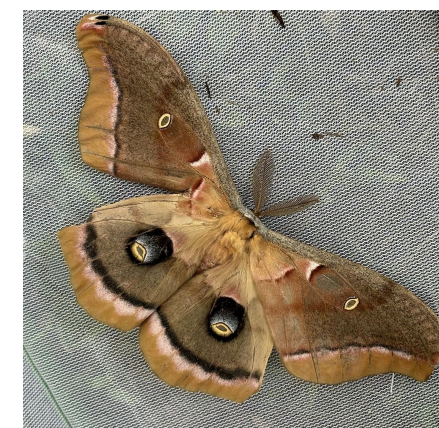
Day 1

Action-packed day!
 We emerge at camp
 with open eyes,
 ready for discovery.
 Swinging, learning our camp pond
 is home to many:
 Changing Efts under log
 Frogs under rocks, still
 Mama skink with eggs in bark
 Camo treefrog on PawPaw
 Spice emerges safely home,
 pumps wings and body with new life
 Finding sticks & quiet spots
 Crayfish, fish at home in river
 New friends, well met
 Butterfly released in Circle
 Best Day Ever!



Day 2

Morning Moths
 Quiet time discovery
 Wineberry dining fills us up!
 Pictures to remember:
 Flowers, Tree, Luna, Pond
 Singing freely to our frogs
 Water wonders-
 Dobsonfly, stonefly, Waterpennies
 Fish and crayfish, many colors
 Eggs of skink, safe in box
 Cooing dove sings out our circle

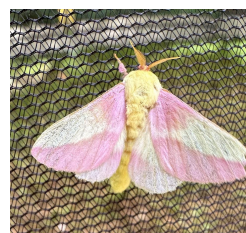


Day 4

Many morning moths!
 Quiet time, delightful.
 River Salamanders appear!
 Projects: progressing well
 Turtles, tea, and more!
 Rain brings us
 the fragrance of life at the river
 And, the right time for an indoor
 story circle on a soft rug.
 Cozy and safe, ready for tomorrow

Day 3

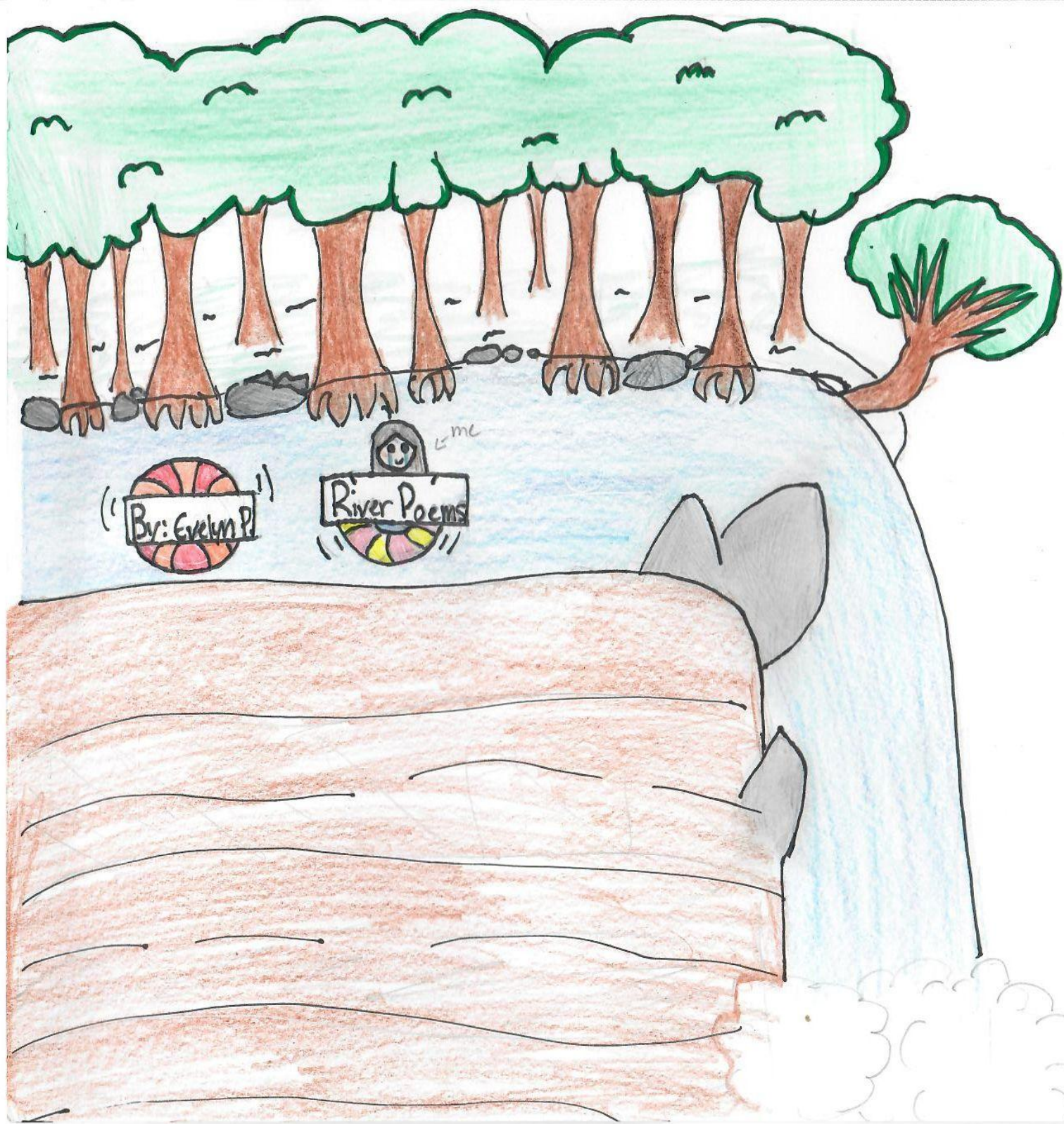
Everything was great.
 Marvelous morning moths & swinging
 Starting projects:
 Herps, mints, spiders
 Mushrooms- and a Bear!
 Art at river, juggling lesson.
 River reveals crayfish, stonefly
 Fun catching together
 Salamander!
 Music rises! Share a song.
 Fungus friend leaves us a treasure
 So much more to learn.



Day 5

Moth and Dobsonfly to tent
 Finish projects: catch a frog
 So many wonders yet to share!
 Music rises, strong and clear
 Wood Thrush joins our quiet time.
 Learning from friends' observations
 It's another Best Day Ever!
 Swallowtail chrysalis reminds us:
 Camp Never Ends!





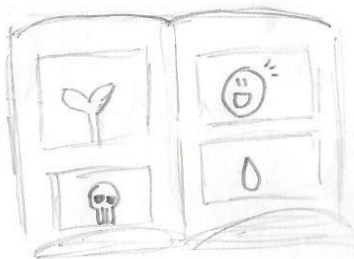
River Poems by Evelyn P.

Untitled #1

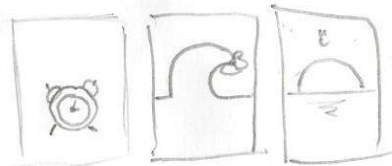
Untitled #2

air breathes one life out of
 fire takes many
 earth waits so stop
 but water... breathe
 water plays appreciate life
 like water
 swirling and spinning around rocks
 like the ocean to boats
 wearing down rocks
 like existence to humans
 grinding
 grinding
 grinding
 till it is nothing
 not nothing
 a grain of sand
 on the floor of the ocean

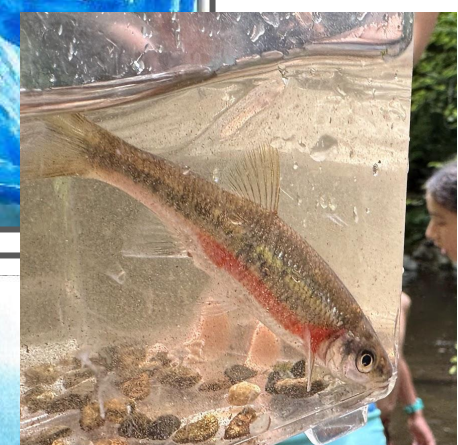
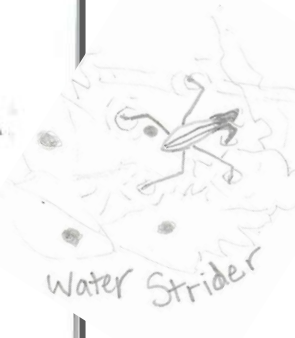
There are many kinds of stories
 some of life.
 some of death.
 some of joy
 or sadness.



Existence tells those stories.
 all things have a presence.
 But the elements are different.
 Especially water.
 water can tell stories of difference.
 time.
 power.
 calm.
 understanding.
 Water is something all living things
 need.
 That is why it can show more



The River
 Lena Gollan
 The river is calm
 The river is relaxing
 The river is where I am.
 I sit and I listen to
 the sweet sound of the birds
 chirping and the river running.
 The river is calm and gentle
 The perfect place for me
 The river is quiet
 For it is the perfect place
 for me. The river is a
 home to the nature where I
 sit and listen to the sweet
 sounds of the river.



Crawdads Fish
 -Eve



The River

by Hayden R.

As you walk through the woods
 Enjoying every sound
 From the birds to the bees
 And the moles in the ground,
 The one thing that really catches my eye,
 Is the river slowly drifting by.
 I sit down next to the stream
 While the water rushes down to the sea.
 With rocks eroding over time
 I wonder, why this all be here
 As the world is moving by

The river



Hayden R.



Bird Observations

Odette, Annie, Alaina

There's a lot of Blue Birds in this area. If you look into the Binoculars, you can see Blue Birds up close. If you want to see Blue Birds you have to stay quiet because if you scream or talk very loud then you could scare them away, and you don't want to scare them away because that would be mean. You would not want to be scared away so do not scare them away.

Look in the binoculars

1. Take turns
2. Don't be loud
3. Don't fight
4. Mark the birds



Bird Sightings

Alaina

Blue Birds 15

Woodpeckers 4

The Birds in the Sky

By Odette

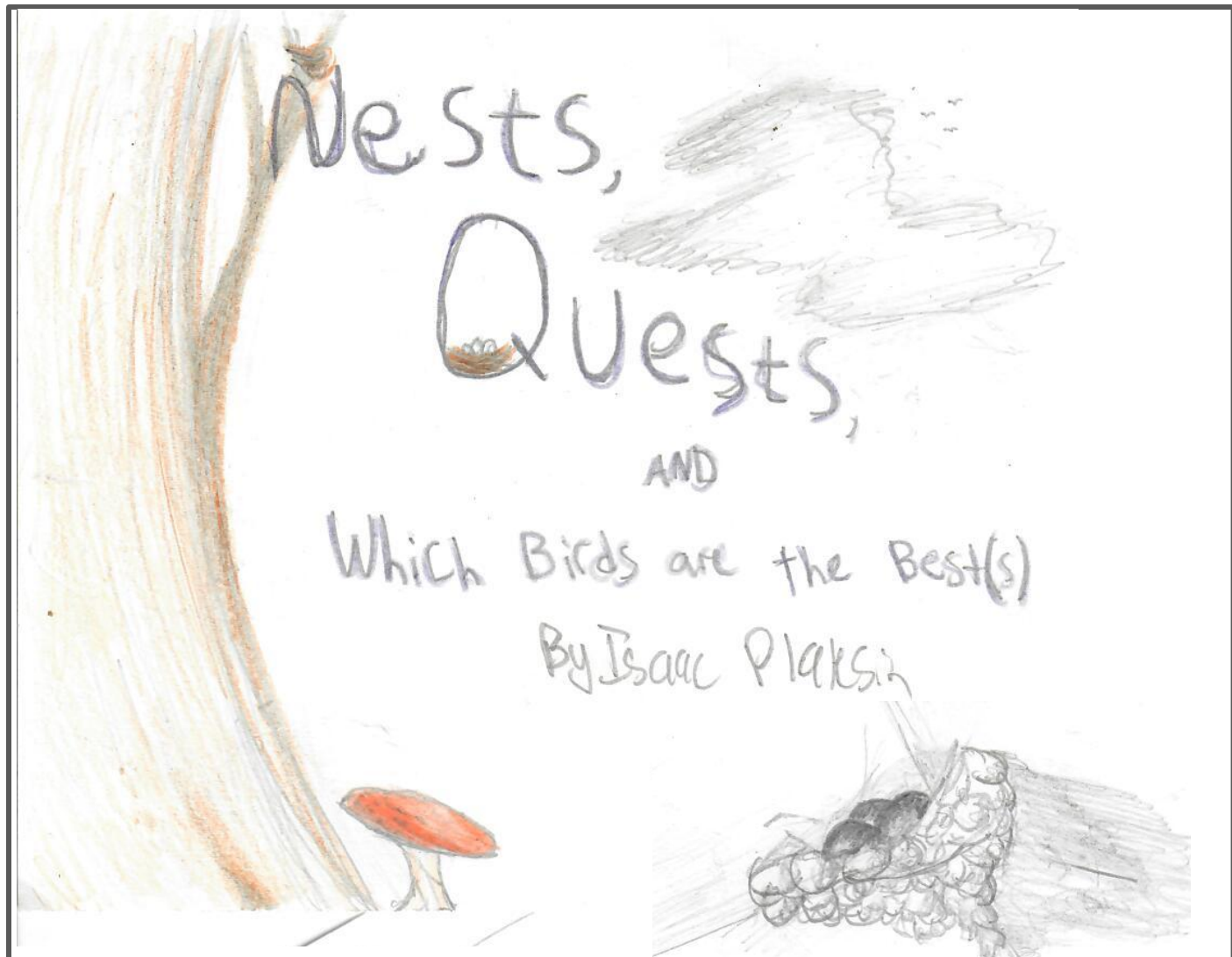
The bird is chirping in the sky
The sun is shining so high
The clouds are fluffy and white as snow
The birds are crying Go Go Go

Their wings out and fly fly fly
Fly to the sky they fly
Within the morning light
Then and take a rest at night

As the morning begins to wake
The birds are ready to fly fly fly
They spread their wings out to fly
Goodbye little birdy until next time!

Nests, Quests, AND

Which Birds are the Best(s)
By Isaac Plaksis



Eastern Phoebe



Barn Swallow



Chipping Sparrow



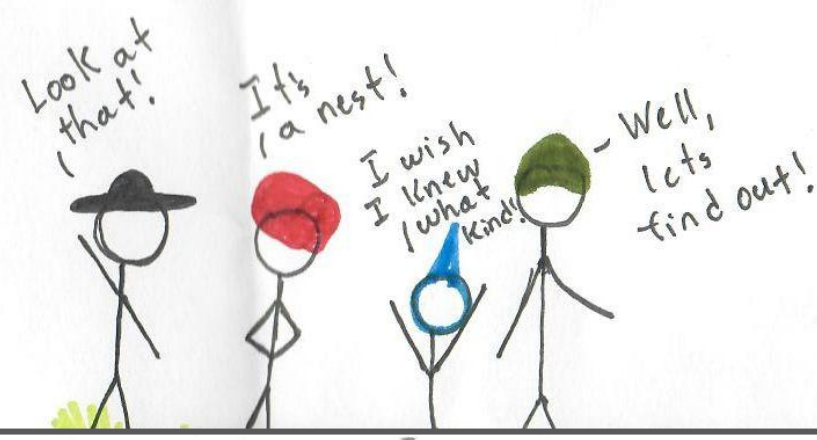
Gray Catbird

-Isaac

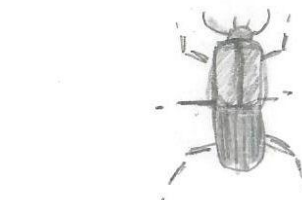
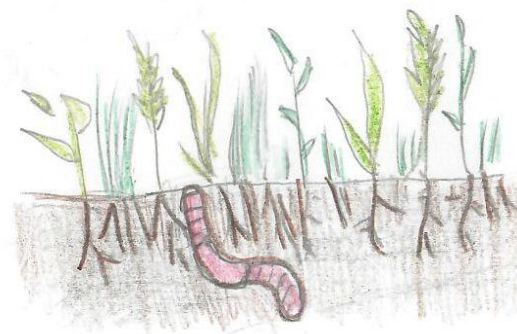
Penelope Thomas

Nests of (and around) Camp!

Observing and researching bird nests as part of the "Home" theme



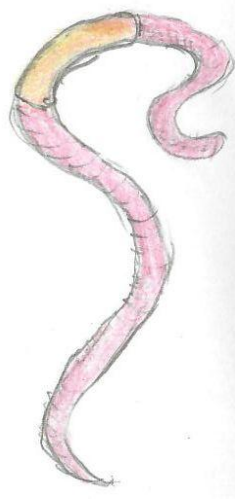
THE



Squirmy



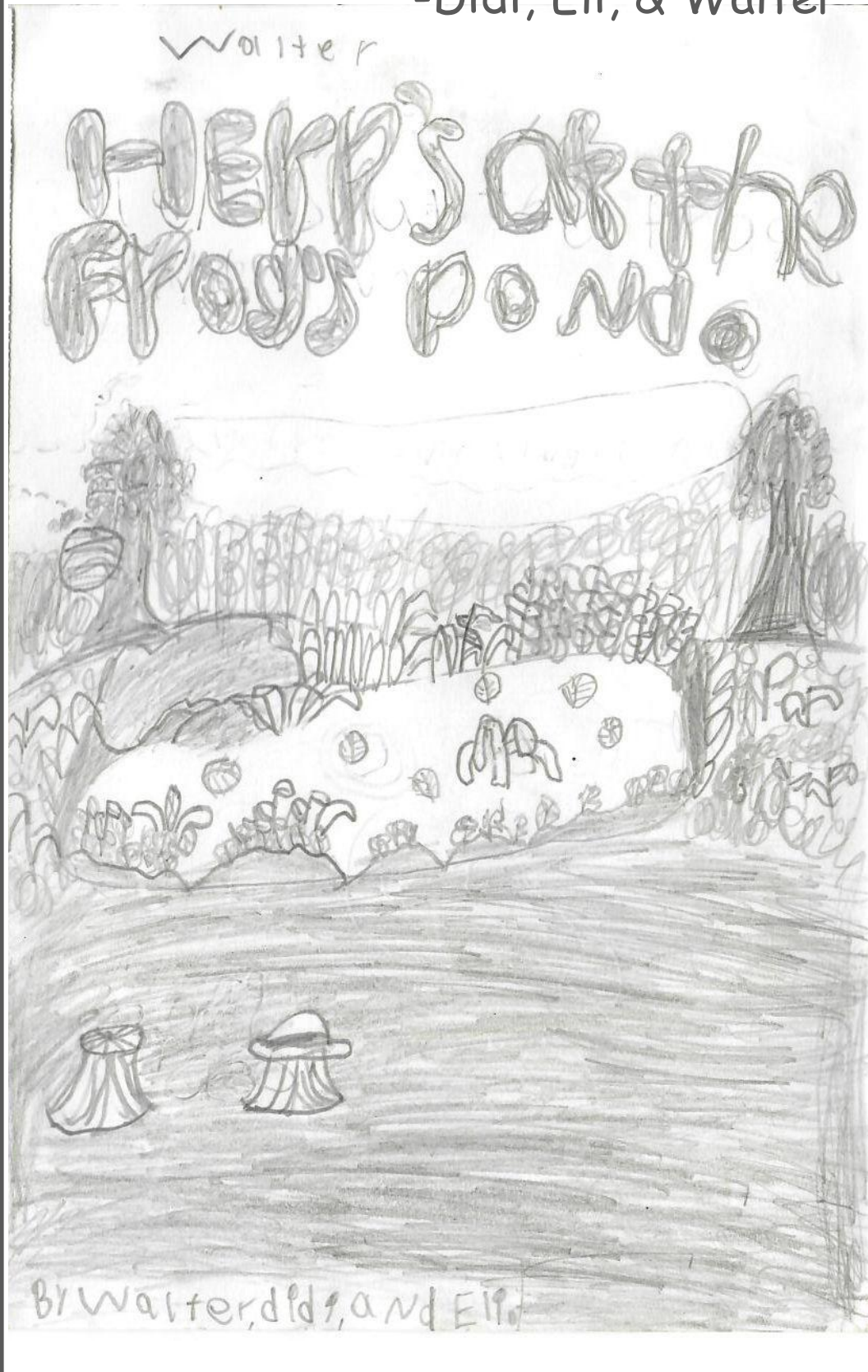
WORM



Emily & Josie 10

Herps of the Frog Pond

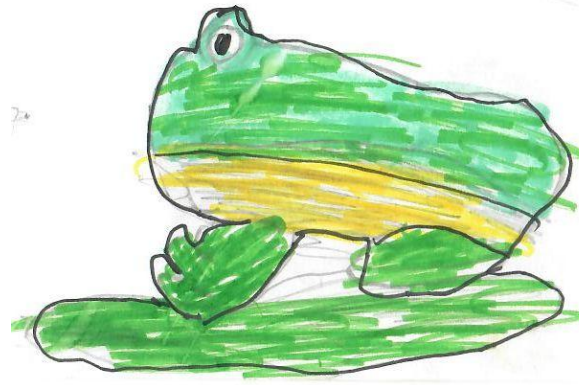
-Didi, Eli, & Walter



Frogs by Walter

Frogs eat bugs and swim sometimes and they jump high all the time and sit on lily pads in ponds.

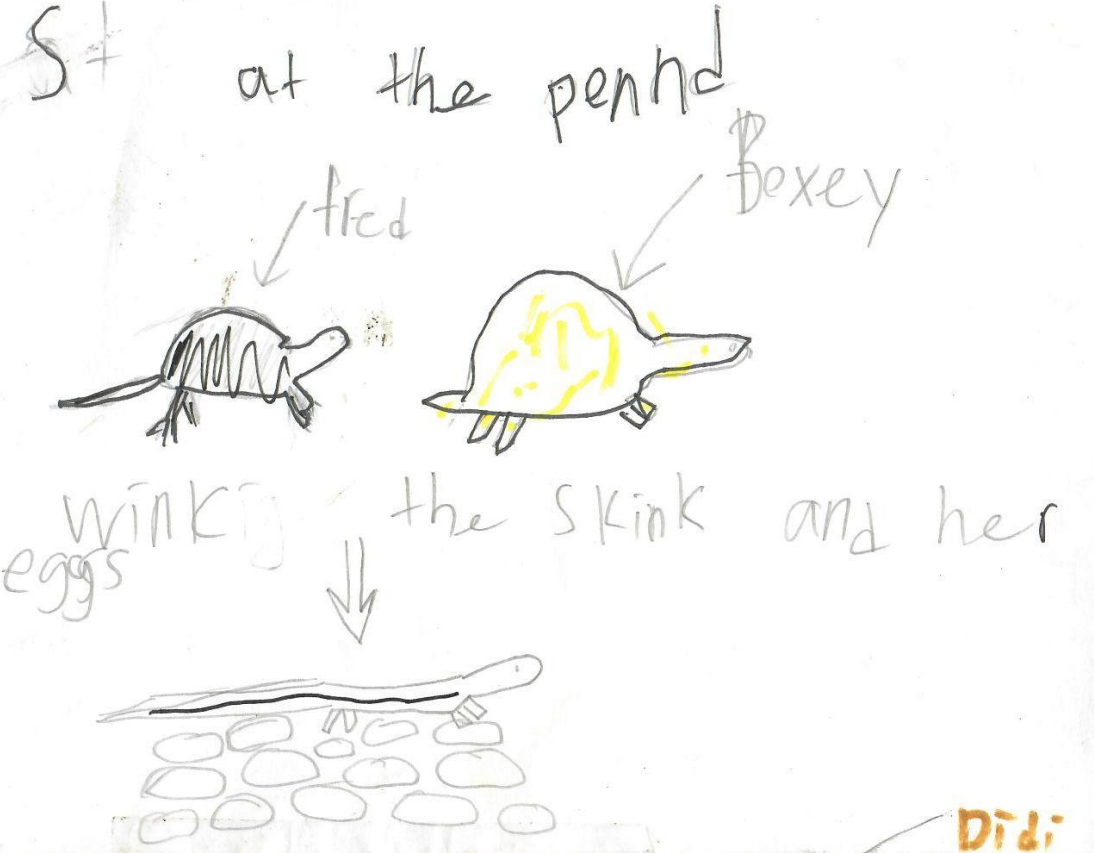
Tree frogs lay on a tree for about 24 hours then it goes on to a different tree.



ELI POND SALAMANDERS

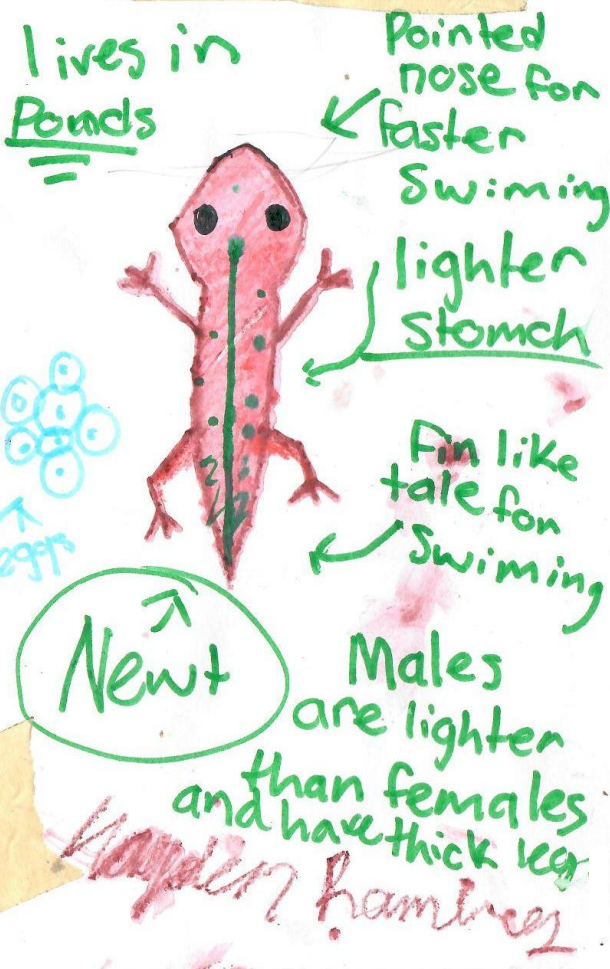


REPTILE



Frogs and Newts

By Hayden Ramirez and Elica Philpot!

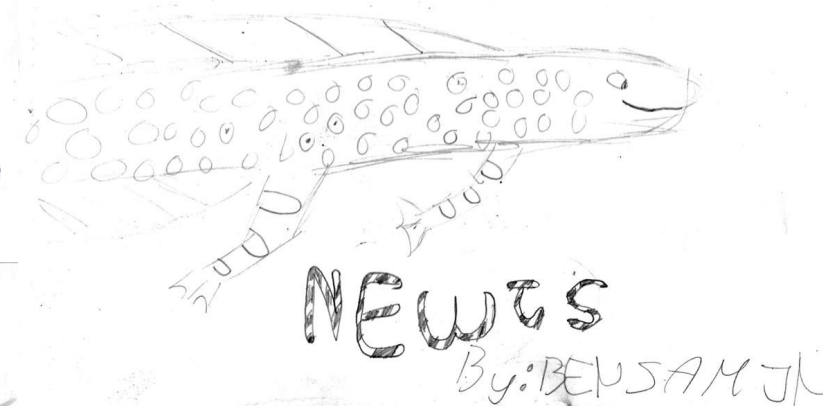


Newts!



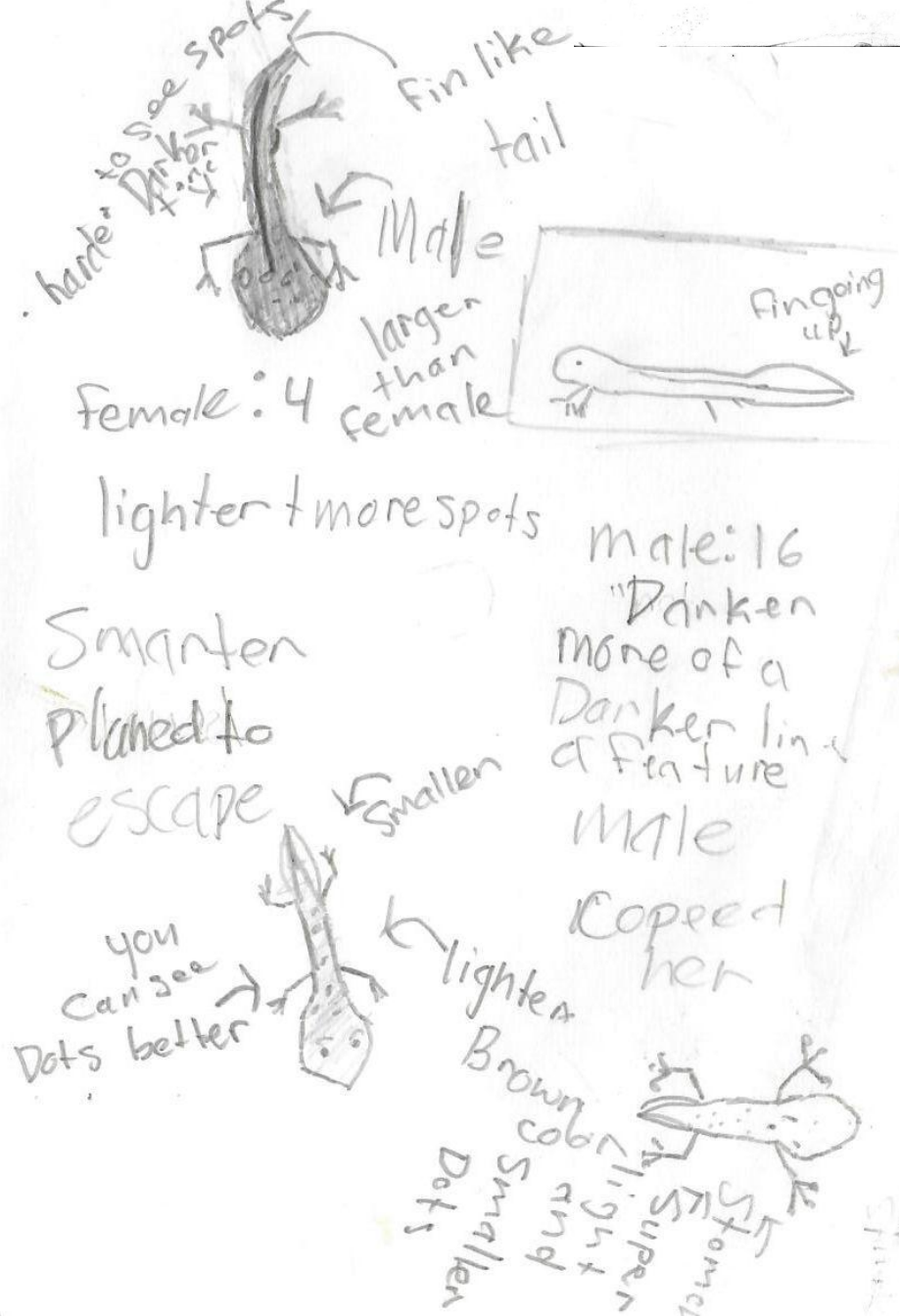
Salamander	in common	Newts
Spend adult life on land near water	lay eggs in water	Spend all of their life in water (mostly) Fin like

Fantastic Newts and Where to Find Them



I ♥ Frogs

Frogs



I learned that the boy newts are lighter colored and have bigger legs than the girls. I also learned that newts are amphibians. I observed that almost every pattern of a newt is different. NEWTS ARE VERY HARD TO CATCH.

CRAWDAD CRAZIES!

What we learned
 Even though Crawdad's biggest feature is their claws in the front, you still need to be wary of the smaller claws!

Our female Crawdad is **MUCH** more vicious than our male Crawdad

it BIT me

teechnically it Pinched you

SHUSH!

CRAWDADS USE THEIR POWERFUL TAILS TO PROPEL THEM BACKWARDS AND OUT OF REACH OF PREDATORS

CRAWDADS LIKE TO USE ROCKS THAT ARE USUALLY FOUND IN STILL AREAS OF RIVERS AS THEIR HOME

MALE **FEMALE**

fantastic fish

By Luda Basil Eliza

- Fish Types** - Lucia M.
- Rosyside Dace, 2-4.5 inches, eats aquatic and terrestrial insects
 - Bluehead Chub, 3-10 inches, eats invertebrates, small fish, plants
 - Banded Sculpin, 3-4 inches, eats aquatic insects and small fish on bottom
 - Bridle Shiner, 1.5-2.5 inches, eats invertebrates

Crazy Crayfish!

-Tristan + Liam

MYSTERY

-Logan, Nico, & Beckett

Mystery Trails
 -Nico S.
 I like that you can figure out what an animal is doing without seeing them!
 We found bear scratches from a bear on a tree. We observed that there were honeycombs next to the bee nest that was destroyed by a raccoon! We think it was a raccoon because we found that it was sticking its nose into the leaves.
 We learned that if you're invested in something, you can find out a lot about it.

RIVER SALAMANDERS

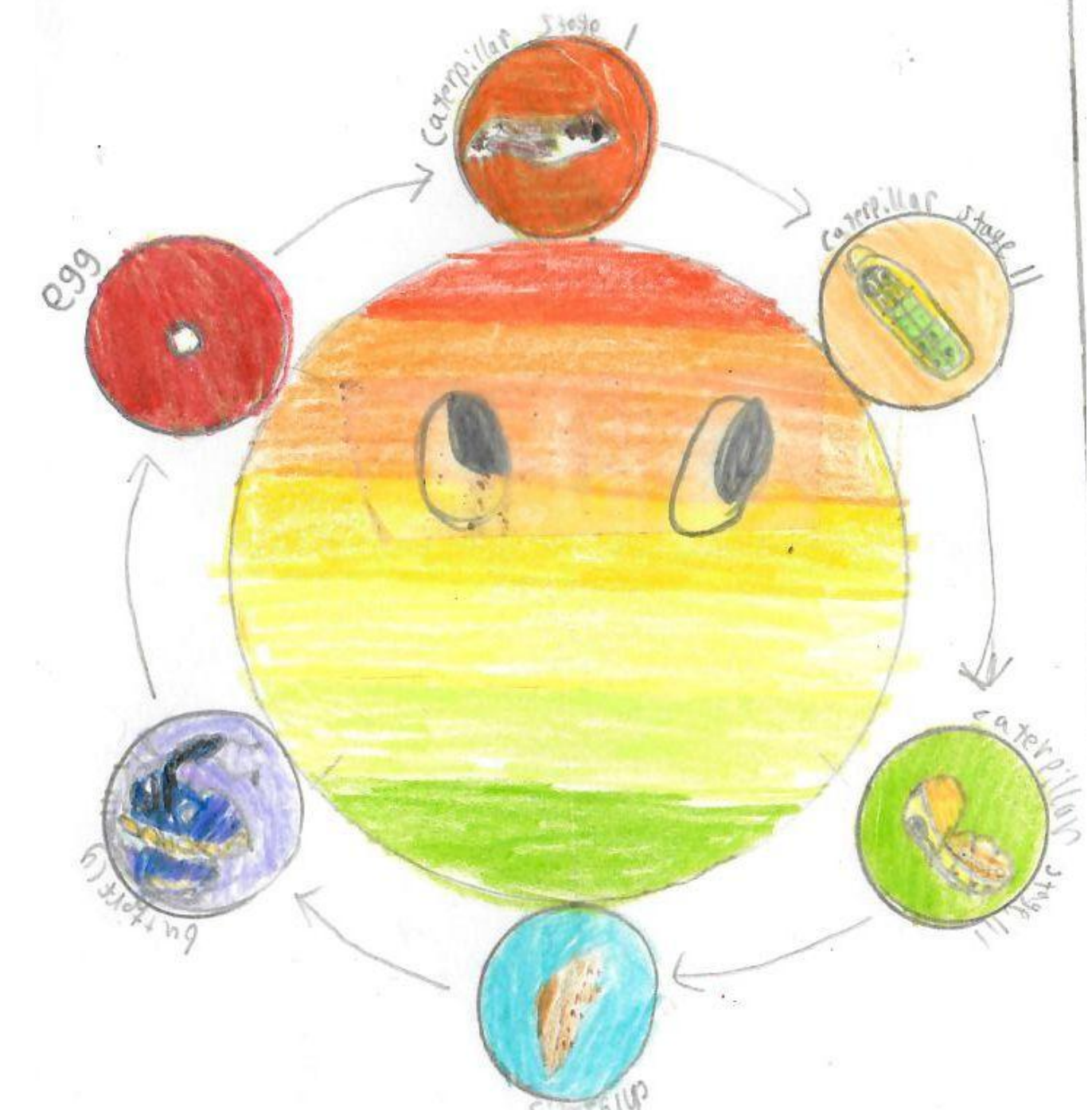
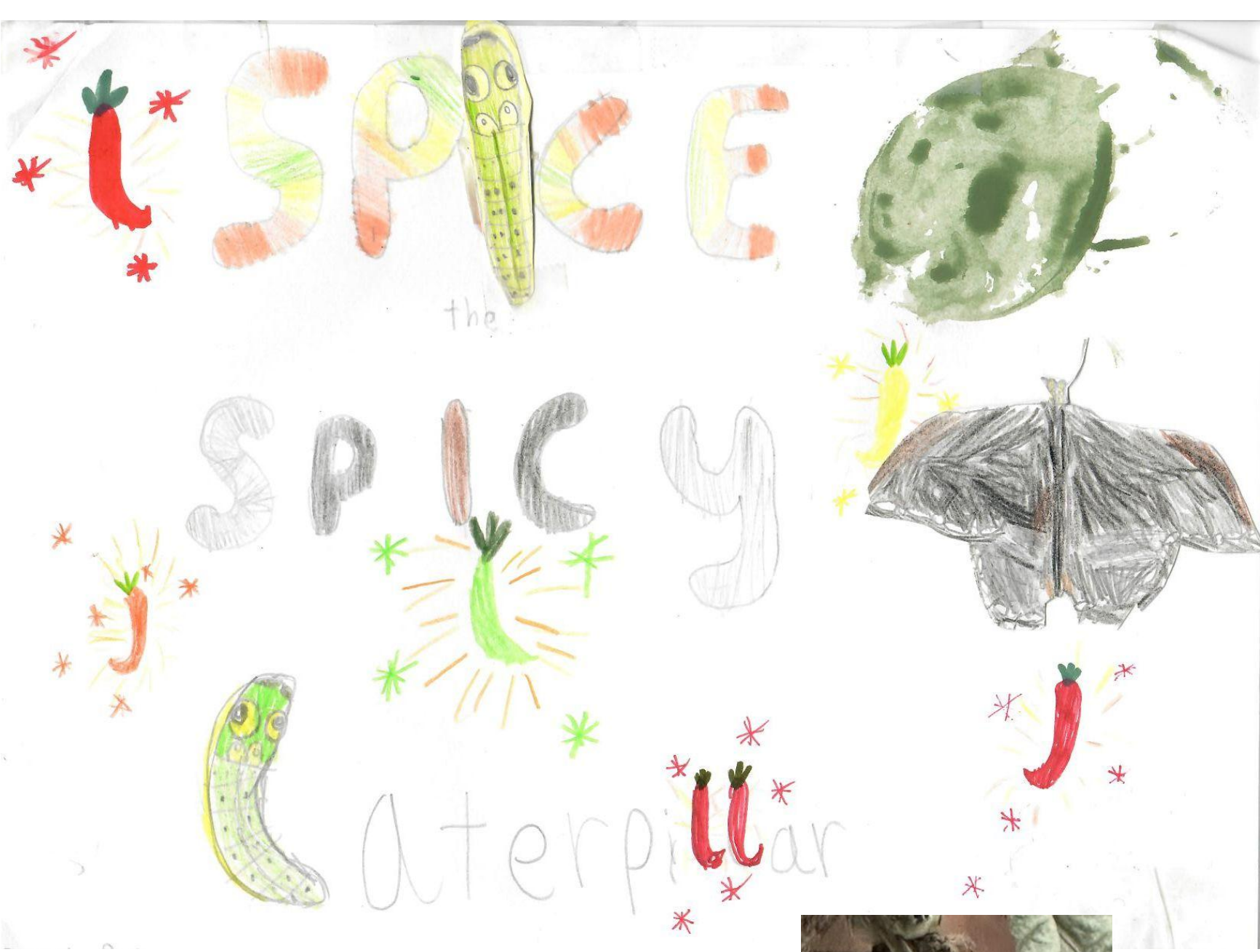
Two Lined Salamander mudpuppy

-Teddy P.



Clues from the trail camera

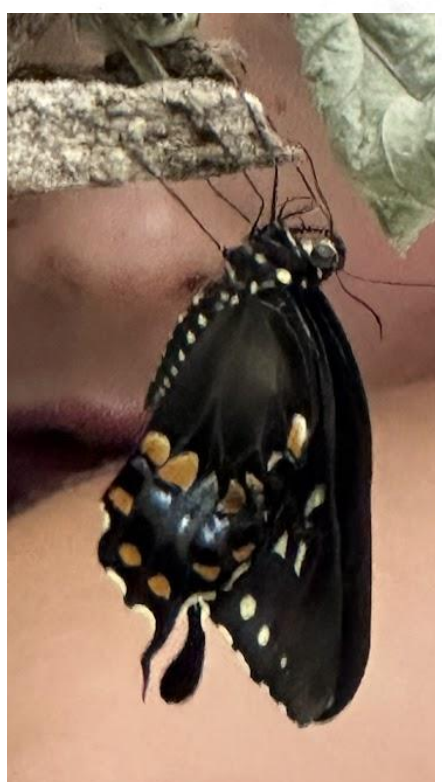
Mystery trails
 -Beckett H.
 We found a bee nest that was eaten by a raccoon we think. We learned that we can set up a camera and solve a mystery if we put our mind to it!



Life Cycle of the Spicebush Swallowtail

Illy and Skyler

Throughout its various stages as a caterpillar, the spicebush swallowtail uses mimicry to hide. In its first stage, it mimics a bird dropping. By its second, it's too large for this, and develops large eyespots and green coloration, making it appear threatening, like a snake. A similar mimic to this is the click beetle.



MARWELL Moths



Facts

moths are night pollinators they are actually better than bees. when they come out of the cocoon they immediately start mating. 5 weeks later they start laying eggs for up to 40 days. moths make a cocoon in 50 days. moths make moths are not butterflies and crickets

- leopard moth
- pale tussock moth
- persimmon moth
- luna moth

answer to question
they are really beautiful. they're movement.

Click Beetle

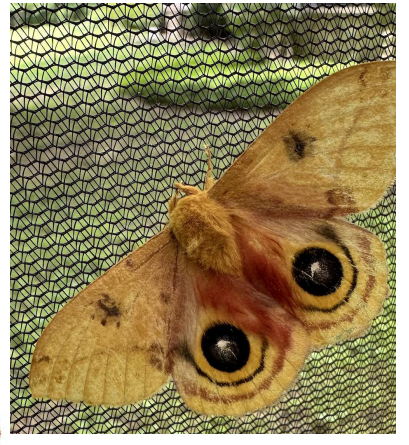


The Giant Click Beetle has two distinct large, black eye spots with white rings around them. These make it appear larger and more threatening. The click beetle is named for the distinctive clicking sound it makes when it flips itself over if it gets upside-down.

luna moth life cycle



Mythical Moths



-Fiona and Jameson

Moth vs. Butterfly wings

moth wings are set rough

persimmon moth butterfly

Moth vs. Butterfly antenna

Moth antenna is feathery

Luna moth Great Spangled fritillary butterfly

FERNS

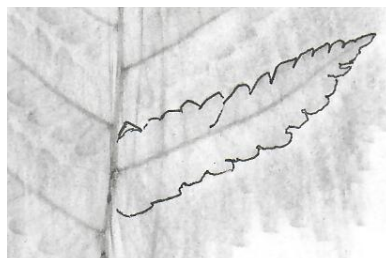
OF CAMP

By Declan Parot



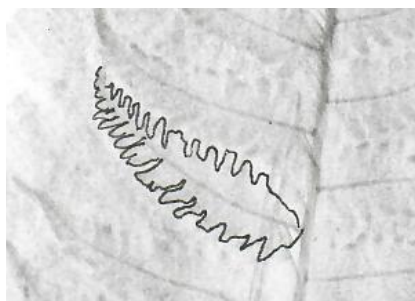
New York Fern:

- Yellow-green
- Delicate leaflets
- Grows in areas with some sunlight
- Tapers significantly towards the base
- Found in large fern circle



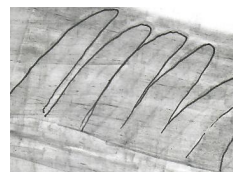
Hay-Scented Fern

- Yellowish Brown-green
- Delicate
- Grows in shaded woodlands
- Found next to Frog Pond



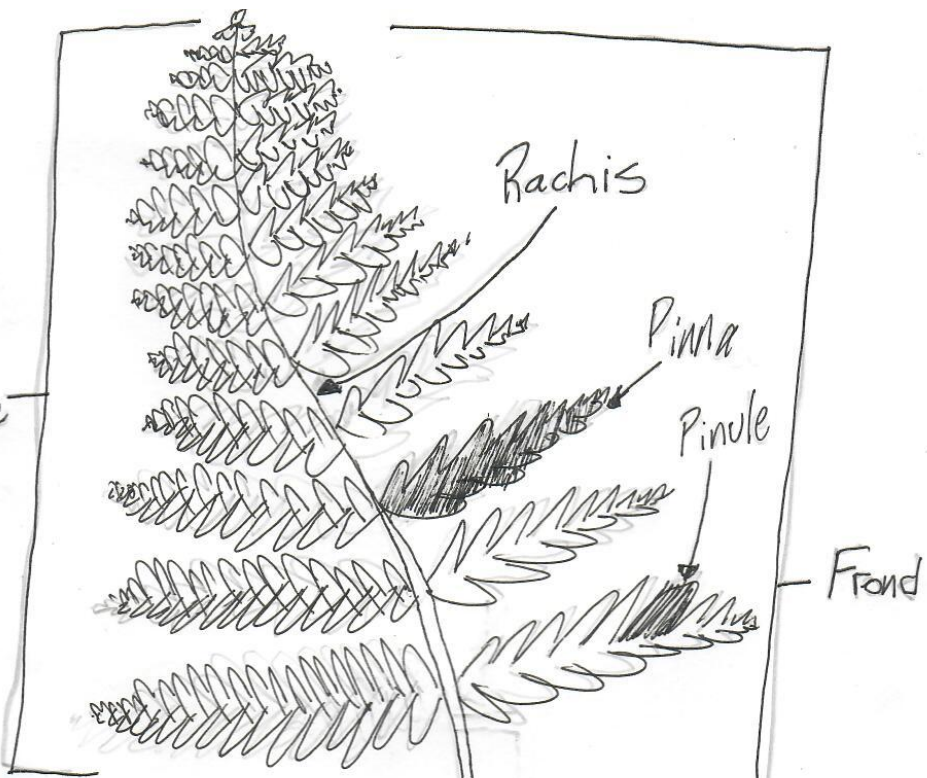
Ostrich Fern

- One of the largest ferns here
- Found in large clusters along streams
- Dark, woody stalks, dark green leaves
- Found on trail to Azalea Rocks



Christmas Fern

- Grows single sprouts in colonies
- Found along rocky slopes, ravines, stone walls
- Large, wispy leaflets that are green all year
- Found by the moth tent wall



Ferns can have:

- No pinnae
- Once divided pinnae
- Twice divided pinnae
- Thrice divided pinnae

Additionally, the stipes and rachis can be hairy or scaly, which can be a great way to identify them.

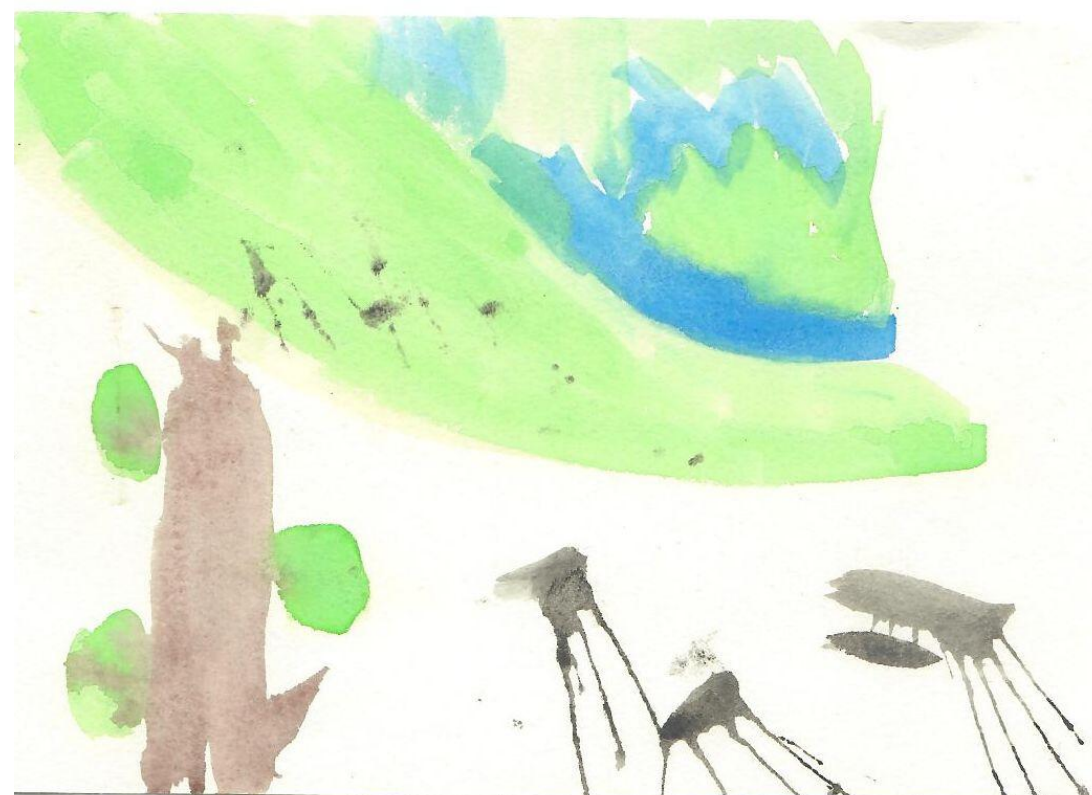
Safe Here

By Adeline Grady
 You are safe here
 The bird melodies
 singing in your ears
 The smell of ferns
 fills your nose
 The sight of the forest
 will fill your eyes
 And that is how you will
 know that
 you are safe here
 No matter what
 And if you just sit there
 The animals might just
 trust you enough
 That you may start
 to hear them
 Alone with past loved ones.
 And new voices too.

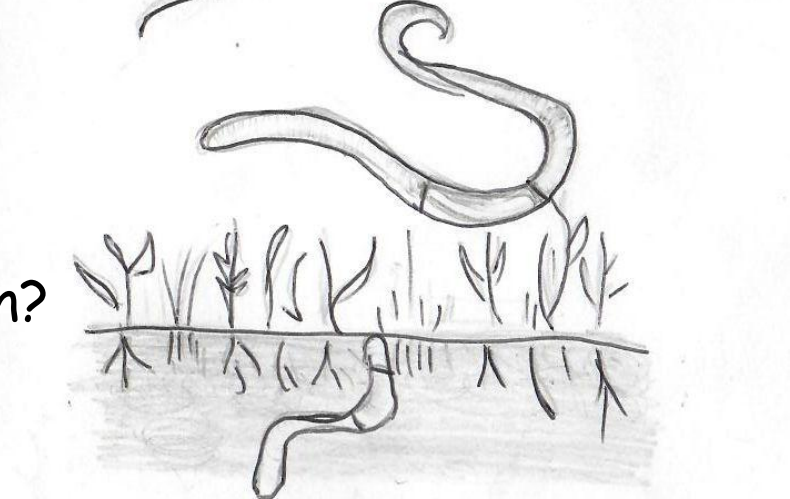
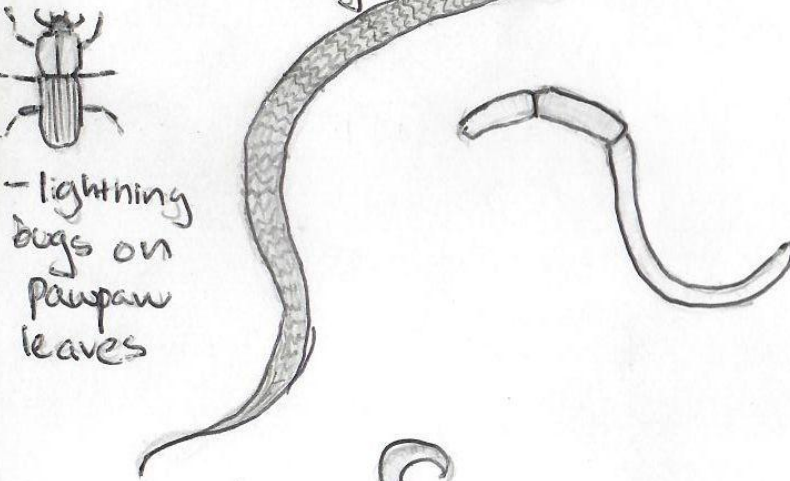
Art Around Camp by Ramsay



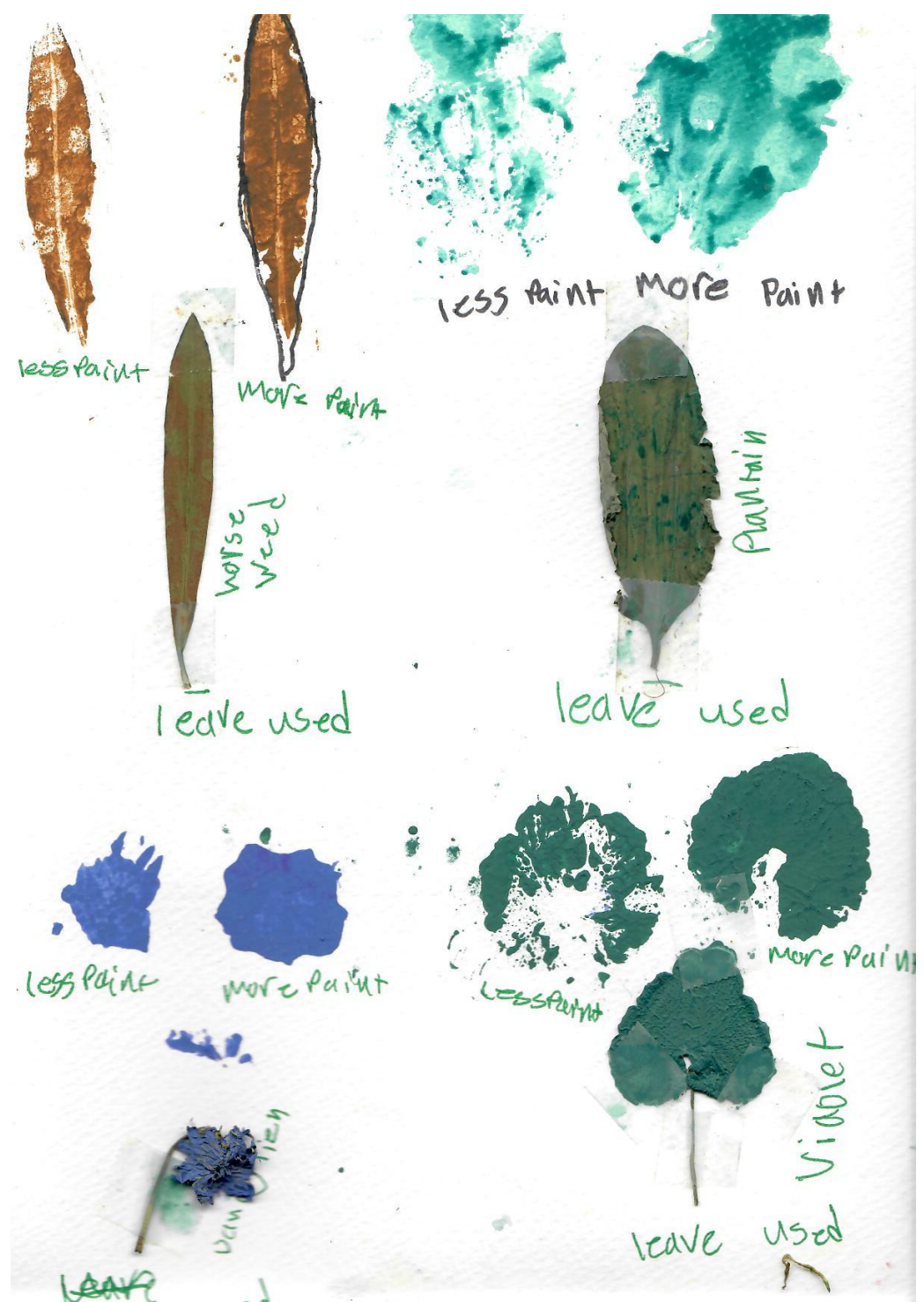
-Gabby



- Termites in a log (Ants)
- Beetles, Beetle larvae, Earth worms, millepede, Ants, Pelly polies, Slugs

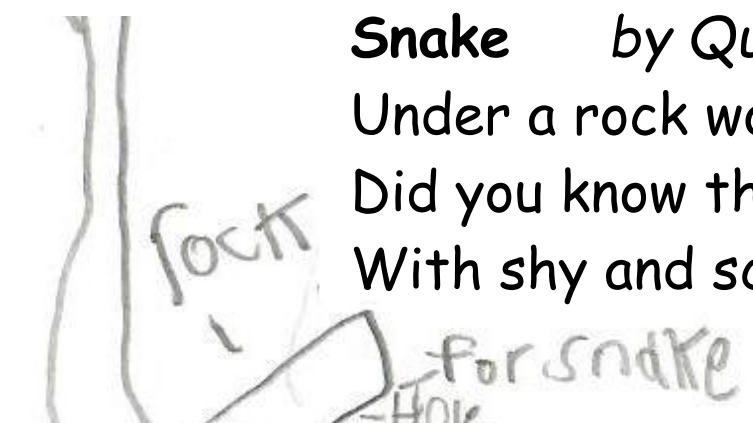


Observations by: Emily Scoville



Snake by Quin Thomas

Under a rock would be a snake
 Did you know they have a big emotion?
 With shy and scared.



Thank you to all of our wonderful Campers. See you next summer!



Rappahannock Nature Camp 2025

Theme of study: "Community"

SUMMER CAMP: Rapp Nature Camp activities are outdoors. Activities include: hiking, games and songs, river time, quiet time, identifying plants and animals, assessing water quality, safely catching and releasing animals, creating your own nature-based project, drawing and writing, and more! Campers share their special projects and songs with visitors at an Open House on the Friday of each session. To learn more about Camp projects and discoveries, check out this issue of "News from Singing Creek"

ADULT ACTIVITIES: Our Perennial Campers are adult friends of camp who take time to keep the spark of community in nature! We gather during the Fall and Spring with a combination of Camp activities and excursions to natural gems in the area.

Nature Lessons are Life Lessons.

2025 Summer Camp Dates

Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm

Week 1: June 9-13

For ages 12-16, includes Thursday campout

Day-only camps, ages 8-16:

Week 2: June 16-20

Week 3: June 23-27

Week 4: June 30-July 4

Open House Fridays at 1 PM

Campers may attend any number of weeks; no two are the same!

Camp site is on the Upper Hazel River in Sperryville, 1 mile west of Rte. 231

Since 1986. Celebrating our 40th Anniversary!

Get to know us and register online at RappNatureCamp.org

Email: RappNatureCamp@gmail.com; Follow us on Facebook

Camp Director: Rachel Bynum © 540-252-6308

Rappahannock Nature Camp is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization

