

Sixth Grade Outdoor Ed

By: Taylor Janvrin

The sixth graders of Medea Creek Middle School experienced leaving home and having an adventure at Pali Institute! Pali Institute is about six hours away by bus, and is near Lake Arrowhead. What was the best part you might ask? Well, keep reading to find out how several students, as well as teachers felt about the trip.

Sixth grade student who attended the trip, Jordan Dem, personally loved the trip. He said his favorite part was the ropes course. Dem wished the outing was longer because time really does fly when having fun. Some of the activities he took part in included the balloon rescue, CSI activities, night hiking, and even a karaoke night!

When asked about the food, Dem replied, "It was really, really good."

Josh Caltabiano, a Medea Creek student, went on the trip and loved it. Before he left, the one thing he was excited about doing was getting away from home for the first time without parental supervision. Caltabiano enjoyed the food and described it as "really good." Even though the weather was rainy and windy, it only affected him a little when he experienced the high ropes. He said that the surfaces were a little slippery and unstable. In his cabin, Caltabiano had most of his friends as cabin-mates, which he was excited about. Caltabiano would gladly go to Pali Institute again.

Another sixth-grader who went on the trip to Pali Institute was Danielle Janvrin. Janvrin said that her favorite part was "spending time with her friends." In contrast to Dem and Caltabiano, Janvrin said the trip was not as fun as she expected. She complained that the cabins were not very clean and her counselor was rude. On a more positive note, Janvrin enjoyed the activities, for example, the ropes course and learning how to use a compass.

From a supervisor's point of view, Ms. Hoerman thoroughly enjoyed the trip. She said that it is the third year Medea Creek has gone to Pali. Hoerman said that the students were very cooperative. A total of about 300 students went on the trip. The rooms that the chaperones stayed in were above the dining hall. Hoerman said that her favorite part about chaperoning was "the food and seeing all of the joyful children smile." Hoerman is planning on going again for future school trips.

Another teacher who went on the trip was Mr. Ferguson. Ferguson volunteered to chaperone for the trip. As a chaperone, his most important responsibilities were to watch over the students, as well as help out the camp counselors. According to Ferguson, the chaperones had to share cabins with one another. Also, the students were well behaved, even though there were only six chaperones and about 300 students.

When asked if he would go again, Ferguson replied, "Absolutely!" with a smile on his face.

In conclusion, it seemed as though the Medea Creek sixth-grade students, and even the Medea Creek chaperones had a terrific time on the outdoor trip to Pali Institute and cannot wait to attend the trip next year!