Middle Schools create a supportive environment to reach all adolescent learners. Students at Titusville Middle School celebrate learning achievements AND nurture their "inner authors" through...

# MIDDLE MATTERS



## Wilderness Quest

Sixth graders spent three days and two nights at Seneca Hills for the 50th Wilderness Quest Outdoor Learning Camp. When they returned, students wrote a memoir as they reminisced about their individual experiences. Students were asked to share their favorite and least favorite activities and a lesson they felt would be the most useful in the future. Their answers, like their personalities, varied greatly!

#### Best Experience Ever

By: Carson Pasinski

I spent three days at a Wilderness Quest having some of the best experiences ever. Wilderness Quest is a thing that the 6th graders do at TMS. There are so many amazing things that happen there, but here are a few.

To start off, my favorite thing about Wilderness Quest was potato launching with Mrs. Knapp. In potato launching, you had to angle the cannon at a certain degree and power to hit a bucket. This was my favorite station because it was awesome watching a potato fly through the air at high speed and power. Another reason that it was my favorite was you got to shape your own potato to launch. The last reason it was my favorite was because I had angled the cannon so low that I broke a hole in the side of a bucket and won the contest.

Next, my least favorite part about camp was our plays. Our plays were my least favorite because we had spent only 15-20 minutes on them, then got on stage. Another

reason the plays were my least favorite was because the characters didn't have a lot of lines, the narrator did nearly all the talking. The last reason the plays were my least favorite have a pet zebra. Our play was because most of them were funny but didn't really make any sense.

Finally, the thing that I learned from camp was learning about and how to shoot a compound bow. I had a lot of fun learning about this because there were so many parts and features to the compound bow. Another because it tasted like thing that I learned from this station was the purpose of the compound bow, and how to use it. The last thing that I learned from this was why compound bows were the most popular bow. Once we finished learning about the bows, we got to shoot them.

In conclusion, I had one of the best times at camp and want to go back. There are still many more awesome things to do at camp than I explained, but those were my favorite. I can't wait until I go back as a counselor.

#### The Best and Worst of Camp By: Sidney Edwards

went to a wilderness quest camp in Seneca Hills. There I learned lots of things I thought I would never do, and had an extraordinary time. Continue reading to see my difficulties during my three days at camp.

It's easy to say that my favorite part of camp was doing a drama. This was the best activity because me and my classmates got to create our own play and perform it.

I also got to run around with a fairy wand and was about a fairy who stole the teachers and left the kids alone at camp. It was exciting to play a fictional character and be a big part of something.

I remember that the water was not something I wanted to have every day. One reason the water was so dreadful is chemicals. This was so disgusting because when

A few weeks ago I I wanted a nice refreshing drink, I got something warm and distasteful.

Another reason I despised the water is that my showers were cold. I took 2 showers in two different bathrooms and they were both freezing and horrible to take.

I learned tons of things while at camp, but this is the one that I remember the greatest. This station taught me how to survive in the outdoors.

One thing we learned was how to build a fire with rocks. We also know how to filter out water with just a few materials. These are things I may never need to know, but I still believe they are pretty awesome things to have learned.

Overall, I think camp was a positive experience for me. It taught me many things and was very amusing too. In the future, I would like to become a counselor so I can go to camp again.

### Sleepover at Camp

*By: Millicent Roberts* 

Did you know this year was the 50th year of 6th graders going to camp? Also, this year was the first time in 4 years that the students got to sleepover at camp. I was one of the campers that got to go. It was an astonishing experience. Let me tell you about it.

To start, the best part was shooting 22s. It was nice to do something that I'm very fond of and am passionate about. We were shooting in the prone position. If you don't know what that means, it is fine. I didn't know what it meant at first either. The prone position is basically where you are laying on your stomach on the ground and you're shooting. I really enjoyed shooting them like this because I have never shot a gun in the prone position. It was something new to see if I liked it. We were shooting at paper targets on a string.

I didn't really like playing capture the flag because I don't like to run. I will run when I have to, but I don't like running for fun. Capture the flag wasn't that fun for me. The only thing I was useful for was to guard the flag. Most of the time, people didn't even come

to get the flag. I would think that you would know how to play but if you don't it is a game where you have a team and you hide a flag then you try to take the other people's flags. I don't like to play capture the flag and I think that was the worst part of camp.

More importantly, 1 learned a lesson is camp, and that lesson is to sleep with loud noises. My cabin was very noisy. Two people were snoring and someone kept moving. Some people were talking, well, whispering loudly. Someone else was moaning, and a person kept laughing for fifteen minutes straight. How could she even laugh that long? A girl was sleep talking and someone else was walking in their sleep. It was so hard to sleep.

That's how it was at camp. It was really fun and I wish I could go again next year.

think that everyone should consider going to camp. You can learn many things that are valuable and not many people get to do Wilderness Quest. To sum it up there can be mixed emotions at camp but it is a once in a lifetime chance.



#### Students Earn First TMS Mission Day Trip to Elevate Trampoline Park

The first TMS mission of the year was to Elevate Trampoline Park on November 2nd, 3rd, and 7th. Our mission days are an important program that was developed to encourage students to do well in school. They are part of our schoolwide positive behavior program and incentivize student academic achievement and proper behavior. Students who had at least a 65% in each class, had one hour or less of detention, less than five tardies, and no unexcused absences were able to earn their boarding passes and attend the trip.

We are extremely excited to offer four mission days during the 2023-2024 school year. These missions are an opportunity for students to explore the world outside of our school campus and experience some amazing places. Our next mission will be to Peak n Peak for snow tubing at the end of the second quarter. The expectations to earn a boarding pass and be a part of the mission will continue to increase and we are confident that students' achievement, behavior, and attendance will rise as well.



#### **ELEVATE TRAMPOLINE PARK**





