



A MAINE SEA COAST MISSION REPORT

Summer 2004

EdGE Summer Camp - Words from the Campers

Summer Program Activities

LEGO CAMP

- ① Robotics programming
- ① GPS Navigation
- ① Geo-caching

ART CAMP

- ① Masks
- ① Batik
- ① Pottery
- ① Dance
- ① Drumming
- ① Creative Writing
- ① Shadow Puppets
- ① Print-making
- ① Short Play
- ① Murals

DIGITAL FILM PHOTOGRAPHY

- ① Digital photography
- ① Storyboarding
- ① Short film scenes
- ① Editing
- ① Film History DVD

KAYAKING

- ① Pracrice rescues
- ① Lengthy paddles
- ① Hiking in Acadia
- ① Swimming

DEAR DIARY ,

Tuesday

Even though it was a very difficult ride uphill on Tuesday we visited the Thuya Garden. It was a very peaceful garden. We discovered geocache. Geocaching is a treasure hunt with a GPS instead of a map. It's like a high tech treasure hunt.

The garden was different because it has plants from all over the world. It was very calming and relaxing. It was very nice to look at the house and all the rooms because it was very historic.

The ride felt long at times, especially the hills. Rebecca wanted to give up, but we made it!

At the end of the day, when we were most tired, there was a lot of traffic. Cars were rushing by us, and it looked like there was going to be a thunderstorm.



DEAR DIARY ,

20.2 Miles of Biking - phew

Wednesday

We woke up very early, even before Mr. Harrington, about 5:00 am. Our tents were packed up by 5:15 am. We got anxious about taking the tents down and took one down on Kyle.

We worked really well together riding from Somesville to Southwest Harbor. We made it there an hour before we were supposed to. The ferry to Great Cranberry was very nice and comfortable, and we saw some very nice houses. Everyone was very helpful in loading and unloading with the ferry. We went to the end of the island, then went back to the museum and had a snack before going inside. We found out about ice harvesting, and other interesting facts about the history of the island. One interesting story was about a beached whale that had to be blown up to rid the island of the smell. When trying to find John's glasses, we encountered a runaway llama. Since Mike was not a trained professional llama header, his assistance only caused more chaos. Luckily the glasses were recovered, and the llama lived happily ever after.

We were let down by our walkie-talkies, which were falsely advertised. Their 6 miles translate to a mere 6 yards... or maybe 600. During our adventures we created codenames on the walkie-talkies, including red squirrel, wombat, and pony. We rode the ferry back to Southwest Harbor, playing hackie-sack with a bottle until Evan brought a real one.

While folks headed to Seal Harbor, Ashley and Owen had an adventure of their own, packing 8 sq. ft of cargo into the EdGE van proved to be a hard challenge indeed. Upon finding out about a heated pool, the pace of the crew quickened dramatically, with hopes of the 1st bath in 3 days as motivation.



Summer Program Activities cont.

HIKING & BIKING

- ① Biking on carriage roads
- ① Hiking in Acadia
- ① Swimming
- ① Camping at the Mission

ON THE EdGE OF THE ROAD

- ① Biking on carriage roads
- ① Hiking in Acadia
- ① Swimming
- ① Week-long overnight

OCEAN ADVENTURE

- ① Practice rescues
- ① REALLY long paddles
- ① Swimming
- ① Week-long overnight

EdGE INTRO CAMP

- ① Jewellery making
- ① Basketball
- ① Pottery
- ① Robotics
- ① Watercolors
- ① Games

Camp Counselor Perspective

During the school year, the afterschool component of the EdGE is a straightforward matter of providing programming after school, from about 2:30 to 5:30 pm. Come June this becomes a little more complicated. Suddenly there are two and a half months that are nothing but after school! In an area where structured there summer activities for youth are limited and where the experience of summer camp itself may be unfamiliar to parents and children, the six weeks of affordable summer camps offered by the EdGE are unmatched community resource.

The summer offers opportunities for the EdGE to break out of the school box. The one to two week camps give students a chance to build skills developed during the school year, and pursue activities they first encountered in the term-time component of EdGE.

An hour of kayaking on local rivers two days a week, becomes a five-day, forty-mile ocean adventure around Mount Desert Island. The school year's sixty seconds of digital videos becomes a half hour DVD complete with production stills, trailers and outtakes, demonstrating film styles from the early 1900s to the present. For younger students, the Introductory Camp is an exciting first glimpse of the whole range of activities they will have open to them in the coming school year and summers that follow, from Lego Robotics to Kayaking.

Staff Profile

Owen Leackfeldt

This fall Owen, a senior at Narraguagus High School, will begin his third year working with the EdGE. We wonder where he finds the time. As a senior he is a member of the soccer and basketball teams, student government, and National Honor Society. During whatever spare time he had left, he plays in a local band and works at the movie theater.

Owen is multi-talented and very gifted with children. In the after-school program, you might see him leading a bike ride, helping out with an art activity, working on math problem with a student during homework time or just listening. This summer, he is Charlie's right hand man on the overnight camping trips to Bar Harbor. He knows the area, the routine and can always think of a game to play when the campers get restless. Owen knows how to create a safe place for children to learn and to play.

The EdGE is connected to a couple of other members of the Leackfeldt family. Kyle, Owen's brother, is an eight grade student, a regular attendee of the EdGE and a member of the EdGE Advisory Council. Owen's mother, Sandi, is a teacher at Harrington Elementary School, a member of the EdGE Advisory Council and the provider of the best food at the potluck suppers.

