

2013

River Quest

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River Quest

My trip to River Quest was breathtaking and informative. I especially liked when they talked about lifejackets, hypothermia, and the pollution in our watershed. When I was there, I learned many different things. I learned about invasive species, how to bring back the Piping Plover, the difference between storm and sanitary system, and protecting the environment during an oil spill. These stations really stood out to me.

I liked the lifejacket post because I can use it a lot in my daily life. I understand better, the different types of lifejackets available, depending on the sport I'm doing. If I wear the wrong lifejacket it might not help, if I were to fall in. It also might make me very uncomfortable. If you happen to fall in, you might also get hypothermia. But now, I know how to prevent that. When I'm shopping for a lifejacket, I always have to make sure it is Coast Guard approved and it has reflectors. I will do that because if something happens to you, reflectors might reflect off the sun and it will be easier to see you. I'm really glad I got to hear what they were talking about because not only will it help me know what lifejacket to buy, but that information might even save my life.

Hypothermia starts when the body temperature reaches ninety-five degrees. If you would happen to fall in the lake, when on a boat or a jet-ski, you could easily get hypothermia. Right now, the lake is about 40 degrees, which could quickly lead to hypothermia. I did not know that. This will help me in my future because now I know what to do, if I or a friend falls in. I now have a good chance of saving a life. When we talked about hypothermia, I remember when my dad told me a story when he was walking on ice and he and his friend fell through. They helped

each other back up by swimming up the hole and when one got out they pulled the other up. They took off their clothes and ran home. They were all fine.

The pollution in the watershed made me really think. I will take what I learned from that station and try to make a difference. I will never let my car just drip with oil. I will also always wash my car in the grass, so the soap and water will go into the ground. I will do all this because I don't want Lake Superior or the Saint Louis River to get polluted more with all of the oil going into the water. It will really help me in my daily life because now I know not to do these things and I can tell other people about it. Hopefully, I can make a difference.

My trip to River Quest was really fun. It is a great experience and I encourage everyone to go. I had a great time and learned a lot. I liked the boat ride, especially the station working with hypothermia. River Quest was my favorite field trip this year.