

News Release
Donna Wice, 4-H Coordinator
966-4829
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4-H Camp Tweety News

4-H Camp Tweety had thirty-three campers along with some special guests at Camp Sugar Pine in Oakhurst last weekend. Campers came as far as San Benito County.

Camp activities began with tie-dying t-shirts on Friday night after a great chicken dinner and a piece of Billy Buckley's, our 3rd year camper, birthday cake. The campers listened to Camp Director, Beth Broomfield, how to twist, turn, and band the shirts to get different designs before putting the various colors on them. When the campers were finished with their shirts, Elizabeth Asbury, Triangle 4-H member & youth camp counselor along with Amanda Loftis, chaperone, took the youth out on the grounds to play games before retiring for the evening.

6:45am came early for the campers on Saturday morning. Their first activity was to get the group photo taken before having breakfast and getting ready for a day full of fun. Amanda Loftis and Carol Singer, local forester, did the first two workshops; papermaking and a soil and watershed demonstration. The campers enjoyed both of these activities but were waiting for the paddle boat races and free time.

The Sylvester group won the paddle boat race. Each member received a toy boat for their award. After that the campers had free time to ride bikes, fish, swim or just relax. Matt Fluharty, chaperone, and Donna Wice, 4-H Coordinator, took campers to the fishing pond to experience the sport of trout fishing. Jason Scherf already new the art of fishing for he caught four trout. Jonathan Ashley caught two trout. Both boys couldn't wait to take them home to share with their families. All other youth and chaperones fishing learned the word 'patience'.

After dinner on Saturday, the campers enjoy the arts/crafts workshop painting plastic sun catchers in shapes of dragonflies, bees, and ladybugs. Around the campfire the boys and girls did their skits and songs that they created during the day and sang camp songs. The boys won the best skit and received an Oscar (trophy) at the awards ceremony. The best song went to the other girl's cabin, Sage, and they took home a gold colored CD. After the skits and songs, the group had Smore's and then played more games.

Camp came to a close on Sunday after the awards ceremony. The girl's cabin, Redwood, received the cleanest cabin award and Jason received the largest fish award. Campers went home having made new friends and having an enjoyable camping experience.

Thank you to the chaperones Irene Sanchez, Matt Fluharty, Michelle Kaus, Amanda Loftis, and Elizabeth Asbury. Without you this camp wouldn't have happened. Thanks to Beth Broomfield, camp director, for being in charge and having great ideas. Carol Singer, local forester, thanks for sharing the materials on soil and watershed. What an education the campers received. Cathie Kirk, our nurse, we give a big thanks for taking care of our sick and wounded.

We thank the following for sponsoring 4-H Camp Tweety 2004: Yosemite Bank, County Bank, Mariposa County Soroptomist Club, Mariposa County 4-H Council, and the Ironstone Concours Foundation. Thank you to Mariposa County Tobacco Education Dept., California Highway Patrol, California Dept. of Forestry, D.A.R.E., I.C.E.S., and the California Pistachio Board for donating items for the camper's goodie bags. Your 4-H support is appreciated greatly!!

Plans are already in the making for 4-H Camp Tweety 2005. Youth in 4th, 5th, and 6th grades are welcome to join us. Watch for information in school bulletins, local newspapers, library, and 4-H newsletter after the New Year.

For further information on camp or the 4-H Youth Development Program, contact Donna Wice, 4-H Coordinator, at 966-4829. The 2004-05 4-H program year will begin October 1st.

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