

**Spring Trip Nature Journal
June 16, 17, and 18, 2014**

Name

Date

Where We Go One, We Go All

Basecamp/Hut Group

Our three-day trip to the White Mountains is finally here. To all of the 8th graders, savor the experience and always remember how beautiful the White Mountains are. To the 7th graders, take in the full mountain experience for it will be your responsibility to build the excitement for next year's incoming students for the outdoor education program on Vista.

Entry #1, 2, and 3:

Everyone is responsible for at least **one personal observation per day** that records the usual information found below. Your AMC guide or KRMS adult in your group can help you with your location. **Each hiking group will make a presentation to the whole team about what they learned and experienced on their 3-day trip; more information about this is found at the end of this handout.**

For any two days, pick one thing of interest to you that is part of the natural world of the mountains. This might include a sunset, an interesting flower, a special moment, or a drastic change in weather. Choose something that you've not seen or experienced before. What questions do you have? What predictions can you make? Think deeply. Make a detailed sketch paying attention to size and scale. Use color. Include your thoughts and observations in a written narrative that thoroughly explains what you are drawing.

- Time and location with a description of current location (**7 to 10 sentences with no repetition, proofread for GUMS aloud in your head**).
- Current conditions that include: temperature, precipitation, wind speed, and a well-written paragraph describing the current conditions (**7 to 10 sentences with no repetition**).
- Actual time for sunrise and sunset. **This information is posted in all the huts.**
- Draw the phase (full, quarter, half, crescent, etc.) of the moon for today. **You might be able to go outside and see it.**
- Look to the sky, note the cloud cover, and **sketch** what type of cloud cover exists: cirrus (wispy clouds), cumulus (puffy clouds), stratus (dense and layered clouds), cumulous (towering thunderheads).
- At least 30-40 minutes of quality effort.
- Use colored pencils not markers in your drawings.
- Make sure you answer your questions from above.

Work the entire time, sketching what you see and not what you think you see. That is, look for small details and try and make your sketches accurate.

Hiking Group Nature Questions:

What conditions and/or factors contribute to Mount Washington having some of the world's worst weather? Go on a fact-finding mission at your hut and get a complete and thorough answer to the question.

Be prepared to present to the team a presentation that highlights your three-day trip. Each member of the hiking group must participate in the presentation. Here are the requirements:

- Record the trip using a digital camera if your group has one. If not, find some other way using drawing and notes to capture special moments on the trip.
- All of the AMC huts are full of history and truly amazing stories. Interview an AMC guide, hut caretaker, other hikers, research the hut's history and stories using the hut logbook, or any of the writings on the walls of the hut you are staying in. Find at least **four amazing stories** about your hut and interesting things that happened there.
- Find 10 to 15 facts about your hut and record them.
- Make a record of your hut's location, trail taken to get there, the zone in which your hut is located (use the information you have in your nature journal from the overnight in September or the guidebooks at the hut) elevation and draw or take of picture of the hut.
- Keep track of your hike each day in pictures and/or sketches. Record points of interest, special moments, and flora and fauna that you observed. Write down trails taken, record the spent time hiking, and how you handled the physical challenge each day.
- Make sure everyone in your group records their most memorable moment.
- Using the field guides found at each hut and your guide's expertise, see how many of the following alpine plants your group can observe and record with photos, sketches, and words:
 - Diapensia
 - Mountain Cranberry
 - Labrador Tea
 - Alpine Bilberry
 - Bigelow's Sedge
 - Mountain Avens
 - Lapland Rosebay
- Learn as much as you can about these delicate plants and be ready to share that information in your presentation.

Lastly,

Letter to An Adult (Optional):

In this observation, think about an adult that has had a significant impact on your life this year. Maybe this person helped you through a difficult moment, taught you something about yourself, helped you face a challenge, or showed you how to see things differently. Write a letter to this adult expressing what they did that makes them special to you. Decorate the letter and deliver it to them.