

Grade 5

October 31, 2013

My Experience in the Canadian Wilderness

As I wandered through a brand new environment, I could see the mountain tops and gorgeous trees towering over me. Unidentified, healthy green plants grew in the earthy ground. The open space was overwhelming and took my breath away. Chipmunks scurried with acorns in their mouths like they were playing a game of tag. The cool, crisp air blew on me as if a welcome gift.

Before long, a raindrop dripped down my cheek. Soon, it began pouring rain. I took cover under a tall tree using the leaves to provide shelter. My shoes started to sink in the moist mud. As the ground continued to soften, each shoe was enclosed in unwanted muck. Once the shower passed, the first thing I noticed was the sharp smell of pine. The smell reminded me of Christmas and going with my family to a Christmas tree farm. Afterwards, an unpleasant odor drifted over to me. The odor smelled like the stale smell of a marsh nearby.

Salty sweat dripped down my nose and into my mouth. All of a sudden, I noticed my thirst and I really needed water. So, I walked and walked, searching for water. My heart was pounding and my throat felt as if it were on fire. I started tripping on everything. Suddenly, I began to feel dizzy and lightheaded. I desperately needed water. Then, a miracle happened. I stumbled upon a shimmering pool. A feeling of delight hit me as I saw the stunning sight. The beautiful pool was a deep blue, as blue as the ocean. Even though it was only water, it was like the sweetest drink you could ever have. I was ecstatic to finally find water. As I was gulping

water which tasted like liquid gold, the birds were singing a beautiful song. I wandered away from the pool, and leaves crunched under my feet. In the distance, an earsplitting and startling noise that sounded as if it were coming from far away filled my ears. I froze and felt as stiff as a plank of wood and then listened for what seemed like an eternity. I stayed tremendously tense and terrified and realized that the hair raising howl came from a wolf. My first day in the Canadian wilderness was a mysterious, yet wonderful experience.

The following morning, I took a walk to explore my surroundings. After about five minutes, I found a berry patch and another water hole. The red, juicy berries looked like delicious raspberries. Since I saw a bird eating them, I knew they were edible. A feeling of joy came over me as I walked towards the bush. I was thrilled to find them and I started to shove the terrific berries in my mouth. They were so delicious that by the time I couldn't eat anymore, there were almost no raspberries left on the tree.

"Crunch," was the noise that came from a nearby bush. It sounded like someone stepping on leaves. I whipped my head around and then I froze. A shadowy figure slowly crept out from behind the bush. It was frightening, and I felt like I couldn't breathe. The animal's big blue eyes and gorgeous fur seemed to glisten in the sunlight. I continued to stand frozen, finally realizing that the animal was a coyote. My visitor stopped for what seemed like forever. It felt like the whole universe stopped. The creature studied me curiously. We stared at each other for a while, and finally it quietly crept away and a wave of relief washed over me.

Now, as I look back on this adventure, it leaves me thinking that everything in nature has a special part of me. Every once in a while, I will sit in my backyard, and just take in the fresh

air and the wonderful animals and the noises they utter. Occasionally, I will see my coyote friend trotting along in the forest, and every time he looks at me , he has this curious look in his eye and it reminds me of my wonderful adventure. I will definitely never forget this experience. It changed my life forever and after this, I felt a little more grateful to be part of this miraculous world.