

The Good Eggs in the Community Chapter 6: Ambassadors for Nature (July/August)

Overview:

Peggy rejoins the Eggs in Chapter 6 as they begin the last part of their Ambassador Program which takes place at Camp Sunnyside Up and has the Eggs helping out with their Nature Center. Since the Eggs spend their annual summer camping trip at Camp Sunnyside Up, the Eggs' parents agreed to coincide their trip with the Ambassador Program experience.

The Eggs learned about all kinds of wildlife and nature from Ranger Hatch. They spent their time focusing on birds at the Bird Sanctuary, reptiles at the Reptile House, butterflies at the Butterfly House, ponds, forestry, and nature trails. They always made sure to look for and pick up trash and debris as they went around the grounds of the camp. The Eggs also had time for hiking, swimming, canoeing, kayaking, crafts, and telling stories and singing around the campfire.

Toward the end of the program, Ms. Poach returned to the camp following a doctor's appointment bringing with her Sonny and Ms. Sullivan from the United Nations. Ms. Sullivan had been reading Ms. Poach's reports on the Eggs' Ambassador Program and was very impressed with their hard work and dedication.

The Eggs told Ms. Poach and Ms. Sullivan how they were connecting this portion of the program with their travels. The Eggs decided that they were going to take some of the nature photos Seggourney took and make them into postcards and calendars to sell, giving the profits to the Nature Center at Camp Sunnyside Up. The Eggs contacted Svana from Norway and Uncle Ian and Aunt Bonnie from Scotland and encouraged them to take photos in their beautiful countries, as well, and make postcards and calendars to sell and raise money for their countries' nature parks.

The Eggs each went on to share their favorite part of their experience with Ms. Sullivan. Ms. Sullivan presented the Eggs with a certificate of completion for the Ambassador Program and told them a plaque with their names would be hung at their school and at the United Nations.

Lesson:

"It's very important to take care of the environment, isn't it? All living things need a place to live."

- Seggourney to Ranger Hatch

Service Activity:

This service activity will help children realize the importance of taking care of nature and all the earth so it stays healthy for future generations.

- Research your local nature center and find out what kinds of animals, plants, vegetation, and other living things reside there. If possible, take a field trip there.
- Ask the class what part of nature is their favorite? Animals, insects, plants, flowers, etc. Have them depict it in art and hang the drawings around the room.
- Organize a class "Keep Our School Beautiful" campaign once a week with a ground clean-up. Go around the school grounds and pick up any garbage (inside and out).
- Create a do's and don'ts poster about recycling. What is acceptable and what is not? Research to find out and then create a poster about it. Hang in your classroom as a recycling reminder.

Reflection:

Involved in our busy lives, we can often take nature for granted. Many of us spend so much time taking care of day-to-day activities and commitments that we don't get out as much as we'd like to. We sometimes take the natural beauty of the world for granted and don't "take time to smell the roses" as the old saying goes.

We must do more than just enjoy and appreciate natural beauty; we need to play an active role in conserving the world's beauty so it can be enjoyed by every generation. We are always urged to "Save the Planet," "Conserve Water," "Conserve Energy," "Preserve Our World," and "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle." As parents or teachers, we always want the best for our children and their future. If we want the best for our children as they grow up, the learning and modeling can start with adults. The world is full of educational and practical resources to help anyone get started. The earth is a wonderful place and definitely worth caring for 100%!



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