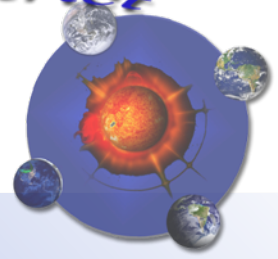


Delta County School District Gifted Newsletter



ECOLOGY PROJECT®
INTERNATIONAL

Costa Rica 2017

By Hannah Hatheway

After nearly a year of planning and fundraising for an ecology trip to Costa Rica, 11 Cedaredge students and 2 chaperones finally took off from Denver on February 17th. From the moment they arrived in Costa Rica, they prepared for an adventurous week off-the-grid on the Osa Peninsula.



Kevin Dunbar, Cole Stumpf, Owen Craig, Heather Dunbar, Jessica Craig, Olivia McCrackin, Makayla Kehmeier, Grace Hatheway, Nevaeh Martinez, Rocio, Hannah Carlson, Hannah Hatheway, Stanley, Julia Jackson, Amy Owens

Piro Research Station

Rocio and Stanley, the guides from Ecology Project International, picked them up from San Jose Airport at 1:30 am. They took a bus ride to the main EPI campus for a nap and piled back on the bus to return to the airport for a flight to the Osa Peninsula which holds 2.5% of the world's biodiversity.

Upon landing, the group ate their first real food of omelets and rice and beans. Taxis transported the group to the Piro Research Station where the temperature reached 95 degrees fahrenheit with a high humidity. After a refreshing nap, the group received a briefing on the area. In the dorms, they also saw a giant lizard sitting in the bathroom. A few girls also noticed squirrel monkeys when they exited the shower.

March 2017

Gifted & Talented Resources

**Delta County GT Community
on Facebook**

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/
4968148440523273/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/4968148440523273/)

Participate in an interest survey

DCSD Parent Council

[https://docs.google.com/a/
deltaschools.com/forms/d/
1U6YOGT1S0itXYBkkyKAcy
M4FE1Cl072FJcC-C269BJo/viewform?
ts=58a52cb5&edit_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/a/deltaschools.com/forms/d/1U6YOGT1S0itXYBkkyKAcyM4FE1Cl072FJcC-C269BJo/viewform?ts=58a52cb5&edit_requested=true)

DCSD GT Website

[http://specialservices.deltaschools.com/
gifted-talented/](http://specialservices.deltaschools.com/gifted-talented/)

Western CO Assn Gifted & Talented

www.gifted51.org

Colorado Assn Gifted & Talented

www.coloradogifted.org

National Assn for Gifted & Talented

www.nage.org

Sunday morning, the group went on a 3 hour hike through the rainforest. On the hike, they saw many species that they had never seen before. This included a golden orb weaver which has a web that scientists designed kevlar after. They also saw morpho butterflies, scarlet macaws, a toucan, and had a group of three spider monkeys attempt to scare them away by growling and shaking the trees.

That night, they braved the lightless rain forest and mysterious spiders on a hike. They saw a spotted owl, several tarantulas, a bright green leaf frog, leaf cutter ants, and they heard the screeches of the howler monkeys. Back at the dining area, they thought they saw a bat flying through the room. It smashed against a wall, and when they went to investigate, they determined that it was a 5-inch grasshopper



Playa Blanca / Widecast

After a taxi ride, they arrived at Playa Blanca. Here they learned about sea turtles with Widecast. They helped untangle nets and worked with a mangrove nursery on the beach.



The group returned to the beach the following day in hopes of seeing sea turtles. They boated out into Golfo Dulce and set the nets for turtles. Sadly, they did not catch any sea turtles. However, they did see some dolphins and sea turtles surfacing.

Intercambio de Culturas

The group had an opportunity to visit a local school and talk to the students who would participate in similar sea turtle monitoring later this summer. They toured the school and peeked in on some of the english and math classes. They also visited the hospitality class where local students learned different cultural customs and cooking styles.

Zip-Lining

The final adventure was zipping from 3000 feet down to sea level on a series of 10 ziplines through the rainforest. At some points, they hit 30 mph as they sped through the rainforest canopy and glanced out at the ocean while zipping across the lines.

¡Muchas Gracias!

Thank you to every single person who allowed this amazing trip of a lifetime to be possible for a small school like Cedaredge High School. Additional thanks goes out to Kevin Dunbar for organizing this trip and living with a group of teenagers for 10 days!

Dates to Remember

Monday March 20, 6pm at Creamery Arts Center, Hotchkiss
GT Parent Council presents - *Living Positively with Intense People*

Saturday April 22, 9am - noon at Delta Center
GT Showcase 2017