

Michigan Beaver Colony Report 2016-17

Michigan Colony has now been running for 2 years and this year saw the addition of a leader to the colony with Mark Edwards joining us just over a year ago. The colony has a regular turnout of the full complement of 16 Beavers, although recently a number have moved to Cubs so we look forward to bringing a number of new Beavers on in the coming term.

Activities

The programme of activities has based on attaining their staged and challenge badges within each term.

Summer Term 2016 – Adventure Programme

In the summer term, the Beavers undertook a number of elements within the Adventure Programme with activities ranging from cooking to problem solving!

Many of our Beavers attended the Woodhouse camp that further developed activities within the Adventure Programme.

Before finishing for the summer break, the Michigan Beavers completed a number of Outdoor Skills and Challenge badges.

Autumn Term 2016 – World Programme

Michigan Beavers this term focussed on the world programme with a number of themes explored from leaf printing, to junk modelling and learning about sports and activities around the world.

For the first aid badge the Colony undertook an evening of basic first aid teaching them how to act in an emergency situation.

Also during this term some of the Beavers took part in a tree planting event – leaving a mark for the future!

A number of other activities took place in the run up to Christmas including making paracord buddies as well as a number of creations themed around the festive season.

Spring Term 2017 – Creative Collage and Personal Challenge

In the winter term, the Beavers made significant progress towards their world badge – the theme of world study continued in the spring term with each lodge being set the task of creating a collage detailing everything they could find out about a specific country. Each lodge studied a different country and over the term have created amazing works around their chosen country albeit India, Australia, Spain or China!

Each Beaver was also set two personal challenges at home, from keeping their rooms tidy or learning to swim – the Beavers took up to the challenge with many of them completing these tasks during the course of the term!

We have also had some great sessions where we have had the opportunity to learn how the police work (and get to sit in a police car); we learnt about photography and Beavers were set the challenge of taking their own photographs!

We also had an amazing evening learning about disability and the impact this has on life.

Summer Term 2017 – Team Work

This term is all about working together and we have already played a number of team sports. In addition most Beavers came to the Woodhouse camp where we had huge fun playing together, cooking together and having great fun albeit on the adventure course or building a den in the woods!

Leaders and assistants

Throughout the year, the team has worked hard to deliver this programme - Andi Hayman, Nick Brewster, Claire Brewster and Andy Gibling have contributed significant time and effort following their setting up of the colony. Thanks also to Sam Edwards who has been supporting us throughout the year.

Parents

Also thanks too from the leadership team to the parents who have assisted with some of our sessions - this makes a huge difference to us – we really could not make this happen without your help and support – we look forward to you supporting our sessions moving forward.

A special thanks to Freya and her family for taking the time out to teach us about disability - a really fantastic experience for us all.

THANK YOU
Mark Edwards