



Spring 2024

MAY 2024

ISSUE 6

EXPLORER

for lovers of Art and Nature!

www.artandwildernessinstitute.com



The Ecological Cost of Genocide and Occupation

Edited by:
Sumayyah
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Newsletter
Intern

Art and Wilderness
Institute
is a community
centered
Institute
focused on getting
the community
re-connected
with Nature.

We are based in
Southern CA
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that by Exploring,
Creating,
and Connecting,
we grow
as people and
as community.

All of our programs
aim at incorporating
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in order to give back
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AWI
Farmer's
Market

Prayers for
the
Planet

Highschool
Mentorship
Shenanigans

I Love the Rain

AWI Newsletter Spring 2024

GENOCIDE is ECOCID



REPORT THE ECOLOGICAL COST OF GENOCIDE AND OCCUPATION 2024

WATER RIGHTS VIOLATIONS



30x saltier

Israel controls water access and flow into Palestine and as many as 70 percent of Gazans resort to drinking salty and contaminated water from wells. (CSIS)

100,000 cubic meters of waste into the sea daily



Since October, Israel has damaged and destroyed waste management facilities and has cut power. UNEP estimates that at least 100,000 cubic meters of sewage and wastewater are being dumped daily onto land or into the Mediterranean Sea.

841,000 METRIC TONS OF CARBON



Since October 8, Israel has polluted more than 800,000 metric tons into the atmosphere during its carpet bombing, genocidal campaign. (THE GUARDIAN)

3x the bomb equivalent combined have been dropped on Gaza than on Hiroshima. (DAILY SABAH)

CLIMATE CATASTROPHE

INVASIVE COLONIALISM



Another tactic used by the IDF and Israeli Settlers is to release invasive wild boars onto Palestinian land. The law states killing, harming or trapping them is illegal. The boars damage crops and property and have even attacked people. (JJP)



Another Israel's colonial tactic is to remove native plants that indigenous Palestinians have a connection to. On occupied stolen land Israelis replace native plants with pine forests. The acidity of the pine trees kills all nearby native plants and the people's connection to it. After 1967 this tactic has been used to seize and divide Palestinian territory within east Jerusalem and the occupied West Bank. (JJP)

HAZARDOUS POLLUTION



ILLEGAL White Phosphorous



Israel has used white phosphorus on civilian populations. Besides burning the flesh of civilians, it also pollutes the environment. Once it contaminates rivers and aquifers the chemicals are hazardous to all life.

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE ASSAULT, ISRAEL HAS DAMAGED OVER 5 MILLION SQUARE METERS OF FARMLAND AND FOREST FROM THE USE OF WHITE PHOSPHOROUS. (WASHINGTON REPORT)



23 million TONS Hazardous Materials & Debris

from Israel's bombing campaign are littering the streets of Gaza (amount as of Jan, 2024.) (UNRWA)

DEFORESTATION

1 million olive trees

UPROOTED BY ISRAELI SETTLERS & IDF



Settlers continuously uproot thousands of year old olive trees. (JACOBIN MAGAZINE)



Scan to learn more:



Prayers for the Planet

Islamic Insights

into

Eco-Conscious

Living



By Hamza Sidky

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Salam Alykom Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu | **السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته**

Dear Muslim Brothers and Sisters,

We have a problem. A very big one. One that we cannot simply ignore. One that could be a significant sin on your scales on the day of judgement. What is this problem? We are failing to protect something that was entrusted to us, an amanah. What is that? The Environment, and the Earth we live in.

Here is why I am addressing Muslim brothers and sisters. As I mentioned earlier, this Earth was an amanah entrusted to us, Muslims! I have evidence to support this, but before that, I want to take a moment and share this: According to various scholars, The Qur'an mentions wasteful consumption (Isrāf) as the thirty-second greatest sin (al-islam.org).

1 يَا أَيُّهَا آدَمُ خُذْ زِينَتَكَ عِنْدَ كُلِّ مَسْجِدٍ وَكُلُوا وَشَرِبُوا وَلَا تُسْرِفُوا إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ
الْمُسْرِفِينَ

Translation: O Children of Adam! Dress properly whenever you are at worship. Eat and drink, but do not waste. Surely He does not like the wasteful. - 7:31

Commentary: So we can see in this ayah, it is definitive and clear cut what is being mentioned. Allah is not saying avoid eating and drinking, he saying do so, but do not be wasteful in doing so. But a lot of us today take the “eat and drink” part, and forget the don’t be wasteful part.

2 إِنَّ الْمُبَذِّرِينَ كَانُوا إِخْوَانَ الشَّيَاطِينِ وَكَانَ الشَّيْطَانُ لِرَبِّهِ كَفُورًا

Translation: Surely the wasteful are ‘like’ brothers to the devils. And the Devil is ever ungrateful to his Lord. - 17:27

Commentary: Now this is scary. Allah (SWT) is saying that the people who waste are like brothers to Shaitaan. Now if that is not scary enough, well if we continue, the ayah says, “And the Devil is ever ungrateful to his Lord”. I think it’s fair to say that we don’t want to be from amongst this group.

3 وَهُوَ الَّذِي أَنْشَأَ جَنَّاتٍ مَّعْرُوشَاتٍ وَغَيْرَ مَعْرُوشَاتٍ وَالنَّخْلَ وَالزَّرْعَ مُخْتَلِفًا أَكْلُهُ وَالزَّيْتُونَ وَالرُّمَّانَ مُتَشَابِهًا وَغَيْرَ مُتَشَابِهٍ كُلُوا مِنْ ثَمَرِهِ إِذَا أَثْمَرَ وَءَاتُوا حَقَّهُ يَوْمَ حَصَادِهِ وَلَا تُسْرِفُوا إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْرِفِينَ

Translation: He is the One Who produces gardens—both cultivated and wild—and palm trees, crops of different flavours, olives, and pomegranates—similar 'in shape', but dissimilar 'in taste'. Eat of the fruit they bear and pay the dues at harvest, but do not waste. Surely He does not like the wasteful. - 6:141

Commentary: This too makes a lot of sense. Allah (SWT) is mentioning all the blessings He has granted us with. He then also **orders** us to not waste, and He mentions His stance on those who waste.

Ahadeeth An-Nabi' Muhammad (ﷺ)

1 عَنْ أَبِي ذَرٍّ، قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ " جُعِلَتْ لِي الْأَرْضُ طَهُورًا وَمَسْجِدًا

Translation: The earth has been made for me purified and as a mosque - **Abi Dawood 489**

Commentary

: Look at what we have turned it into. What was once made a purified Earth and a place of worship.

2 عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ حُبَيْشٍ، قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " مَنْ قَطَعَ بَسْدْرَةَ صَوَّبَ اللَّهُ رَأْسَهُ فِي النَّارِ "

Translation: The Prophet (ﷺ) said: If anyone cuts the lote-tree, Allah brings him headlong into Hell.

Commentary: Now, although this hadith specifically mentions the lote-tree, we can infer that the broader meaning applies to plants at a whole. Now the punishment is describes very clearly for who does such an action.

3 عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ عَمْرٍو، أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ﷺ . مَرَّ بِسَعْدٍ وَهُوَ يَتَوَضَّأُ فَقَالَ " مَا هَذَا السَّرْفُ . " فَقَالَ أَفِي الْوَضُوءِ إِسْرَافٌ قَالَ " نَعَمْ وَإِنْ كُنْتَ عَلَى نَهْرٍ جَارٍ . "

Translation: The Messenger of Allah passed by Sa'd when he was performing ablution, and he said: 'What is this extravagance?' He said: 'Can there be any extravagance in ablution?' He said: 'Yes, even if you are on the bank of a flowing river.'" - Ibn Majah 425

Commentary:

The Prophet Muhammed ﷺ is talking about Wudu/Ablution. Now let me ask a question. How are we supposed to make wudu out of water with najasah (impurities)? Now this is threatening the validation of our wudu, and by further extension, our salah.

We have a duty as Muslims to protect this amaanah.

"According to the Qur'an, preserving the environment is a religious duty in addition to a social obligation (Fard-Kifayah), and is not considered an optional matter." (mdpi.com)

You may have heard all this *taking-care-of-our-enviroment* talk from a more abstract perspective. Now I just brought it to you into our deen, our way of life.

Hopefully this letter will now change your perspective of how we look at our environment. It is a very serious issue, that unfortunately, is often dismissed in the world of politics.

Ya Allah! Grant our environment purification, nourishment, and prosperity!

Ya Allah! Help change our hearts, and the hearts of those around us, in how we view environmental-care

Salam Alykom Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu!

House Drinks

Emerald Owl Warm Elixir

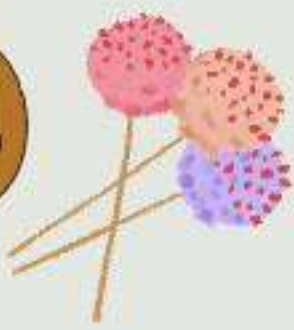
-1/2 hot milk, 1/2 milk

-Cocoa powder

-A TINY bit of cayenne pepper

Serve with whipped cream
and teal or purple
sprinkles





The Farmer's Market

Waleed Khalife



The farmers market in Yorba Linda Islamic Center was great! Before it started everyone was setting up excitedly. There were three parts of the Art and Wilderness section: food, fun games and other items.

For the food section there were fruits, tortillas, orange juice, lemonade, bread with chicken, baklava, rice krispy treats, cakepops, brownies and stinging

nettle tea. That was just most of the food that was there. And there were items like cilantro, milkweed, tomato, peas, beans, bananas, succulents, axes, hats, pins, body salts, bracelets, and stuffed animals. Lastly, there were games. like throwing a ball and whatever you hit you get to keep what is inside it. And there was a soccer skills game and first place gets a Target gift card.

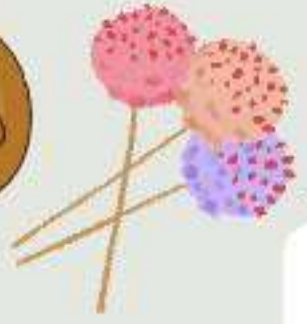
At the beginning everybody was buying from each other and it was very calm. Many of the moms were just standing and talking together or helping their kids set up. One of them, Jessica Jocson, says that it was "a little bit stressful, but also cool to see them put in the effort."

In an hour people started to come and it got very crowded. You would need about five to ten minutes for a customer to buy something. It was a fun experience. Everybody loved selling. Nura Soliman, 9, sold clay jewelry and says "I really liked it and I think it will help the people in Palestine."



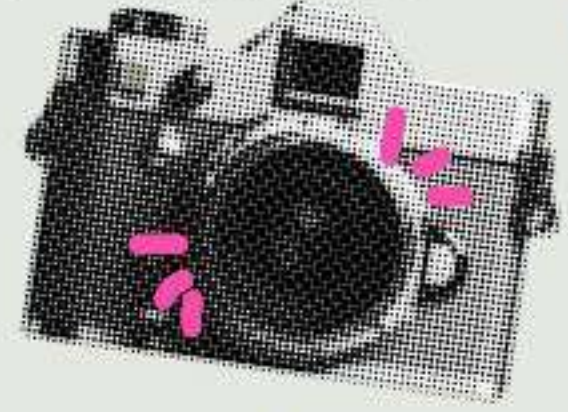
After a while even more people started coming. It was like customer after customer. It was cool to get people what they wanted. And there were samples, a lot of them. It was delicious trying them.

After a long day it was time to pack up. There was a crew that would put the canopy back to its place. And also others folded chairs and put the table back in its place. We raised \$2,533.10 to give to Palestine! Alhamdulillah! It was a great day at Yorba Linda Islamic Center.



The Farmer's Market

photo dump!



AWI

POET'S

CORNER



I love the rain.

By Nura Soliman

I love the rain,

It washes my pain,

It makes me cold,

The mud is too wet to mold.

It splashes,

But never mashes,

There is a storm!

In California that's not a norm,

Hey look! It's a storm and it's starting to change its
form!

Run, Run!

This is not the time for a pun.
Go, Go!

I want you safe,

I love you so,

And this is why you have to go!



I love the rain.

This is dangerous!

But to be honest,

This is something I would never want to miss.

Go there, follow the sun, Go, Go, hurry and run!

I love you so and this is why you have to go.

Don't worry, I'll meet you right there,

But try not to get too close to a bear!

Good bye!

The stars will sing you a lullaby.

Ok now, for real, good bye,

Oh my, Oh my,

The storm is so big,

But why?

If you want to submit a poem for a chance to be featured in the Poet's Corner, email awnewsletter.editor@gmail.com

Highschool Mentorship:

Maryam's Take

Mentorship was always the highlight of every month. I looked forward to it, and constantly counted the days till the next one. This Mentorship, we were going to Joshua Tree, and, even though I was super excited about it, I was a little disappointed, as I had been there many times and I was looking forward to going somewhere different for Mentorship. But then, late Friday night, the night before Mentorship, my mom received news that the location had been changed! Due to severe wind conditions, we were now going to a park in San Diego.

(Sorry, I forgot the name.) I was super excited.

On the day of Mentorship, we left Rahma Center, (our meeting place), at around seven thirty. The drive to San Diego wasn't very exciting as my car mostly spent the one and a half hour drive playing would you rather. When we got there, it was slightly sprinkling, and very refreshing. However, this lured some people into not bringing their proper rain jackets, which was definitely a mistake, as the rain just got harder and harder as the day progressed.

We walked a little more than a mile before stopping on the side of the trail where there was a stream that we had been following the whole way. Although we barely walked a mile, due to the rain, it took roughly thirty minutes to reach the lunch spot. We finished eating, and some people decided to start going into the river, among them, I started off cautious, but then got a little too confident, and slipped completely into the stream, completely soaking my pants. But since I was wet anyway because of the rain, I wasn't too bothered.

We continued up the trail to the visitor center. We quickly cleaned up, and met up inside a meeting room the very kind visitor center worker had let us use for free. We prayed Dhuhr and Asr, and then went back outside for our chai competition. The girls won, of course, and Ms. Sama made a couple of



AWI announcements, before we started heading down the trail again. On the way back, we played reporter, which caused the surprisingly large number of hikers to stop and listen with our classmates, which was



kind of cool. When we sighted the dam which had started our trail we stopped and split up into four groups. Each group was told to make a story incorporating the knowledge that we had learned into a story to be read later at our campfire.

We were interrupted by the sound of the park closing, so we quickly hurried into our cars to the nearby day use campsite. The very nice people who worked there had let us use it for free until whenever we wanted to. Everyone assembled the dishes they had brought, and, except for a couple of short moments where everyone had to huddle





under the canopy Ms. Sama had brought because the rain was too heavy, we had a very nice potluck dinner around the warm campfire. By this time it was fully dark. We told our stories by campfire light, and our team tied for second place.

Everyone was sad that the day was over, but also kind of happy, as everyone was tired and cold and the cars were warm and comfortable.

Everyone loaded up their cars and got ready for the long drive back to Rahma Center. But for our car, that was not to be. Around thirty minutes from Rahma Center, BEEEP. STOP SAFELY. CAR WILL SHUT OFF SOON. The driver, Fatima Khala, quickly pulled over to the right lane of the highway and exited.

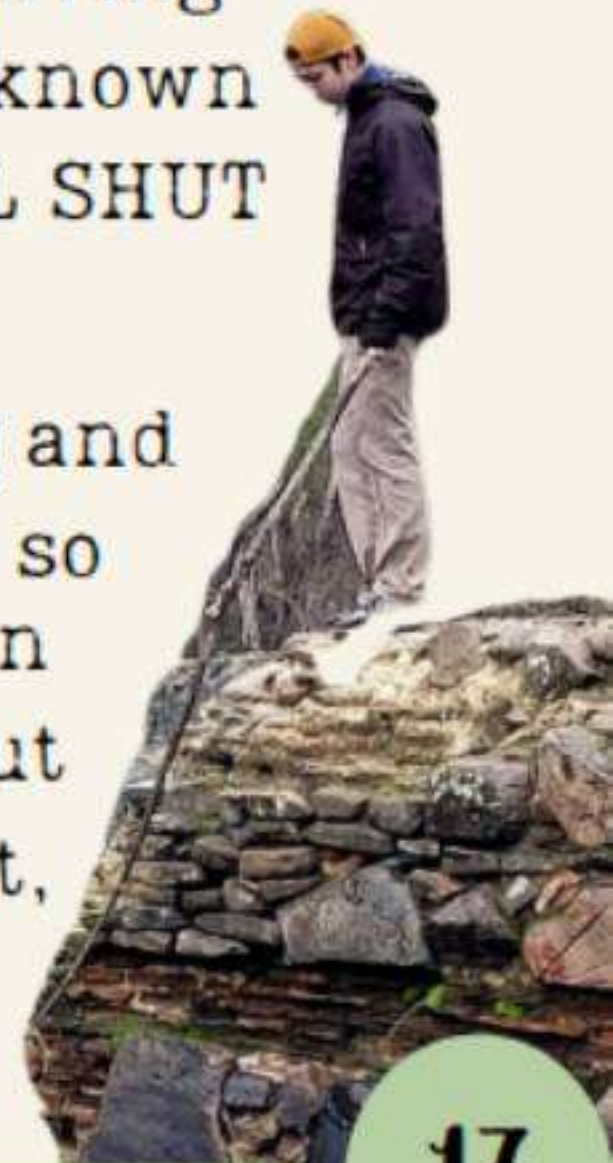
She turned the car off, then on again, and it worked, so we got back on the freeway. But then,



soon enough,
BEEEP. STOP
SAFELY. CAR
WILL SHUT
OFF SOON.

But this time, the car was almost out of gas, so Fatima Khala thought that might be it. She filled up the car with gas, and got back on the highway. The car is behaving normally again. But we should have known better. BEEEP. STOP SAFELY. CAR WILL SHUT OFF SOON.

But this time, it doesn't stop beeping and the car is very much slowing down, so much so that we start counting down the seconds until it stops. We exit, but the exit happens to be a one lane exit,



and there is no shoulder for us to stop on, which was very bad news as there was a turn, and cars could come flying down the exit and crash right into the



our car. By now, the top speed of the car is five miles per hour. Bad, I know. The car slowed

d o w n,

d o w n,

d o w n,

and stopped literally as the shoulder began.

Alhamdulillah. Our parents then came to pick us up from a nearby parking lot that we had managed to get the car to, and all was well. But, overall, it was a great experience, and many thanks to Ms. Sama and all the people who put it together for us, especially with San Diego being so last minute. It really helped teach us the beauty of spontaneity and how to roll with the punches.

Highschool Mentorship: Sumayyah's Take



So Mentorship. There I was, double-checking my backpack the night before and freaking out because I couldn't find a rain jacket, when my dad comes and tells me we're going to San Diego.

"Cool!" I said. "Balboa Park!"
"...No. You're going to Mission Trails."





“Cool!” I said, and resumed freaking out about my rain jacket. In retrospect, I should have been more prepared. It would be nice if Sr. Sama taught a class about being responsible, or something. (That was a joke, Sr. Sama. Guys, being prepped for everything is really important!)

Anyway, I find a rain jacket and go to sleep. I might have been the only girl who actually got 8 hrs because I

talked to all the others and they were like “Ya I went to bed at one 😊”

Ummm ok. Eight hours later, I awake from my slumber and I get into my car. After a very complicated carpool process (girl chill you were in two cars) I ended up at the Rahma center. This time, we ACTUALLY drew names for the car ride and I ended up with Aiza, Fathia, Hannah, Kalise, Naseera, Sr. Nooreen, and Sr. Sama.

We played Mafia and I did a face mask, which was nice, but I regret not bringing my face roller because it would have been way nicer and honestly hilarious.



We got to the trailhead and took a really cheesy group picture, and then Sr. Sama split us into groups for the house competition. I was in Fox Fangs with Layanne, Hamza, A.K., and Aadil.

For the first challenge, we had to make either a canoe or a fishing rod out of the stuff we had around us. We chose to make a canoe with reeds and were the only team who did so.





(By the way, from here on out I will be calling it our yacht because that is what our team called it) So shortly after our yacht came to be, it began pouring rain. I was wearing a rain jacket and was fine, but some people had forgotten them, and they got pretty soaked. But then Sr. Sama had some of the taller people carry a tarp over their heads so they survived. My team took turns carrying our yacht until we got to the first stopping point.

I'm not even gonna talk about this challenge because my team failed so miserably at it.

We walked on, and eventually stopped for lunch. I had brought ramen to make on my stove.

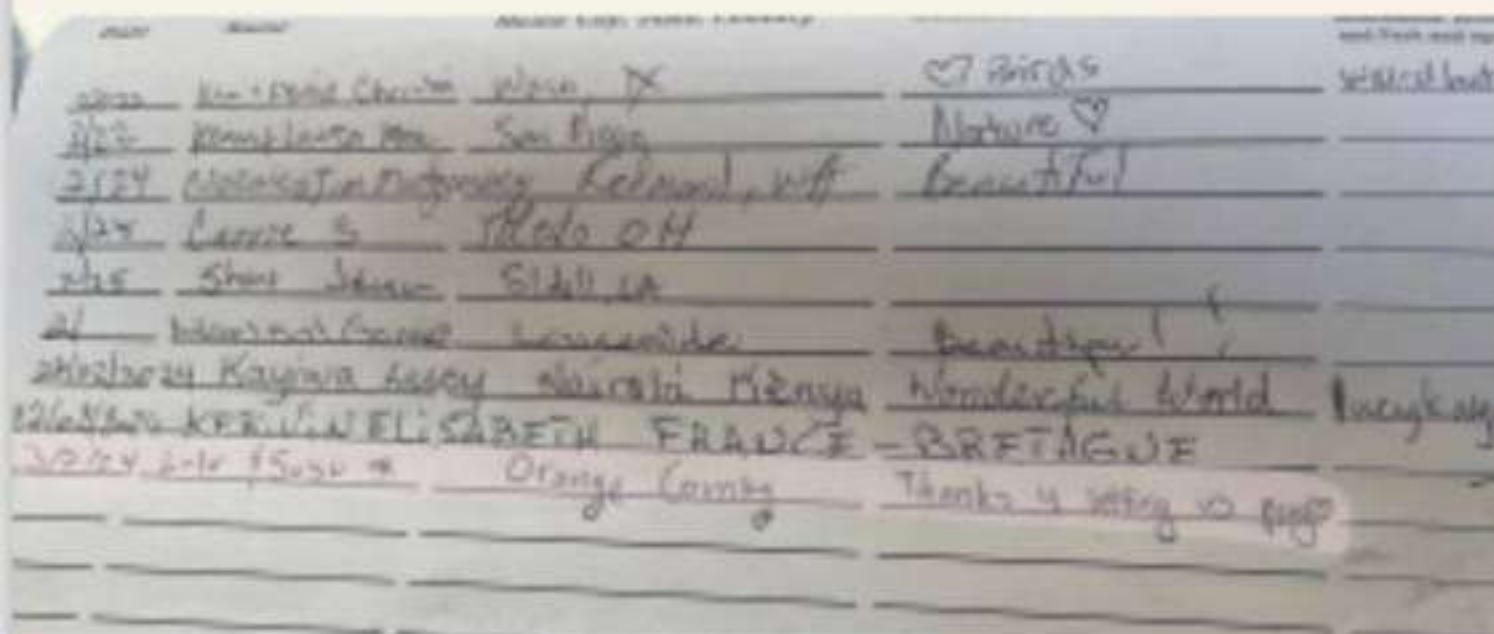
(OK fine I'll talk about the challenge. Basically it was that each team had to come up with solutions to a situation using only our surroundings. For example, yarrow root for a toothache, and using mule fat sticks to make arrows to go hunting)

At this point someone almost lost our yacht in the river we were next to, but thankfully he saved it just in time.

We walked for a reeeeeally long time after this until we got to the visitor center. We then realized that we had to pray. One of the really sweet employees let us use an empty room they had. So we all dumped our stuff outside and went inside to pray. Afterwards, we of course had to put all the chairs back and stuff, and then we went to go tell the guy thank you.

It was pretty hard to get to him, so Layanne and I signed the guest book, but I did get a chance to tell him in person right before we left.

Right outside the center, the chai competition took place! It was girls v. boys, and we crushed them.



That's what happens when you prepare way ahead of time! We had prepared a week before on a group chat to make sure everyone knew their jobs. I think the real reason we won is because we had Aiza appointed as

leader of the chai-making shenanigans.

After we finished beating the boys, we walked back to where we started. We played reporter, which was not



as awkward as I had expected. I even got a really yummy-smelling piece of California Everlasting (which didn't smell like curry yet) to carry around with me as a result!



Then we got back to the spot we'd started at and sat at the tables, and the final challenge was announced...it was to write a story that included everything we'd learned that day.

When I tell you I went into full PANIC mode. I'm pretty sure that I scared the rest of my team. Sorry, guys! But I was

PANICKING okay?? Like I had not been so terrified in years. We did end up coming up with something though. Our story was about how we killed the other teams so we could win the contest, but we used plant knowledge we'd gained that day. For example, we used wild cucumber seeds to put people to sleep.

"I" thought it was pretty awesome, but some people on the other teams thought otherwise. Maybe they actually felt like that--maybe they were bitter because they died in our story so we could beat them. I don't know. I will say that we never actually said that we killed THEM. We only said that we killed "Redwood Raven" and such.

We went to the final location now, and I was still in freak-out mode so I just wrote while I walked.



Finally, we started the potluck. It rained a lot during this, so we mostly just huddled under the canopy. But right before we sat around the campfire, it cleared up! SubhanAllah.

After a while, we read the stories. I read my team's story, and we went last. We got a 28/30. My beautiful story got docked TWO POINTS 🙄

This was because it was missing information about sagebrush, a plant we had learned about (-1) and because I didn't read loud enough (-1).

I was SO MAD at myself for that last point. I can be VERY loud when I want to be, and here I was losing points over NOT being loud enough? Lesson learned, I guess 😞

If we'd had one more point, our story would have beat the others. But it didn't. It tied with another story.



After this, we prayed, packed up, and went home. You already heard the car story from Maryam. I was in that car on the way back, by the way! That was pretty scary, but a really good reminder that things happen that you don't expect and you just have to go with the flow and try to have fun anyway.

Highschool Mentorship: Kareem's Take

Ah, Joshua Tree.

What a beautiful place to be. I can't wait to go with the rest of the High School Mentorship class. Until, that is, fierce 90 mph winds started picking up.

The roads were too dangerous to drive, so we had to find another spot to hike. Problem was, most places either had a lot of rain, or were also very windy. In the end, we decided to go hiking in San Diego.

We all met up at Rahma Center. There were a few cars, which all the girls carpooled in. Because there were less boys,



they rented a single, big van to fit us, however they overestimated how many boys there would be so we all had plenty of space in the vehicle.

We arrived at the Father Junipero Serra trail. It was a paved trail which made its way through the valley, alongside a river. Conveniently, it was next to a campsite which we would use later for the potluck. Before we started, however, we were split into the four AWI houses, completely disregarding the houses we were actually in. I got put in Emerald Owl. We were going to stick with these houses and gain points for that day only. I got put in with Omar. The hike started well, however with just a few minutes we reached a small pond with a dam. My aunt Sama announced that we were about to have our first house challenge. There were going to be a few challenges for the houses, whoever wins each challenge gets a significant amount of points. The first challenge was to make either a fishing pole or a boat made of sticks. Most teams, including ours, went for the fishing pole.

I found a perfectly straight stick, which was great for a fishing pole. We all did different parts of the pole, I carved the stick a bit. Unfortunately, both the pole and the line were too short, so even though ours looked nicer overall, it wasn't as practical as the long, not so straight, pole that another team (I forgot which one) made. Fox fangs was actually the only house to make a boat, so they won by default. It was a few weirdly shaped sticks tied together by some cattail, with the middle stick jutting out through the bottom, somewhat like a trigger. Hamza claimed that it was a "Gun Boat," and now it was time to see if it actually floated. He was hesitant to put it in the water, but when he did, it actually floated. By that time it had started to rain. Aunt Sama told us a story about a woman who was kidnapped by indigenous people in Australia, and how she was taught the ways in which they lived, before they let her go, so that was pretty cool.



After lunch, we continued down the trail. There were moments when the sun peeked through the clouds, but these moments were few and far between. At the end of the trail, we arrived at the nature center there. Apparently, this place won awards, for what I'm not completely certain, although it's safe to assume it has something to do with how nice the facility was. It had a small museum area, a theater, a gift shop, and a beautiful view. Not to mention the amazing staff. It was nice to take off my soaking jacket to let it dry off and get out of the rain. The staff put on a 10 minute film, although I didn't watch much of it. It was somewhat like a small nature documentary. After relaxing for a bit, we prayed, and headed outside. The sun had come out and it stayed that way for most of the day. Outside, it was announced that the chai contest was to take place, boys vs girls. The girls were very organized, even having a group chat on who brings what. The boys, on the other hand, were arguing about who's chai we should use. Long story short we lost the contest.



On the way back, Aunt Sama played a game called Reporter. We would all hike in a line, and when she saw an interesting plant, she would have the first person in line stand next to that plant and repeat a name or fact about it until everyone passes by. And the occasional plant pun. I feel bad for those who had



to say "I hope you're lichen this." The worst part is when you stand there waiting for the people at the end of the line to pass by, as they tend to take their time and you get stuck there far from the rest of the group. After, we all had another house challenge where Aunt Sama would use her amazing acting skills to pretend she had some ailment, and each house had to come up with a plant for each one.

My team didn't win, but got pretty close. Once we got back to the trailhead, there were tables which the teams sat at and had to come up with a story which had as much plant and animal knowledge that we learned today as possible. In the end, our story was about how a wild cucumber's roots came to be in the shape of a sleeping man. It was meant to be more of a horror story, but I wouldn't say it was inherently



scary. By the time we got back to the campsite, it was getting dark. We started the fire and busted out our potluck food and set up the campsite. Unfortunately, it started raining again, so everyone crammed under the canopy so as to not get wet. After we finished eating, we told the stories each house made. Our story got high points for plant knowledge and presentation, but entertainment was slightly lower compared to the other houses. The final points were added up, and we got... Last. At least these points didn't count towards the actual house points. We took down the campsite and made dua before we headed back.



CORNER

what earth hero are you?



every one can be a go green hero and now you can too! take this quiz to see wich one you are

Which Earth Hero Are You?



Click link to the take quiz

The Green Masjid Initiative aims to support our masajid transition towards more sustainable and responsible practices in accordance with the Quran and Sunnah.

We have been endorsed by the Islamic Shura Council of Southern California.

Visit our Website



Content is no longer available



Which Earth Hero Are YOU?

CORNER

**Recycling
Resurrector**

**Animal
Advocate**



**Pollution
Pummeler**

**Styrofoam
Stopper**

**Plastic
Preventer**

**Planet
Protector**

Yusra's fiddleneck interview!



Yusra: Hi. Welcome Fiddleneck. How are you feeling today?

Fiddleneck: I feel good. I like the winter season and spring.

Yusra: What are some of your hobbies?

Fiddleneck: I like to attract pollinators, create shade, and hold soil to allow moisture to come through.

Yusra: Where do you live?

Fiddleneck: I live in the wildlands of California.

Yusra: How tall are you?

Yusra's fiddleneck interview! (cont)

Fiddleneck: I can grow up to 4 ft.

Yusra: How would you describe yourself?

Fiddleneck: I have hairy leaves and stems, and I have yellow flowers on my head.

Yusra: What are things you don't like?

Fiddleneck: I am poisonous to livestock, like cows and horses. Sometimes I can make your skin itch. However, the Chumash used to toast my seeds and eat them.

Yusra: It was so good to meet you. Hope to see you out on the trails!

Fiddleneck: You too. See you soon.

HOUSE SCOREBOARD

Emerald Owl is in the Lead



2023 - 2024 SCHOOL YEAR

UPDATED 5/20/2024



REDWOOD RAVEN

39
POINTS



EMERALD OWL

48
POINTS



FOX FANGS

47
POINTS



SAGEBRUSH STEWARDS

27
POINTS

Did you know?

You have to fill out the form to earn points for volunteer days, leading hikes, and other things. The points won't get added unless you fill out the form!

Only actions worth 5 or more get displayed on the house scoreboard even though the points will be added.

Learn more about how the houses earned these points

Get House Points

CLICK HERE

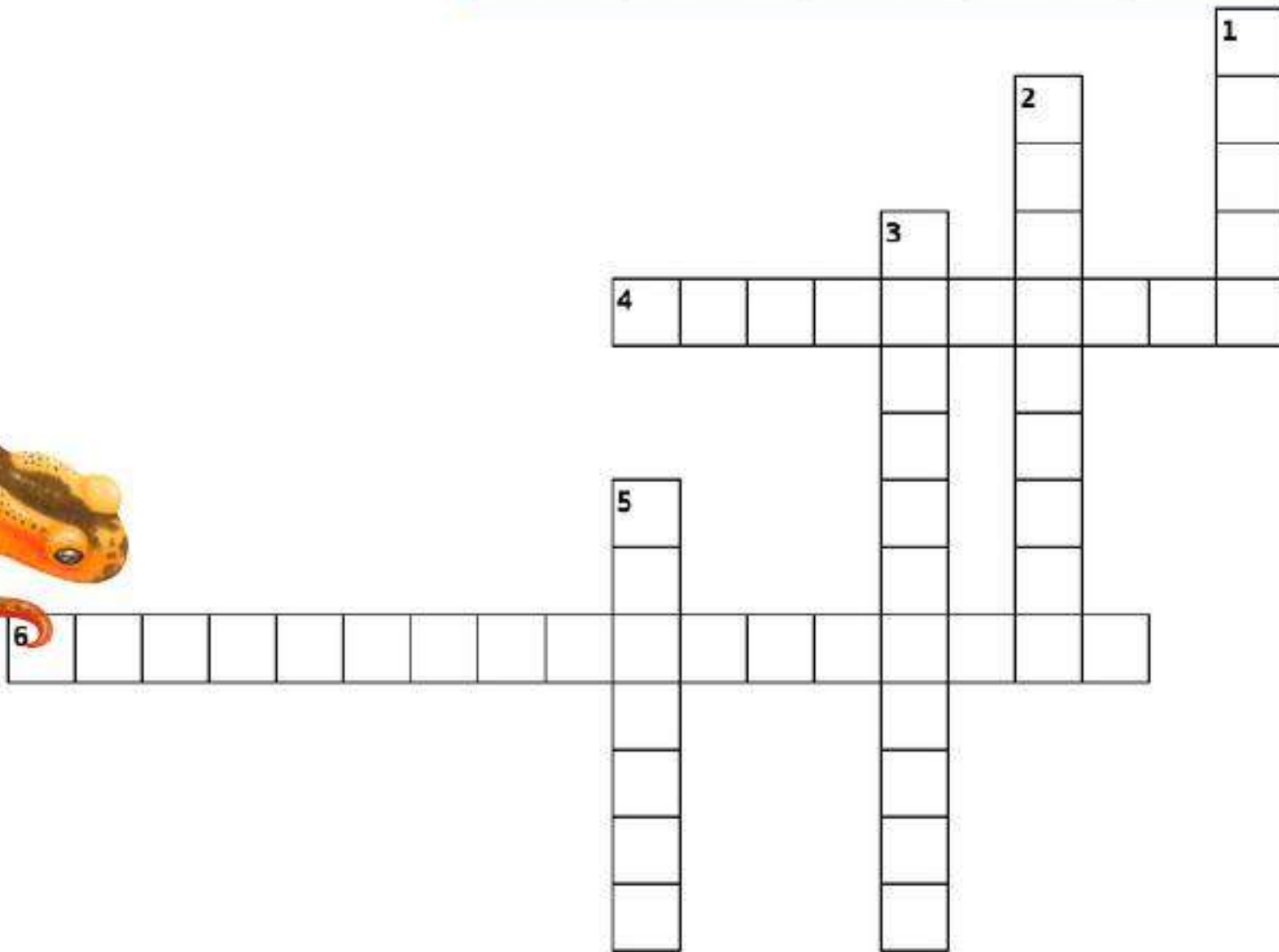


AWI Newsletter Spring 2024

38

W
CROSS
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CORNER



Across

- 4. I enjoy growing in clusters I'm a fungus distinguished by my turkey tail like shape
- 6. I am a small "slender" amphibian

Down

- 1. I have a shell but I'm not a hermit crab I'm slow but not a turtle I'm a mollusk but not a squid
- 2. my name means a have a thousand legs even though I don't!



play to prove your knowledge

click to play!

INTERVIEWS WITH AALIYAH R.



INTERVIEWING MARIA RASHID



What is your favorite trail and why?

Quail Hill

What is your favorite OC park?

O Neil Regional

Have you been to any National Parks?

Yes

What is your favorite national park ?

Sequoia

What do you do for art and wilderness institute?

Redwood Raven
Preschool Teacher



INTERVIEWING MARIA RASHID , (CONTINUED)



What is your hobby or hobbies?

Running, Basketball, Skating, Reading, Journaling


What do you do in your free time?

Visit my friends, run, research, journaling

What is your favorite book?

I have SO many, and one of them is The Legend of Redwood Raven

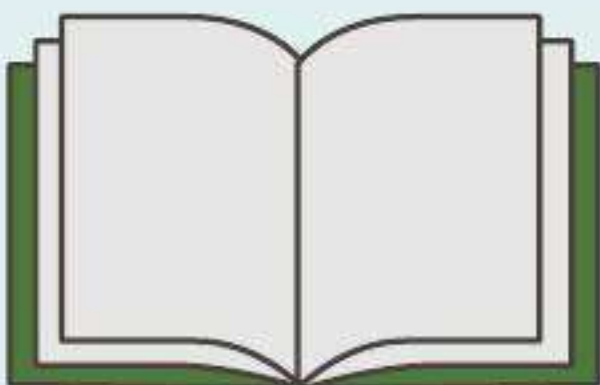
What is your favorite house and why ?



Redwood Raven because I am in it

If you had a superpower what would it be and why?

Super speed, super strength and enhanced flexibility





Fall 2023 / Spring 2024



- Holidays
- Semester Begins/Ends*
*Membership Exception
- Summer Camp
- AWI points store
Festival day
- Make-up Week
- ★ Drop Date No fees
- ★ Drop Date 75%
- ★ Drop Date 50%
- ★ No refunds after this date
- 🏠 OVERNIGHT

JANUARY
Theme: High Ambition

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| ★ 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

FEBRUARY
Theme: Patience

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|
| | | | ★ 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | |

MARCH
Theme: Humility

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|----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|
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| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

APRIL
Theme: Gratitude

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| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

Ladies Backpacking Trip

MAY
Theme: Compassion

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

Mother Daughter trip

JUNE
Theme: Celebration

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
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| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

Family Campout

JULY
Theme: Resilience

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
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| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

AUGUST
Theme: Reflection

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

SEPTEMBER
Theme: Purpose/Intention

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

OCTOBER
Theme: Self-discipline

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| ★ 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

NOVEMBER
Theme: Good Manners

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

DECEMBER
Theme: Friendship

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |



Calendar

SAVE THE DATE

End of the year Celebration

- **AWI Points Store**
- **Family Potluck Luncheon**
- **Awards Ceremony**
- **House Spirit Tournament**

**@O'NEILL
REGIONAL PARK**

**June 1
Saturday**

Participate in our
HOUSE TOURNAMENT

Wear your house colors!





Art and Wilderness Institute

SUMMER CAMP



artandwildernessinstitute.com



SURVIVAL CAMP

MON, WED, THURS
JUNE 10, 12, 13
10 AM - 1 PM
AGES 8+

SCHABARUM
EARLY REGISTRATION: \$220
REGULAR: \$240
LATE: \$260



KHULafa AL-ARD (GUARDIANS OF THE EARTH) SUMMER CAMP

MON - THURS
JUNE 24 - 27

(AGE 5) - 10AM - 2PM
(AGES 6 - 7) - 10AM - 2PM
(AGES 8 - 12) - 10AM - 2PM

ORANGE COUNTY
EARLY REGISTRATION: \$275
REGULAR: \$325
LATE: \$350



THE FANTASTIC FIVE EXPLORING OUR SENSATIONAL SENSES

MON - THURS
JULY 8 - 11

(AGE 3-4) - 9AM - 12PM
(AGES 5 - 7) - 9AM - 1PM
(AGES 8 - 12) - 9AM - 1PM

ORANGE COUNTY
EARLY REGISTRATION: \$275
REGULAR: \$325
LATE: \$350



NATURE BUILDERS

MON - THURS
JULY 15 - 18

(AGE 3-4) - 9AM - 12PM
(AGES 5 - 7) - 9AM - 1PM
(AGES 8 - 12) - 9AM - 1PM

ORANGE COUNTY
EARLY REGISTRATION: \$275
REGULAR: \$325
LATE: \$350



SURVIVAL CAMP

MON, WED, THURS
JUNE 10, 12, 13
10 AM - 1 PM
AGES 8+

PASADENA
EARLY REGISTRATION: \$220
REGULAR: \$240
LATE: \$260



WILDLIFE WONDERS: EXPLORING NATURE'S INTERCONNECTED WEB

MON - THURS
AUG 5 - 8

(AGE 3-4) - 9AM - 12PM
(AGES 5 - 7) - 9AM - 1PM
(AGES 8 - 12) - 9AM - 1PM

ORANGE COUNTY
EARLY REGISTRATION: \$275
REGULAR: \$325
LATE: \$350

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)



KHULAFAT AL-ARD
(GUARDIANS OF THE EARTH)

SUMMER CAMP

AGES
5-12

Monday - Thursday • June 24 - 27
10am - 2pm

Regular Price: \$325
Late Registration: \$350

ORANGE COUNTY
EARLY REGISTRATION:
\$275/PER PERSON

JOIN US ON A JOURNEY TO WITNESS AND
CELEBRATE THE DIVINE WONDERS THAT
UNFOLD IN THE TAPESTRY OF CREATION!

Embark on a captivating journey into the wonders of nature in this immersive camp experience.

Delve into the intricacies of the natural world, from babbling streams to the textures of bark, the hues of leaves, the diverse flora, and the majestic presence of trees.

Recognize the profound connection between independence and interdependence that defines Allah's creation.

Through engaging activities like invigorating hikes, reflective journaling sessions, spirited games, exciting scavenger hunts, and the creation of meaningful crafts, we aim to unravel the marvels bestowed upon us by Allah (SWT) in this vast world.

Discover the divine attributes manifest in every element of nature, fostering a profound appreciation for the beauty and harmony that surrounds us.

artandwildernessinstitute.com



[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)



SUMMER CAMP 2024

JULY 8 -11

The Fantastic Five:
**Exploring our
Sensational
Senses**

**AGES
3-12**

9AM - 1PM

**EARLY
BIRD SPECIAL
\$275**

**REGISTER
FEB 24 - APRIL 14**

CLICK TO REGISTER

Regular price:

\$325

April 15

Late Registration:

\$350



Exploring our Sensational Senses Eyes like a hawk, a nose like a fox... all animals have their own special sensory super powers, and guess what? So do you!

In this camp, we will spend each day focusing on one or two of our 5 main senses, and using those senses to explore the world around us.

We'll look high in the sky and down in the dirt, suck on sour grass, and open our ears to the sounds of the forest... it's amazing what you can learn when you hone your powers of observation!

artandwildernessinstitute.com



SUMMER CAMP 2024

**AGES
3-12**

NATURE BUILDERS SUMMER CAMP

.....
**JULY 15 - 18 , 2024
ORANGE COUNTY**
.....

9AM - 12PM

Let's build! In this camp, we will explore the architecture of nature and learn about the critters that design them, from beaver dams and bird nests to habitats made of mud and poop! We will also build some masterpieces of our own.

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

For more details, visit:
artandwildernessinstitute.com



Early Registration: \$275
Regular Registration: \$325
Late Registration: \$350



Art and Wilderness Institute

SURVIVAL CAMP

June 10, 12, 13
(Mon, Wed, Thurs)
10am - 1pm
Schabarum



In this 3 day (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday) intensive come learn survival skills with one of the best in the field.

Christopher Nyergesh is the founder of the School of Self-Reliance, who has been teaching ethnobotany and survival skills since 1974. He has authored nearly two dozen books, including "How to Survive Anywhere," and "Foraging California." He served for 7 years as the editor of Wilderness Way magazine, and he continues to regularly teach.

In this camp students will learn about common in-season wild plants, how to create a simple shelter, make fire, and cook wild foods.

CLICK TO REGISTER

For more details, visit:

artandwildernessinstitute.com

Early Registration: \$220
Regular Registration: \$240
Late Registration: \$260





Art and Wilderness Institute

SURVIVAL CAMP

July 22, 24, 25
(Mon, Wed, Thurs)
10am - 1pm
Pasadena



In this 3 day (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday) intensive come learn survival skills with one of the best in the field.

Christopher Nyergesh is the founder of the School of Self-Reliance, who has been teaching ethnobotany and survival skills since 1974. He has authored nearly two dozen books, including "How to Survive Anywhere," and "Foraging California." He served for 7 years as the editor of Wilderness Way magazine, and he continues to regularly teach.

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CLICK TO REGISTER

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Early Registration: \$220
Regular Registration: \$240
Late Registration: \$260





SUMMER CAMP 2024



WILDLIFE WONDERS: EXPLORING NATURE'S INTERCONNECTED WEB

Did you know that everything in nature is connected?

Photo by: Alirida
(AWI Mugworts Student)

IN THIS CAMP, WE WILL DIVE INTO WILDLIFE CONNECTIONS WHILE PLAYING GAMES AND SEARCHING FOR SIGNS OF DIFFERENT INTERACTIONS IN OUR FORESTS, FIELDS, AND PONDS.

Learn the specialties of neat concepts like competition, camouflage, mimicry, decomposition, and parasitism and discover how wildlife (and humans!) use these interactions to survive.

CLICK TO REGISTER

**AGES
3-12**

**AUGUST 5 - 8
MON - THURS
ORANGE COUNTY**



For more details, visit:

artandwildernessinstitute.com

Early Registration: \$275
Regular Registration: \$325
Late Registration: \$350



SAVE THE
DATE



I'm smiling
on the
inside.



5 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY
GALA

whoo
whoo!

NOVEMBER 10
2024



Want to contribute to the Newsletter?

Email

sumayyah.labanieh@gmail.com

TO JOIN THE TEAM

Call for:

Poetry,

Articles,

Comics,

Nature Journaling Pages,

Cool stories about your AWI

classes, teachers,

and more!