

Nova Scotia Heritage Explosion 2011

Arriving at Camp...

On arrival at camp, we were given all our equipment needed for our next 9 nights, including a spit bucket, 2 ordinary buckets, 2 solar showers and 4 tents. We were slightly confused by the spit bucket but soon discovered it was for cleaning your teeth. The tent putting up was interesting as we could not get the outer cover to match up with the main shell, plus, due to rain beginning to drizzle, we had to get it up quickly! After some Canadians helping us it was finally up, even if slightly odd looking!

It was a bit of a surprise to find out that there was only non-flushing portaloos on camp with anti-bacteria hand wash and 2 water taps but I soon became used to it. I never realised how nice washing your hands with water and soap was until I couldn't do it!

The meal times were the same each day, with queuing up and picking your dinner, pudding, drink and snack and then sitting in a large gazebo to eat. We didn't have to cook for ourselves or washup so that was a nice treat! The evening meals were different each day, ranging from Roast Dinners to Sweet and Sour Meatballs and the lunch was always a BBQ. All the food was delicious and I particularly enjoyed blueberry muffins for breakfast!



Camp Activities...

The camp days mainly consisted of a morning and afternoon activity with evening entertainment. We had a timetable of all our activities and did them with other groups too so we could make new friends. The leaders were great fun at the activities and each one was different, ranging from water activities on the lake, to an archaeological dig and sporting events. Creating an obstacle course involving wet sponges was particularly funny and so was making rope bridges through the trees! As part of one called willy woodsman, there was a competition to light a fire the fastest and then boil water. We beat both the records creating a roaring fire in 27 seconds and boiling water in just under 5 minutes! Pretty amazing for us as usually we are trying to make them with wet wood, in the rain and it seems like it takes hours!

The evening activities included the opening and closing ceremony and a few other events like dusk swim and night manoeuvres with the army. Night manoeuvres was a bit like orienteering round the camp, in the dark. It was quite tiring as you were walking from one side to the other basically but great fun singing camp songs to warn off the coyotes and bears!

We also had two out trips, visiting parts of Nova Scotia. The first day we went to Goose Cap Heritage Centre, a glass works and to a lighthouse, with the highest tides in the world. All were very interesting and fun. The second was the Amazing Race round Halifax, exploring sites and completing challenges where we got delicious ice cream and rolled down the biggest hill in Halifax!