

A summer of fun and exploration

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It was a summer of fun and adventure for kids participating in the Boys & Girls Clubs of Marin and Southern Sonoma Counties' 2011 Summer Camp Discovery Program.

In Petaluma, 717 children enrolled in Camp Discovery, held Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Lucchesi Park and at Corona Ranch, Downtown River, Old Elm, Washington Creek and Round Walk Village clubhouses.

Camp Discovery provided 10 weeks of programs in arts, sports, fitness, recreation, health and life skills, education, career development and leadership development.

The first- and second-grade program included kids' literature, art, storytelling, gym activities, painting, building and little explorers.

The third-through sixth-grade program included science explorers, image maker, Club Fit, dance, creative arts, book club, hiking, soccer and leadership. The highlight of the seventh-through 12th-grade program was a work-readiness program where teens learned valuable job skills.

In addition, there were several exciting field trips, including trips to Dillon Beach, Samuel P. Taylor Park, the Museum of Modern Art in San Francisco, an Oakland A's game, the Petaluma Swim Center, the Snoopy Ice Arena, Spring Lake, Expedition Island, Chuck E. Cheese, Helen Putnam Park, Armstrong Woods, Cal Skate, the San Francisco Zoo, Annadale State Park, Alcatraz, Muir Woods, Six Flags and the Exploratorium.

With help from the Quest Foundation and a \$75,000 matching grant, the club was able to provide 519 full or partial scholarships. A partnership with the Redwood Empire Food Bank allowed a healthy breakfast and lunch to be provided to all campers.