

## **John Muir Geotourism Center Youth Camp Shares Muir Experience**

**Coulterville, CA May 7, 2013** - John Muir Geotourism Center (JMGC), is pleased to announce 'Muir Experience', the first among many programs the center will offer.

Taking place at Diamond in the Pines Recreational Facility, Greeley Hill, CA, the pilot 'Muir Experience' youth camp is scheduled for May 13 through 16, 2013. Brady Gill, Youth Education Program Manager shares, "The program will not only explore Muir's life and contributions, but we will begin to understand how he (Muir) experienced the natural world and discover how we can relate that to our own experiences."

Approximately 120 students from four schools located in, Lake Don Pedro, Snelling, Jamestown and Greeley Hill will be among the first to participate in the program. Brady Gill, developer of the 'Muir Experience' program explains the program. "The day is broken up into two sections. In the first section, through a series of interactive games and challenges, students will work together as a team to learn about the life of John Muir leading up to his writing of My First Summer in the Sierra. Students will then have the opportunity to make their own journals, which they will use after lunch.

During the second section, students will begin to explore their natural surroundings with John Muir in mind. They will focus on three guiding steps towards experiencing nature through Muir's eyes. The three steps are: Observation, Appreciation and Expression. By participating in in-depth activities focusing on these steps, students will deepen their awareness of and experience with nature. Together we will explore how the students can continue to deepen their personal experience with nature and how those lessons can be used in everyday life."

Educators and those interested in learning more about the John Muir Geotourism Center along the Historic John Muir Route in Coulterville should visit [www.johnmuir.us](http://www.johnmuir.us).

Website visitors will find founding facts, peruse past festival photos, learn of new and future events, become a member of the John Muir Geotourism Center, including special "Schootcher" level memberships, buy the colorful "All Things Muir" t-shirts and read the new JMGC Blog entries. For more information see [www.johnmuir.us](http://www.johnmuir.us).

If you are planning to visit the area, stop by the Center located at 5016 Main Street, Coulterville, CA. The Center is open Friday through Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Contact Debbie Cook, Executive Director at (209) 878-3501 or email [info@johnmuir.us](mailto:info@johnmuir.us) for more information.

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