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15 yrs. Old

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Love of the Outdoors

The outdoors can be loved in a lot of ways. For some people, it could be shooting a large antlered buck or catching a giant fish. For others, it might be freezing your back side off on a frigid December night while standing in front of a fire. For whatever the reason, people who love the outdoors make it a point to spend as much time in it as possible.

When I go hunting, I don't just sit there in the deer stand and wonder about why I am out here freezing or when a deer is going to walk out. I think about how, when the sun comes up, I can hear the frozen dew melt and drip from the trees to the ground like rain. Sometimes I mistake the sound of falling dew for a deer walking through the woods. I'm amazed at how the sun slowly rises to another beautiful day and drives last night's coldness away. I let my mind drift away from the busy life of school and homework and focus on the world in front of me. I close my eyes and inhale the fresh earth.

Fishing, to me, is riding in our boat while heading towards our favorite spot and watching the sun first peak above the horizon. Every ripple on the water is painted orange. I enjoy watching pelicans and seagulls searching for breakfast and diving into the water with no fear. I love feeling that first tug on

my line and thinking I just caught the biggest fish. I'm refreshed while breathing in that salt air and listening to the rhythm of the waves hitting the boat.

Experiencing a camp fire is feeling the warmth of the fire on a cold winter night. While standing next to the fire, I watch the stars twinkle and gasp when a falling star goes by. In the morning, I like smelling bacon cooking on the camp fire and smelling the coffee percolating in the pot. I like camp fires because they produce an outdoor environment that family and friends can gather around to stay warm and share stories.

Loving the outdoors has unlimited experiences. Sometimes it can be a playground to someone who loves nature and every little thing that lives in it. Or it could be somebody's work facility who studies nature to see how it all works and how it produces some of our everyday needs. It could simply be a place to just escape to from a busy life and relax. Enjoying the outdoors is watching your child catch his or her first fish and being so excited even though it's only three inches long. It's teaching them how to whisper really quietly in the deer stand, even though they don't quite have the hang of it to sit there quietly and not talk at all. Being in the outdoors could be sitting around a campfire telling ghost stories to the kids and making jokes and having someone laugh so hard that they don't even realize that their marshmallow is on fire.

To me, these are the true meanings and stories as to why people love the outdoors. Sometimes people will race through life and miss all the little things that make the outdoors so special. They don't stop and take a breath to realize how special and unique the outdoors can be. That's why I think that it's wonderful that there are people out there who still appreciate the outdoors and try to involve as many people as possible whether they are three years old or eighty years old. Getting people to love the outdoors can make a difference in people's everyday lives.