



THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING

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2023

SUMMER NATURE CAMP SPECIAL NEWSLETTER EDITION

“TAKING FLIGHT”

This year’s **“Mindfulness in Nature”** summer camp took to the skies on June 26! The focus was on creatures who fly - birds, bees and bats as the headliners. Two sessions were held this week, organized by Susan Claggett, with 18 children in all joining the fun. Led by First Day School teachers, Cherie Baron and Kristen Hanlon, and assisted by former camper, Liam Ewing, the children learned together about animals that can naturally fly and studied the engineering behind this ability. Featured was ample time for quiet contemplation and wondering - everyday featured “walkabouts” on the grounds, book reading in our special spots outside, and long stretches for creating and imagining. The children found all sorts of treasures outside, including Third Haven’s “bee tree” that’s been buzzing with a healthy hive for several years, and brown bats dozing the day away in their secret hideouts. Campers applied their findings and knowledge into a tinkering session on the final day, turning the Common Room into a flying machine workshop. Outside, near the Peace Garden, a designated flight test area was used to test the range of flying creations under construction. So intensive was the creative concentration and vision of the kids, don’t be surprised if you feel a little lift as you wander in that little spot by the Common Room’s back door. It might just be a little whoosh of imagination and Spirit still dancing about! Sending special thanks to all who made this camp SOAR, including Molly and Mary who served as “friendly” presences, our amazing teachers, Clay for preparing the grounds, Susan Claggett for her fortitude and hard work...and, most of all, to the members of the Meeting, who support and encourage this little camp every year.

Amy Owsley



Liam welcomes arrivals



Cherie and Kristen introduce science



Taking Flight walk about seeking insects with dip nets and magnifiers



Discovering our resident bees



Reading about honey bees



Bee honeycomb construction projects



**Flight mind map:
similarities and differences
of birds, bees and bats**



Paper wasp light board



Comparing wing designs and sizes



Specimen search



Reading about bats and.....searching for resting bats! Shhh!





**Birds' wings fly from their shoulders.
Bat wings are more like hands.
We tried using our shoulders to launch
for flight!**



Drawing break



Imagining and building for test flights.



Summer Nature Camp: time to Take Flight in ourselves and nature!



See you next Summer!