

GATEWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chester fifth grade takes overnight trip

Huntington – Fifth graders from Chester Elementary School took a special overnight trip at the end of April to the Berkshire Outdoor Center at Becket Chimney Corners. With expenses covered by the Gateway Education Foundation and parents, the trip helped build teamwork while also fostering independence—both important as the group prepares to transition to the middle school next year.

Fifth grade teacher Kristen Baker and Assistant Principal Sara Luciani staffed the trip, along with a student teacher and parent chaperone. Students broke into smaller groups and completed a number of science, engineering, and physical education activities, including building a geodesic dome, learning about orienteering and forest ecology, taking on a low ropes course and an indoor climbing wall, and canoeing.

And what camping trip would be complete without a group campfire and s'mores?!

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Photos: (top) the Chester 5th grade prepares to go canoeing on the lake at the Berkshire Outdoor Center; (bottom) students pose with their hand-built geodesic dome—one of many activities completed at their overnight at Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA. The trip was paid for by the Gateway Education Foundation and Chester PTO.

