

A Visit to Delphinus School

By Barbara Babka



Delphinus School of Natural History is a unique, regional, outdoor science program in San Luis Obispo for elementary and middle school students. It was founded in 2011 by John Sanders in the belief that students who develop a deep personal relationship with nature become environmental stewards of nature instead of casual observers of nature.

On April 12, I had the privilege of visiting John Sanders and the campers at the Delphinus School at Cuesta Park in San Luis Obispo. They were studying Freshwater Ecosystems.

Blake, the young lady with the blond pixie cut, showed me how the campers were measuring the pH of the water.

Ian is holding up 3 fingers to represent the three crawfish we saw in the creek. They were really hard to see because they camouflage in the leaf debris.

The next day, they were kayaking in Morro



Bay; on the 14th, they went fishing in Avila and checked out the Central Coast Aquarium; and on the 15th they took a boat tour of the Morro Bay Harbor.



When I left the campers, I told them “Thanks for letting me crash your party.” Blake replied, “This is much better than a party.”

Bravo, John! I left the camp very impressed. Several students were there on scholarship. What a wonderful way to spend Spring break.