

### Why I want to attend the Aquatic Sciences Adventure Camp

Hi board members, I am Ben, and I am 10 years old and would love to get into the Aquatics camps. I go to school at Negley Elementary. I am a fifth-grader. I am in GT/ Gifted and Talented. I love science and would love to learn more about it.

I want to go because it seems like a fun experience, and I think I could really learn something. I love to swim and do other outside activities. This will really help me meet new friends and get outside more. It seems like it would be a great time being with new people or people I have already met. All the activities seem like something I would want to do, like River Rafting, Caving, SCUBA, Water Chemistry, Low ropes Course, and Meadows Centers. I want to learn about water chemistry and other exciting facts because I am interested in water and its properties and traits.

Another reason I want to go to this camp is so I can learn about how to protect the waters of Texas and more fun facts about the water and do other science activities. So please consider letting me into the Aquatics camp. This seems fun to get outside and away from the house without my parents and be responsible for my actions and myself.

I am probably most excited about SCUBA because I think it will be a fun experience and help me understand more about water. Then the second most interesting to me is River Rafting. It seems exciting and just overall fun. It would be exciting to go to the overnight Aquatics camps, and it would be really educating and help me understand water, and what we can do to conserve water and maybe while in the cave learn about some endangered species that reside in the cave-like the Texas Blind Salamander or maybe the Toothless Blind catfish They seem fascinating animals, and I would love to learn about it

Ben Brewer Art Submission



## **Why I want to attend the Aquatic Science Camp!**

By: Caitlin Lowery

I want to attend the Aquatic Science overnight camp because I like outdoor adventure, exploring, swimming, hiking and a lot more. I also want to come to this overnight camp because I think I can easily make new friends and meet new people. I think I will have fun in this camp because I really like science a lot. I also really like animals which we will probably see a lot outside while hiking.

Another reason I want to come to this camp is because I think it will be fun to sleep in your own dorm. It would also be cool to have your very own roommate to talk to just like a real college student.

My last reason I want to attend the overnight camp is because we can learn a lot of cool things about nature that we probably didn't know. I think it will also be really amazing to go in a cave because they are super cool and interesting.

In conclusion, I really want to be in this camp because I will almost always look forward to exploring, being outside, making new friends, caving, and learning about science. Lastly, I think that this science overnight camp is a good fit for me because everything we do there is a mixture of some of my favorite things that I like to do.



Caitlin Lowery Art  
Submission



## Why I want to Attend the aquatic science adventure camp

It's interesting how if I look for it I can see the way my city was built for water but also the way water has changed my city. I can see the water tower outside school and I can see the erosion on the trail made by running water. I can see the different drains on the walk to the park by my old elementary school and through the neighborhoods.

A few years ago I found a stream behind a basketball court and I asked where it went, the answer being the Edwards Aquifer.

I like to go to a river that's by my grandmother's house which has fossils in the gravel and wild onions, which I mistook for irises in the woods. Later I did have a realization that onions are bulbs, similar to some flower bulbs in an Austin frozen yogurt store's parking lot. Yes. I'm still questioning my reality.

The river by my grandmother's is the Middle Bosque River which does not find its way to the Edwards aquifer, but you can see Armadillo there looking for bugs, hear woodpeckers, and the last time I went I got to see a possum walking around. I want to see different ways in which I can help the rivers and water sources around me stay clean, and also, how myself and others can be in these environments without harming our surroundings.

Walking around almost anywhere while it's raining is lovely. I can watch the drains do their job, the tall grasses become clogged with water. I only saw it once at the Lady Bird Wildflower Center. A worker gave us directions so that me and my dad could see rain and a newly formed stream pouring down a sinkhole's mouth.

I want to have more experiences like that, getting to see my world and things about it that I didn't know happened every time it rained. I want to know what happens after the water goes into the sinkhole, and what lives in that habitat. I'll get to experience my interests in a first hand environment with people to guide me in the right direction but where I can also express and follow my interests.

I hope to grasp not only the answers to my questions but how I can find the answers to them. I can do quite a bit with Google but I think having someone to explain all this to me and to get to have some interactive work sounds pretty good.

I can't wait for the experiences and adventures the camp offers - river rafting, cave exploring, and finding out more about the animals that inhabit the San Marcos River. I think it will be fun to have the equipment to go on a few adventures I can't quite do in my backyard. Getting to make some friends while doing these activities that I love and wish to try sounds like a good plan to me as well

*-Elizabeth Crank*







### **Why I want to attend the Aquatic Science Adventure Camp!**

Hello, I am Jack Brewer. I am in 6<sup>th</sup>. My school is Barton Middle School. My favorite activity is water adventure. I am looking forward to Scuba Diving and River Rafting. Also, I want to go to the Aquatic camp because I want to explore and discover new things. I also would like to go because I love Water. After all, you can do tons of activities like fishing, Swimming, kayaking. And a lot more. I have always been interested in water because of how beautiful Rivers, Lakes, and beaches are.

One of my favorite camping trips was at Colorado Bend State Park. Our campsite was near a river where I spent most of my time fishing. But, I also wanted to go because Science is my favorite subject to learn. You learn many new things about the world that you didn't know.

Going to this camp could help me learn about activities related to Water and the environment. Also, going to this camp could help me better understand professional equipment associated with Science. This is my favorite reason I would like to go to the Aquatic Science Adventure camp to learn and discover new things about aquatic life.

More about me is that I was born on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009. I was born in Hawaii in a tripler hospital in Honolulu, Hawaii. When I was little, my parents would always take me hiking and take me to the beach. We would always go camping on the beach and in jungles when I was 3, we moved to Texas, there wasn't really any time to do anything because my mom and dad always had to take care of me and my two younger brothers. But as we got older and more mature we started doing a lot of hiking and camping and going to the beach. And in the summer, I did a lot of camping and survival camping training. So, I think I would be most ready to do the Aquatic Science Adventure camp because I would like to learn more ways to conserve Water, explore Science, and try new activities.



Jack Brewer

Jack Brewer Art Submission





Johnpaul Garza

03-21-22

My Why.

I  
I Dr. Johnpaul Garza, I could get used to that! Ever since I can remember I have wanted to work with aquatic animals and I have always wanted to work with drumroll please... OR CAS! OR Killer whales, I have always gone to Sea World and watch them perform and that inspired me to work and learn about marine life. Even though a river is far from a ocean it feels like a first step to my dream of becoming a marine veterinarian and it being in my hometown makes it feel MORE special. And I love outdoors, learning, and adventure and that's why I would love to be in this program!



Johnpaul  
Garza



FLOWERS. RIVER. FISHING. OUTDOORS

SCIENCE

FISH  
ROCKS  
PLANTS

KAYAKING

WATER

ADVENTURE

LIFE

ALS. SCUB



### Why I want to attend the Aquatic Sciences Adventure Camp!

Hello, My Name, Is Noah Brewer, And I'm in Third Grade at Negley Elementary  
And I want to go to this camp to make new friends and have fun this summer And  
To Go River Rafting And Scuba Diving That Seem Really Really Fun!  
And I Never Went Scuba Diving And That Such Much Fun To Do At The Camp.

### More Facts About Myself!

I Was Born On October 25 In Texas, 2012.

I Have Two Brothers, Jack And Ben.

I Like To Play Basketball.

More Things That I Want to Go To This Camp.

I Want To Go Fishing Bc I Want Fishing BeFore And It Super fun

But The Part You Have To Wait. And I know How To Swim

And I Want To Learn more Species There Are At The Camp Site

“Like Texas Blind Salamander,” “Cascade Cavers Salamanders”

And I Never Went To Do Water Chemistry And That Seem Super Fan

And I Would Love To Go To The Camp Site.

hi I am Noan Brewer I am 9  
years old in third grade I would  
like to go I would  
never rafting to have fun and if I  
can go. IT will be so fun if I



Theme happy summer

Sun





Dear E.A.R.D.C, I want to go to explorer 5-day ~~day~~ day camp because I want to learn more about the river and the things that live there. I'm excited about it because I don't know much about it and the wild life there. I also want to know more about plants. I like to grow things and just made a garden in my back yard that's just for my Guinea Pig to play and eat in. My second favorite animal is an Axolotl and I know there is a blind Salamander in the river that looks like one. I would really like to see it! I would also really like to go to camp to go to adventures like scuba ~~and~~ diving and rafting I have never been before. My teacher went rafting on Spring break and it looked so cool! Last of all, I really would like to go on a mussel hunt because I want to get ~~to~~ dirty and find some creatures. Thank you for reading my letter and I hope to see you this summer

Sincerely, Olivia Schweke







Why I want to attend the Aquatic Sciences Adventure Camp

by Pepper Carlton, 9 years old

I hope to learn how to tell the difference between clean water and polluted water because if we run out of clean water, I would like to know how to make dirty water safe. And I am interested in learning how to prevent polluting the water.

Ever since I was a baby, I loved the water. My parents and I would splash and enjoy the water around Texas. My mom would catch snakes, my dad would go deep in the water and I would go looking for cool fish. I want to make sure other kids can have that opportunity as well. That is why I want to learn how to protect our local fresh water and local beaches from pollution.

I want to learn about cool and exotic fish because I want to know which ones are venomous and which ones are safe to eat and digest. I also want to learn how to catch fish to learn how to help their ecosystem and know when it is in trouble.

The bugs you can find in Texas are interesting and I would like to learn more about them too! I also want to learn more about caves because the pokey things hanging are very interesting.

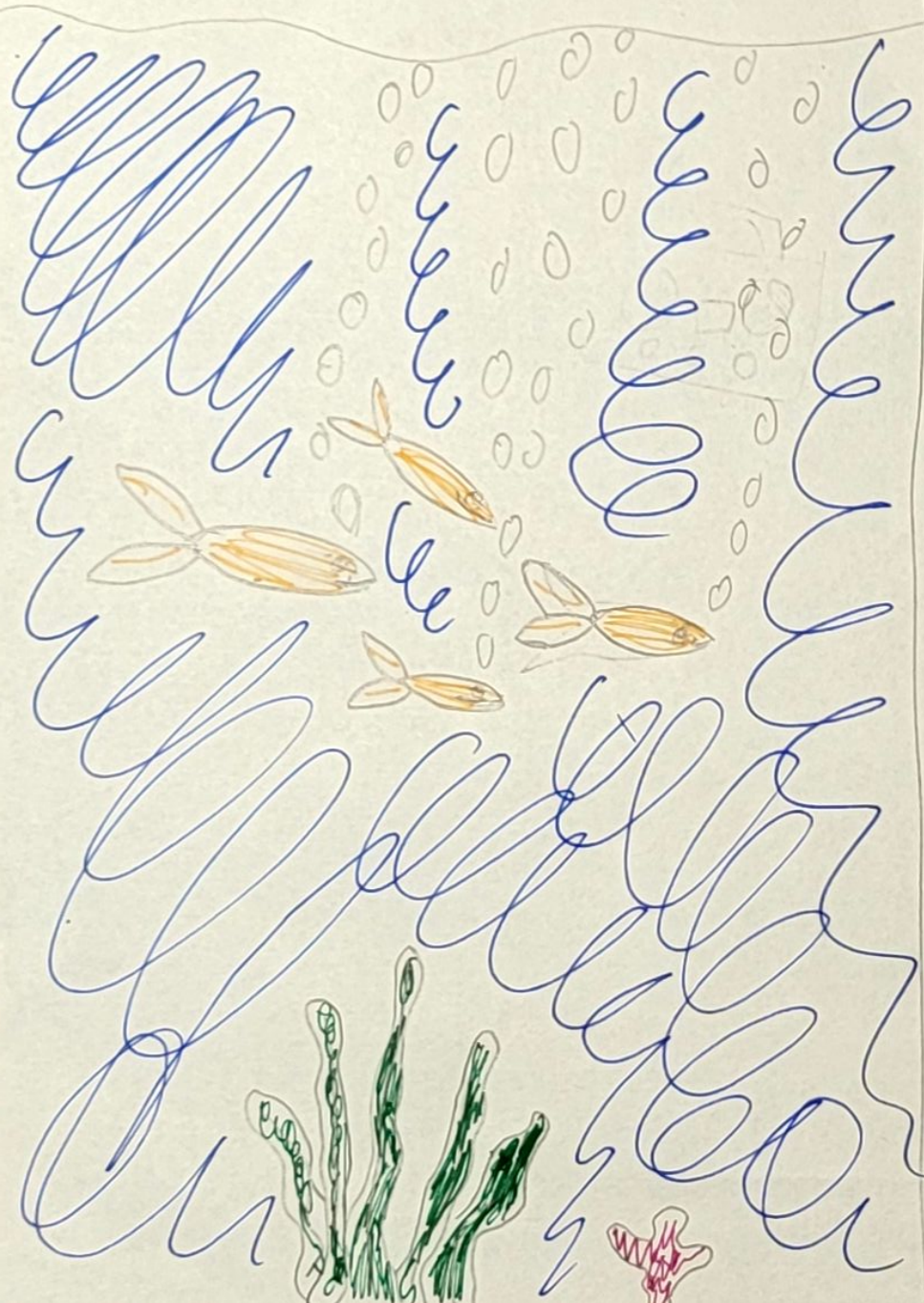
I would be a good person to give a scholarship to because I like science and nature and taking care of the earth. If I got the scholarship I would know more about polluted water and clean water and I could stop someone from drinking unsafe water that could make their stomach upset.



Clean water

Pepper Carlton Art Submission

Polluted water





## "Why I want to attend the Aquatic Sciences Adventure Camp!" by Ryder Armstrong

The past 2 years, I have had almost no hands-on learning. COVID-19 has changed education, there have been no labs, few other concrete learning tools, and too many digital activities. I have read, watched videos, and written, but have not been able to get out into the world and learn. This is why I want to attend the Aquatic Sciences Adventure Camp- to get the unique experience of an overnight camp, to do interesting, exciting, and hands-on activities, and to learn more about the Central Texas aquatic environment and ecosystem through them.

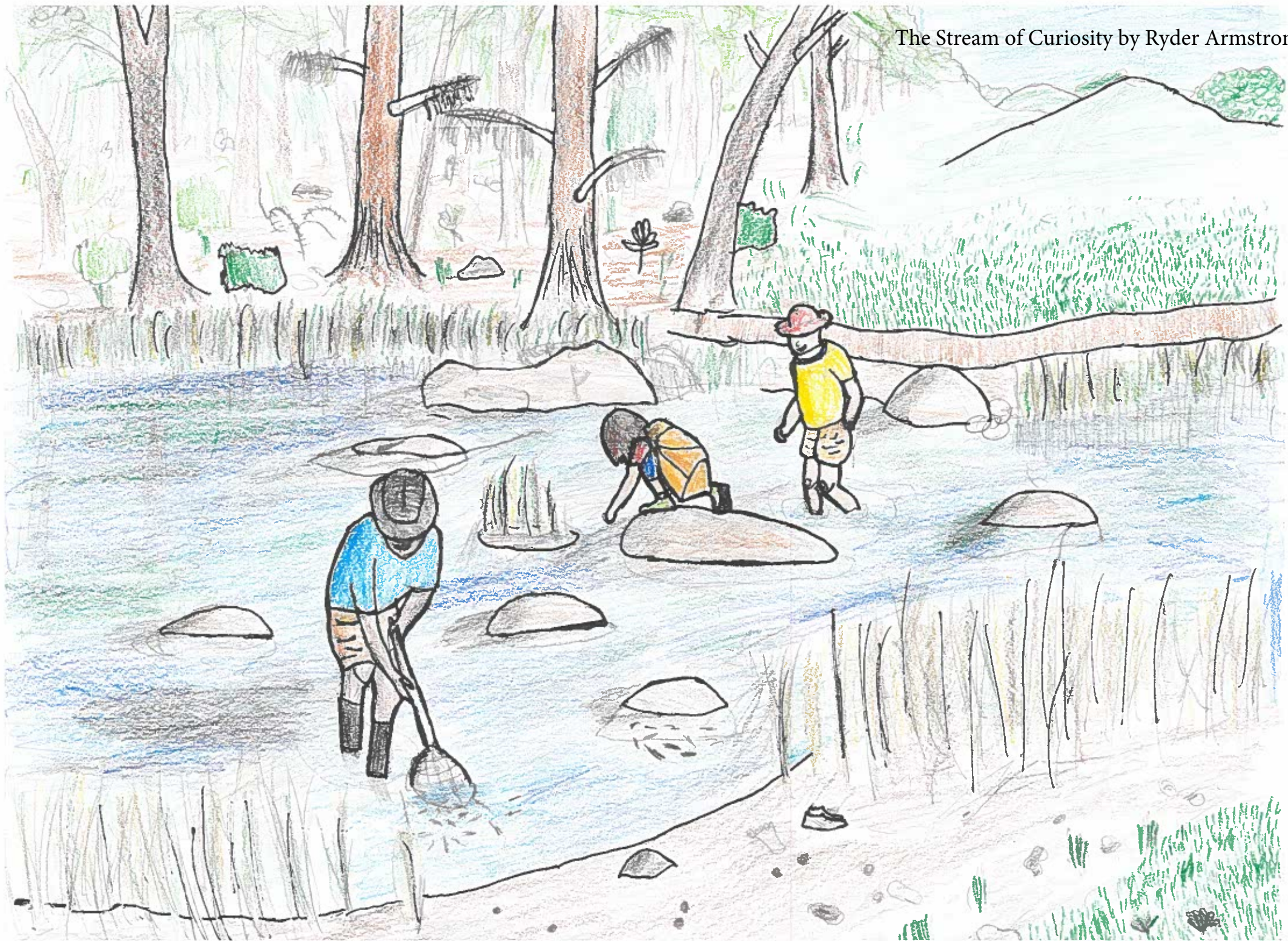
One of the main reasons I want to go to this camp is simply to get the camp experience. I have never been to an overnight camp before, and this is my last chance to attend one before I go to high school. An overnight camp is a rite of passage, and a unique experience you can't get anywhere else. At a camp, you are away from your family and their influences, and get a chance to act like yourself and find your identity as a person. You are also surrounded by other kids your age, most of whom share your interest in the topic of the camp, which gives you a chance to make new friends. In addition to other kids, there are camp counselors who I hope will enrich our learning experience and our activities.

Specifically at this camp, there are many activities I am looking forward to, including scuba diving, a high ropes course, caving, and rafting. Most of these activities involve water, which will be a welcome relief from the summer heat. I have never scuba dived before, and I am excited to do so, because breathing underwater is something many dream of, but only a few get to do. I have snorkeled in the Florida mangroves before, and enjoyed swimming around and seeing all the little fish, but not the barracuda and stingray. The high ropes course will provide a challenge, a view, and a little bit of overcoming fear. I am also looking forward to caving at the camp. I have explored a small cave in Austin before, on a field trip in 6th grade through Watershed Detectives. Caving is a neat and dynamic experience because caves are so different from what you see around you every day, and there are the physical elements of climbing and squeezing through gaps. Additionally, I am eager to river raft, a fun experience that can be both relaxing and exciting. I hope all these activities will be mixed with education, so I can learn more about the water around me.

While I am eager to learn anything involving aquatic science, I am especially interested in aquatic ecosystems, water quality indicators, the impact of human activities on those ecosystems, and solutions to these problems. While I already have some basic understanding of how aquatic ecosystems work, I wish to learn more about the intricate web of ecology in the aquatic ecosystems of the Central Texas area. I want to learn more about human pollution in the environment, especially water quality indicators, and how to read and find them. I also want to learn about what humanity can do about pollution- as a whole and as individuals. This could include government action, activism, biomimicry, and how to harness ecological resilience.

I want to go to the Aquatic Sciences Camp in order to get the camp experience, participate in hands-on, adventurous activities, and learn more about aquatic ecosystems. Should I go, I will have an awesome week of exciting activities and engaging education. Hopefully, you will help me achieve my goal of attending this camp.







# 2022 Aquatic Adventure Camp Scholarship

By William Khazen  
AHB Community School  
Austin, Texas

This is a model of the Flower Garden Banks reef near Galveston, Texas, the northernmost coral reef in the Gulf of Mexico! I initially wanted to make a model of The Great Barrier Reef then I wondered if there were any coral reefs in Texas. Surprisingly, I found one. This reef was discovered by fishermen in the early 1900's. They named it after the sponges and plants around the area. Some points of interest in the reef are the mud volcanoes. What amazed me about the coral is how complex it is when you take a deeper look into it.

I want to go to Aquatic Science Adventure Camp because I would like to learn more about the local marine life, share interesting facts with my friends and see how lab equipment works. I look forward to learning how to scuba dive, exploring the caves and swimming. I'm also excited to meet new people! Mostly, I am excited for camp because so many of the activities are not something you can do every day.

William Khazen Art Submission









