

SECTION E, SCIENCE EDUCATION

Education Moves Outdoors

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University School's first experiment with school out-of-doors was held April 22-26, 1956, at the University of Oklahoma Biological Station, Lake Texoma.

The activities during the week were many and varied. Field studies were conducted. The students learned about moss, algae, and ferns—where to look for them in nature. They collected specimens and prepared them for microscopic examination. They learned how to collect materials for a herbarium and how to make one. Trips were taken to study plants and animals, including reptiles, amphibians, mammals and birds. The students learned the technique of fishing and the different kinds of fishes in Lake Texoma.

Recreation activities were planned by class members. Several types of outdoor cookery were tried. Handicrafts with natural materials were popular. Boating was something everyone enjoyed. Many enjoyed exploring and games. Evening activities included games and stunts around the camp fire. Music and folk dancing were also enjoyed.

When the five days were over, how did the participants react? They were reluctant to have it end. They had developed friendships they valued highly. They were instilled with keen enthusiasm for outdoor education. They had discovered its full meaning through experience.
