

Journey Reflections

[Journey #1: Kwaay Paay Peak & Mission Trails Regional Park](#)

[Journey #2: Anza Borrego State Park - Blair Valley Campground](#)

[Journey #3: OC Ropes Course](#)

[Journey #4: Mission Point Paddleboarding](#)

[Journey #5: Sea World](#)

Journey #1: Kwaay Paay Peak & Mission Trails Regional Park

Before I went on the hike I was tired because I had just woken up. I was sick so I had to take the hike on my own time. My dad and sister came along with me, we got into the car and we were listening to music along the way to the trails. While we were in the car, me and my sister were playing "how many cars with the color "any color" can you find. I lost against my sister but besides that we have finally arrived at the trails. It was really sunny and my sister was already complaining about the heat. I thought the place looked pretty, there were so many types of plants and flowers.

I started walking towards the hill and my sister came along with my dad. We were walking along the trail and saw this huge puddle up ahead, we got stuck for like 3 minutes trying to figure a way to get across because if we went around we would still have to try and get across the puddle. My dad found a pile of rocks. They were small but big enough that we could step on them and avoid stepping on the water. Of course my dad and sister cross easily, but I slipped off a rock and got mud on my shoes and got the bottom part of my pants wet, my sister was laughing at me for that.

We finally reached the beginning of the mountain. I was already tired and hungry but I kept walking, I saw these purple flowers. It reminded me of a flower that was mentioned during class when we were learning about plants and their uses. I continued on the trail going up the mountain and my sister saw two squirrels, they were fighting over an acorn and it was funny. I ended up yelling at the squirrels that they ran away and left the acorn on the ground.

We have finally reached half way up the mountain and I took a break. I'm pretty sure I saw my plant, a plant I wrote about during Trisha's class. I took around six pictures of the plant, and then after I started walking again. This time my dad and sister stayed behind because my sister was really tired, so I continued up. I was starting to get tired because I was basically walking uphill. I have finally reached the very top, it felt like it took six hours yet it has only been an hour and twenty. I took pictures of the view, I could see other hills from afar and a bridge along as well, it was beautiful.

I started walking back but downhill and it was so steep that I tripped and twisted my ankles. It hurt really bad but I still got up and started limping.

On my way down as I was limping I saw Vincent at a distance he was barely going up, he asked me if I was alright and I told him I was. I kept walking and my ankle stopped hurting a lot for a while, I ended up reaching my dad and sister and they saw that I was still a bit hurt. He asked me if I was alright and I just told him that I would be fine. He saw that it was still hurting a little so he tried helping me along the way until the pain ended.

We were about to arrive at the end of the trail to go home, but there was this long rattle snake blocking the trail. The snake was taking years to finally get to the other side, but after a while the snake finally left and we continued to finish the trail. My sister was already so tired that my dad started carrying her to the car.

I would for sure recommend this trail for hikers and people who like exploring or watching views from high places. The only thing that I would keep in mind is that there are snakes, really hot depending on the season/weather, and it can be really tiring due to the steep hills.

Journey #2: Anza Borrego State Park - Blair Valley Campground

During the trip after we packed I got into Juan Salazar's mom's car because I was partnered with them. Juan's mom was really nice and got me a McDonalds sausage sandwich for breakfast and fries. I wasn't really that excited for camp but I was hoping it would be fun. During the car ride I was asleep the entire time until we got to camp. Once we arrived I set up my tent, chair and all and then just started walking around.

There was this little cliff that we were allowed to climb so I climbed it to the top. It was really tiring but I made it up and back down. Once I got down it was already time to eat so I ate the Torta that I brought to camp. I just stayed by myself for a while playing soccer because I was bored. Like an hour or 2 later there was this hike we could go to that was about the pictographs so I ended up going. Once we got to the trail though we realized it was the montero trail and not the pictograph trail. We still went with the trail though and I took some pictures. I mainly just stuck with Mr. Omar and I talked with him the entire trail. He even let me use his camera to take pictures for a while.

We headed back and I just went to play soccer again and just walked around. For dinner we had pasta but I just ate my other Torta. I saw Mr. Scott and some other students were playing a card game and I decided to play with them. I even witnessed Mr. Scott crash out on Alex which was really funny. Vincent was getting tired so he asked if he could crash in my tent for a while until 10p.m because that was when we had lights out so I told him he could. I just started walking for a while while waiting for Mr. Scott because he was gonna do a little night hike to go show us the stars.

I went and the stars were so beautiful that I laid down on the floor a bit far away from everyone and just stared at the stars. We went back and I was walking with Julian, Constantine and we were talking and we saw a little light so we walked towards it and it was saxon, but he jumped out the bush and jumped scared Julian. Julian went running because of how scared he was that he almost tripped. It was like 8:40ish, 9, and I went to sleep for I wanna say 3 hours. Once I woke up I saw that Kaden, Vincent, and Constantine were also awake and we were talking for a while. We were talking for about 2 hours and I decided to make a little bed time story and sing my version of Creep by Radiohead and they liked it.

Kaden went back to his tent and Vincent, Constantine and I were about to go to sleep but Sebastian and his group were so loud and laughing that we couldn't. But we also stayed up because the wind was so strong that our tents almost flew away with us in them. We were up till like 4 or 5^{a.m} and we fell asleep. I woke up around 9. I don't know about them, they woke up and ate some of my fruit for breakfast. There was this morning trail and I went because why not. This time we actually went to the pictograph trail instead of the montero one.

I would highly recommend this trip for everyone especially if you're going on a family trip or someone who is into either nature or stars. There are snakes but they rarely come out, the only thing to be careful with is weather and bringing enough water and food. I'd recommend this because it's a fun and really interesting trip and the view is really beautiful, especially the night hike where you can see some constellations.

Journey #3: OC Ropes Course

At the beginning when we were headed to the course I really wasn't expecting much and besides I was asleep in the car dreaming of a monkey being left alone in the city scared and becoming friends with a dog. I woke up exactly when we were at the entrance, the fields filled with grass and there was a playground there. We entered and I saw the ropes course and I was getting nervous but I tried to not think about it.

I saw the first group get on and I already started shaking a little because I was getting anxious that Mr. Scott saw me shaking. He proceeded to tell me if I was really gonna let him beat me to the top of the course as a joke and I got dedicated to reaching the top before Mr. Scott did. During lunch I was just walking around the field and listening to music for a little while because they said that after lunch group 2 would be going up and I was a part of group 2.

Lunch was over and I got scared and I told Omar I wasn't going up and he mentioned about how I was all bark and no bite for backing down on reaching the top before Scott, and he then mentioned after that he even betted that I'd reach the top first which gave me motivation to go back up there and beat Scott to the top and make Mr. Omar win the bet.

It was time for my group to to get on the course I put on the the harness which was easy because I've put the harnesses they use before when I would go camping and head to the ziplines, It was time to go to the course and I got on but I was scared and I reached the tight rope and got really scared and almost fell that a yelled a little but still pushed through and reach the second level which was higher. Minutes later I reached the very top because I was determined to beat Scott and once I reached the top which was the third level and almost cried because I almost fell like one of my legs slipped but I got it back up, and then I was mad at Mr. Scott because I realized he said that to get me to do the ropes course and finish it while giving me something else to focus on instead of how high it was.

I waited for a while for the instructor to get up and connect my harness to the zipline and afterwards I was fine because I love ziplines and I easily did the zipline going down without getting scared and the most fun part about that was when you move forward it feels like you're falling straight down and

as if you aren't tied to anything but then after 3 seconds you feel the pull which I thought was cool.

The time was up and we went back to school but on the ride back I just fell asleep and dreamt about that monkey in the city who became friends with that dog. To be honest I didn't really think the course was much of a risk or a challenge to me.

People should be aware that the ropes course is pretty high and can feel unstable from here and there. I assure you though it's safe as long as you listen to the rules the staff gives you, the course will shake a lot but don't worry the wires you will cling on to can hold a lot of weight so if you accidentally fall you'll be fine you can pull yourself right back up.

Journey #4: Mission Point Paddleboarding

Wednesday we got to school and we were preparing on what to do and what not to do when we went to the mission bay. We were told to specifically not break the fins on the long boards and how to use the oars(the thing we use to steer I guess), and also to try different positions on the paddle board like sitting, on our knees, and standing. At ten p.m we got into the car and started heading to mission bay, we arrived and they split us into three groups, group A, B, and C.

Group A were the first to go paddle boarding, Group B were taking pictures of Group A Paddle Boarding, and my group, Group C, we were making sandcastles for a little competition. Our 30 minutes were up, it was time for my group to take pictures of group B in the water, I took a few good pictures, I even took a picture of Arianna and Carli falling off the Paddle Board. After taking a couple of pictures I started playing soccer with Ms. Freddie, turns out she used to play soccer and is still a bit good at it.

That 30 minutes were over and now, it was time for my group to go onto the paddle boards. I was nervous because I didn't wanna fall into the water immediately, so we put on our life vests and grabbed our board and went into the water. I got onto the board and it was actually really easy and I even stood up on the board on the first try. It was also really easy to steer the board and I got the hang of it in less than 3 minutes.

The time was up and we had to go back to the school, so we headed to grab our stuff and get into the car. Right before I got into the car Saxon had lost his sandals and I got off to get them because I saw them earlier before leaving. I got his sandals and gave it to him and we went back to the school

I would recommend this to people who love paddle boarding and have fun because this experience was really nice especially because of the weather and the water at the bay wasn't too cold it was perfect. I would come prepared though with sunscreen, water, snacks, towels, and extra clothes.

Journey #5: Sea World

Before the trip I was tired and bored, I wasn't really expecting much from this field trip since I've been to Sea World before. I was mainly outside on the benches waiting for school to start. I go inside and I see students inside the classroom already, mind you school still hasn't started. I sit down and decide to watch netflix on my phone for a while.

As time passed by the teachers gave us our assigned groups, I was put into the arctic rescue group. They were telling us what and what not to do, and also what we could do, as soon as they finished giving out groups and instructions they gave us our car groups.

I got put into Mr. Figgys' car, we went into the car after. The car ride was actually not too loud or quiet, it was nice and calm. Mr. Figgy started asking us questions like what are we excited for the most once we arrive at Sea World and more. We were talking for like half of the ride, and then the rest of it was quiet, it was alright, but hey we finally arrived at Sea World, it still looked the same as it has been since the last time I was there.

We were going in line with our groups to listen to instructions and to know what we were going to do. Once we finished we went inside the park and started heading to the arctic rescue. We got to the arctic rescue ride, but we had to wait for a long while because the ride kept getting delayed due to malfunctions. Because of the delay we left to see some animals. Meanwhile they fixed the ride. We saw penguins, turtles, fishes, and jelly fish and lastly manta rays, we even got to touch the manta rays.

Since we were already at the manta ray area we went onto the manta ray ride. The ride was actually so fast, that I could feel my shoes slowly slipping off. Once the ride finished my teacher Mr. Amilio told us that it was lunch time so we got off to get the others who stayed to see the manta rays, and once we got to them we washed our hands and we then saw Ms. Trisha walking with her group. We washed our hands and went to this little area I've never been before but we stayed there for lunch.

There were tables, benches and this huge chair prop for people to take pictures, and you can see the view of the bay. I didn't eat anything for lunch

because I wasn't hungry but Mr. Omar gave us students a choice if we wanted to eat PB&J or buy food and since I wasn't hungry and didn't want to eat I just went with the kids who went to buy food just so I could walk around. I went to this one place where they sell tacos and just hung out around there, while I waited for the others to get food.

I walked around that little area and I ended up in this other area. I went back to the taco area because I thought it was time to go back to the table area, but noo we were waiting on Coleman because he went to the restroom so we waited for almost 4 minutes. Coleman finally came out so we started heading back to the lunch area. We stayed there for about one hour. Lunch ended so we went back to our group, since we were already gonna leave in around 30 min so we headed to the Arctic rescue ride since we couldn't do that one due to delays and huge lines.

Once we got there for once the ride didn't get delayed or any big line, we got onto the ride, it was alright it felt more like a kids ride but with the speed of the manta ride. We had about 20 min left so Mr. Amilio gave us an option where we could split up and choose what our last ride would be, we had to choose between electric eel, Emperor, and Atlantis.

Mr. Amilio was the only one who went to Electric Eel, while some of us went to Emperor or Atlantis. I went to the emperor because I like the upside down look of the drop and how it's really fast. Mr. Amilio said that we were already leaving so headed back to the entrance.

I would recommend this for everyone, the only thing is if you're pregnant or have certain medical conditions some rides would be dangerous. Other than that you can have fun, look at animals, and eat with family or friends.