

Conservation in Costa Rica

April 2018

Presentation to Colchester School Board
7:00 pm, May 15
CHS Library

Day 1 Thursday, April 19



4:00am - Meet at airport and depart for Costa Rica!



Arrive in San José and eat lunch.

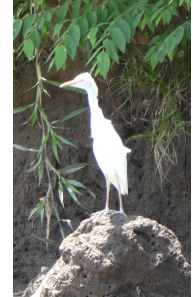
Cas juice - first new food/drink!



Walk around and explore San José.

Day 2 Friday, April 20

Tarcoles River Tour



Day 3
Saturday
April 21

5:30 am sunrise walk.



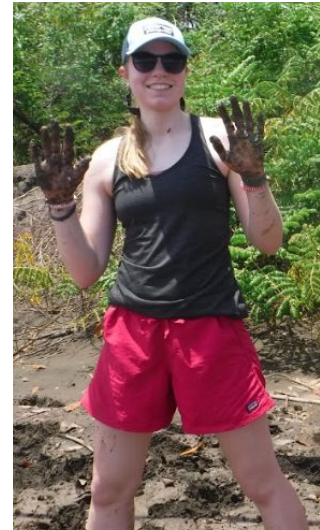
Making bracelets.



Eating coconuts!



Planting mangroves.



Harvesting cashews.



Planting coconuts.

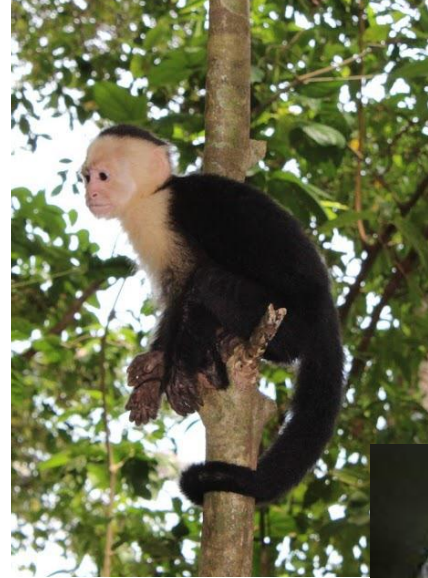


1. Mangrove Boat Tour



2. Manuel Antonio National Park

White Faced monkey



Howler monkey



Day 4
Sunday
April 22

3. Costa Rican Zumba Class



Day 5 Mon. April 23



La Fortuna Waterfall



Day 6
Tues.
April
24

1. La escuela de Tanque



3. An hour in town - Gelato!

2.Canopy Tour



4. Chocolate Tour Cacao pod and seeds



Day 7
Wed.
April
25



Lake Arenal



Organic Farm *Don Juan*

Hot springs



Day 8
Thursday
April 26

Sarchi - Ox Cart Factory



Café Doka Estate



Day 8 - Farewell Dinner and Folklore Show



Day 9 Friday, April 27
Depart hotel in San José at
3:30 am and arrive in
Burlington at 11:00 pm

Reflections:

Carrie:

- "This trip is the highlight of my teaching career to date." (24 years)
- "I believe part of my life's purpose is to bring such experiences to HS students." (2018 was my first international trip with students)
- I hope to be part of another CHS international experience in 2020!

Will:

- I checked some things off a part of my bucket list I didn't even know existed!
- It was incredible to see the growth of the students through this experience.

Keren:

This trip solidified my belief in the transformative power of travel. Our students were able to see new sights, savour new tastes, dive in to new experiences and most importantly forge new relationships.





Lessons:

- We can not do it alone! We trust EF with the details. Having a group of 3 trusted colleagues for support who all bring different strengths and talents is vital.
- 18 students is a good number - big enough for a variety of perspectives and talents - small enough to be a family.
- There is TREMENDOUS value in UNPLUGGING from technology and social media during experiences like this. It should be an expectation.





Takeaways:

- For some students, school trips like this may be their *only* opportunity to experience another culture, fly on a plane, touch salt water, etc.
- Importance of the ***Service*** component (Conservation) - student perspective - **Giving Back**
- Most lasting memories: ***Relationships*** with people - fellow travelers, Gustavo, Chewy, Miguel, Mau, school children, etc

