

SCHOOL

Dog Gone Wild Chapter 6

Already, I'd learned valuable lessons. Preparation is essential, shortcuts aren't always shorter and rubber snakes look real. When I pulled back the cover and saw the creature, I almost fainted. Imagine my surprise when Chloe grabbed the snake, kissed it and asked if we could keep it! Score one for Chloe - joke on me! My first instinct was anger, but I realized it was a prank. I had learned one lesson long ago - to laugh at myself. Besides, I'd been the prankster before!

A shoe. I'd won! Though Chloe had lost, she was gracious. I realized a rule in surviving was being a great sport whether I'd won or lost. Besides, we were tired. Chloe had won the packing challenge; I'd won the fishing challenge.

"Time to clean up, fisherpups," Dad said, handing us garbage bags. "Let's pick up all the trash, whether it's ours or not." We threw away the shoe, sock, soda cans, candy wrappers, fishing line, and plastic bags. "Woody," Chloe yipped, "do you remember the documentary we watched that said plastic bags fishing line and other trash killed wildlife?" I remembered seeing images of animals being suffocated by plastic bags and birds tangled in fishing line. "If everybody picked up their trash, the lake would never be dirty. And wildlife wouldn't die." Terrific point, Chief! Ranger Ralph said, "Think about how smooth life would be, if everyone contributed." I made another note to self to do my share!

In what seemed like minutes, Mom called my name. "Come, Woody, time to eat." I stretched and looked outside. Mom was cooking oatmeal over our campfire. Birds were singing, squirrels were gathering breakfast, and a baby deer was lapping from a brook. My usual breakfast was a bacon sandwich in front of the TV, yet nothing compared to eating outside with my family. The scenery was more exciting than any WOOF game, and my food was scrumptious! My family must have felt the same as we passed to give thanks.

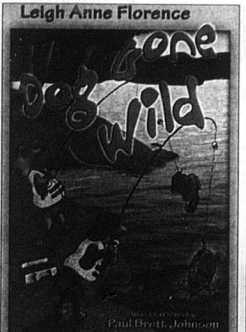
After cleaning our mess, we gathered our fishing gear and fishing licenses, lathered ourselves in sunscreen and journeyed to the lake. Mom explained that we'd be fishing from the bank, but we still had to wear life preservers at all times! "You know Dad, we haven't had a challenge since the backpack contest. Let's see who catches more fish." Dad agreed and Chloe and I began the friendly competition.

We cast our lines and waited...and waited... "Woody, this isn't Pirate Pete's where we get the fisherman's platter in three minutes." Mom whispered, sensing my frustration. "A rule in surviving is patience, knowing the outcome will be worth the wait." Just then, my bobber went under water, indicating a bite. "I've got one!" I shouted. "Reel it in!" Everyone cheered. Together, Dad and I struggled to capture the gigantic creature. It was certain it was a 20-pound largemouth bass! "Way to go, Woody! Looks like a one-pound bluegill!" Well, I may not have caught Baby Beluga, but it was cause for celebration!

While celebrating, a park ranger named Ranger Ralph appeared and asked for our fishing license. We introduced ourselves, showed our license and explained the contest. "Remember the rules - you can catch only a certain number of fish depending on the species. You can always catch-and-release; catch the fish and then toss them back into the lake," Ranger Ralph explained. "Enjoy fishing without removing the fish from the water. You can use what you catch to count toward the competition." As we caught fish, Ranger Ralph identified the species, then we released them. We learned the difference between carp, bass, and catfish. Chloe and I counted our catches. I'd caught four fish, one turtle, two sticks, and a smelly sock. Chloe had reeled in three fish, a soda can and

"We thanked Ranger Ralph, gathered our belongings and walked toward our tent. While walking, I pulled out my harmonica. "Better put it away, son." Dad said, looking at the sky. "It'll be raining soon." "Raining?" I asked, shoving the harmonica in my backpack. "Yes," Dad said, "Do you see the cloud in the west moving closer? There are other signs too. The crickets are louder and the tulips have closed. Being aware of nature's signs can make the difference in surviving." Just then, the sky opened, pouring buckets of water. We ran like lightning and didn't stop until we reached the tent! After drying off, I decided to play my harmonica. I opened up my backpack. Wait! Where was my instrument? Oh no, I must have dropped it...

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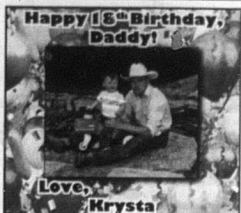
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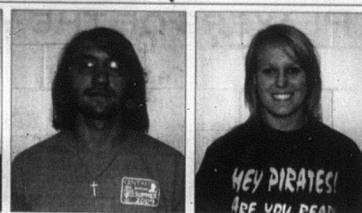
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SENIOR FOCUS



Ben Layne Ben Layne is the 18 year old son of Tim and Tammy Layne. His favorite subject is PE. He plans to attend Morehead with an undecided major. He enjoys playing sports.



Cody Barnett Cody Barnett is the 17 year old son of Danny and Vickie Barnett. His favorite subject is Co-op. He plans to attend Transy and pursue a career in Political Science.

Academic Achievement First Nine Weeks Principal's Club 3.75-4.00 (8/10/09-10/09/09)

9th Grade Sarah Adkins, Austin Allison, Spencer Bailey, Hannah Boykin, Ryder Bray, Shannon Bretz, Jordan Bromagen, Finn Brutsman, Zach France, Jacob Fryman, Anthony Gilvin, Sarah Gum, Toby Howard, Zach Howard, Briana Ishmael, Elizabeth Johnson, Andrew Jones, Waid Jones, Adrienne Letcher, Kendra Letcher, Noelle Luebbes, Resa Martin, Dylan Mitchell, Jacob Snapp, Jordan Tyree, Lara Van Der Heiden, Shelby Wade

10th Grade John Lee Allison, Blake Anderson, Christina Baker, Lindsay Baker, Lance Bashaw, Austin Brady, Megan Campbell, Robyn Cohorn, Hannah Colldron, Katelyn Crawford, Emily Curran, Dylan Fryman, Kayla Fryman, Keasha Fryman, Nate Gilkerson, Erik Hammond, McKenzie Hopkins, Kayla Jefferson, Destiney Johnson, Cody Livingood, Beth Livingood, Chelsea Lyons, Shane Mattox, Hannah Mccord, Hanna Mills, Tawna Perry, Charles Poe, Max Scalf, Jordan Simonson, Sabrina Smith, Josie Stamper, Katie Trussell, Jania Wagener, Mandy Watkins

11th Grade Robynn Bartlett, Robert Briner, Dylan Cartz, J.J. Fryman, Kyla Haire, Wes Hopkins, Tiffany Johnson, Mandy McLean, Whitney Morris, Jared Napier, Jordan Napier, Katie Rainey, Keisey Randolph, Andrea Rector

12th Grade Marius Bagle, Tom Baker, Cody Barnett, Kalep Briery, Kyle Campbell, Jimmy Coffey, Megan Couch, Jason Coy, Nathal Daley, Cameron Dale, Shanna Davis, Samantha French, Casey Fryman, Cody Fryman, Madeline Gallagher, Corey Grimes, Dalton Hampton, Lauren Harrison, Emily Howard, Shasta Howard, Megan Hunter, Morgan Kelly, Chelsea Markland, Angelica Marquez, Heather McCall, Sierra McKinney, Petrea Mitchell, Brandy Norman, Kassi Parsons, Josh Rawlings, Caleb Sadler, Ashley Sexton, Alisha Snapp, Shelby Sosby, Nora Walden, Hall Webb, Ashton Williams, Kendall Wills

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