

Ossabaw 2002



Temperature – 100⁰ Fahrenheit
Mosquitoes & Ticks – Immeasurable
Species of poisonous snakes – 6
Number of spiders in my tent nightly – 4
12 Days and 11 Nights on Ossabaw
Island – **PRICELESS**

Double click on any **bright red** item
throughout presentation



Ossabaw Sessions



As a teaching assistant I was involved with two separate sessions and an intersession:

- ***Patterns in Nature Studies on an Ocean Beach***, Eisenhower Workshop for Teachers, Funded by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission's Eisenhower Funds. Three UTK class sessions before Ossabaw Island, Georgia, June 2-6.
- ***Intersession***, June 7 & 8 with two science teachers, two science teacher educators, two science/nature enthusiasts, and three children
- ***Nature's Way Montessori***, Ossabaw Island Survivor Club with scholarships available to cover \$150 of the \$180 cost. Two Montessori school class sessions before Ossabaw Island, Georgia, June 8-11

Teaching Assistant

As the much shorter teaching assistant prior to embarking on the island, I had the opportunity to:

- **assist with four Eisenhower course meetings - March 25, April 22, May 20 & July 2 and one meeting at Nature's Way - May 7**
- **distribute vital trip information via email such as lists, maps, and letters**
- **collect and distribute information concerning cooking groups, communal items, and cash receipts**
- **collect notarized UTK and Ossabaw waivers and emergency notification form**



Teaching Assistant



As a teaching assistant (the one in yellow) while on Ossabaw island, I had the opportunity to:

- **load and unload communal camping and supply equipment**
- **assist cooking groups with set-up and clean-up detail**
- **direct evening campfire meetings and assist with morning class sessions**
- **collaborate with three professors concerning island instruction**
- **conduct children shell jewelry-making and scavenger hunt activities**

Shelling



One of my favorite daily activities was to walk on the beach and collect shells. I discovered and identified the following shells:

- Common Baby's Ear**
- Channel & Lightning Whelks**
- Common Slipper**
- Olive**
- Angel Wing**
- Giant Atlantic Cockle**
- Cross-hatched Lucine**
- Common Razor Clam**
- Saw-toothed Pen Shell**
- Common Atlantic Auger**

Marine Life

In addition to the shells, I observed and identified the following marine plants & animals:

Sea Whip

Sea Squirt

Northern Sea Pork

Ghost, Purse, & Blue Crabs

Keyhole and Variegated Urchins

Horseshoe Crab

Sea Lettuce

Golden Acorn & Ornate Worms

Moon Jellyfish

Hermit & Fiddler Crabs



Opportunity in Nature

As a student in 2001 and graduate teaching assistant in 2002 I have had the opportunity to do the following on Ossabaw Island:

- Identify birds based upon location, beak, feet, and coloration
- Identify and classify marine life found along coastal shore
- Identify and experiment on number and type of marine life located in slough vs. ocean shore
- Sit quietly alone over an hour to observe horse shoe crab mating and fiddler crab feeding (Species Meditation)
- Create Plaster of Paris molds animal tracks, such as wild pig, deer, raccoon, and armadillo
- Read and listen to nature author excerpts



Special Thanks

Lastly, I would like to give thanks to:

- Dr. Claudia Melear for providing the opportunity to camp again on Ossabaw Island
- Patty Stinger Barnes for driving, packing, and providing all nice things from back home, such as Jiffy Pop Popcorn and DIET COKE
- Mark, Mike, and Tom for providing tons of laughs and music
- Jonah, Dylan, Katia, and Moiranyah for being such pleasant kids and young adults to play card games, make jewelry, hunt for shells, and swim in ocean
- **All the Eisenhower and Montessori participants** that I was able to get to know during such an enjoyable camping experience

