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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nearly 100 MSSD14 Elementary Students Take Science to a Whole New Level

Deckers, CO - About 88 fifth grade students from Manitou Springs Elementary School and Ute Pass Elementary School packed their bags, loaded the bus and headed to YMCA's Camp Shady Brook in Deckers for two days filled with science and fun!

Last week the students had the opportunity to get out of the classroom and into Colorado's great outdoors. All activities were centered around Colorado Science Standards.

Activities included:

- Archery and axe throwing
- Canoeing and kayaking
- Climbing wall
- Life cycle chain in nature
- Native plant ecology
- Stream ecology and geology
- Survival skills

While learning was at the forefront of all activities, having fun and bonding was also a goal.

"They're making new friends, and eventually they're going to be together at the middle school," said Rachel Kazmier, 5th Grade Teacher at Manitou Springs Elementary School. "That really helps form that bond together and a familiar face when they get up there next year."

This is the first time in several years that students from both MSES and UPES have gone on this camping trip together.

If you'd like to see the fun these students had, please view the video here: [5th Grade Camping Trip 2022](#)

ABOUT MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14

Established in 1872, Manitou Springs School District 14 (MSSD14) serves approximately 1,350 students from Preschool to 12th Grade who reside in the communities of Manitou Springs, Cascade, Green Mountain Falls, Chipita Park, Crystal Park, and Cedar Heights. The district also serves about 48 percent "choice" students who come from other locations in El Paso and Teller Counties.

MSSD14 offers a "small town" educational environment driven by the core values of relationships, deep learning and opportunity. The district and its staff are dedicated to providing a safe and caring learning environment, encouraging all students to reach their potential and preparing responsible citizens.

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