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## KPE 265 Outdoor and Adventure Activities\_COVID-19 Journal

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Annie Treworgy  
KPE 265  
Outdoor Activity Journal  
Week 8

Activity: Skiing to Kidney Pond

Where: Foss and Knowlton trail in Baxter Park

With whom: My dad, two nieces and my friend Kat

Conditions: Wednesday: 18-35°F, a snowfall of 5-8 inches from the night before, at least 2' of ice and transformed snow underneath the new snow, around 12pm my skis started sticking and I walked the rest of the way, sunny, wind 5-10 mph. It was very beautiful, like a winter-fairy land, and a very pleasant temperature. Thursday: Cloudy, wind 5-10mph, 25-35°F, snow starting to compact, by 12pm I could sometimes see the ice under the fresh snow. My skis were sticking for an hour or so in the middle of the trip, but mostly the skiing was really good. It started to rain just as we reached the truck.

When: Wednesday and Thursday, March 18th and 19th.

I love skiing into a cabin or a bunkhouse to spend a few days detached from the world and enjoying the beautiful winter. My dad brought me to Daicey Pond when I was eight, and I think I have taken at least one trip to Baxter every winter since then. My family runs a farm, so summer camping is a little challenging, but winter is a good time to leave ones apple trees to fend for themselves.

This year I brought two of my nieces, Joy (8) and Lydia (12). Since it was my idea to bring them I got to carry most of their stuff and I noticed my sled was heavy. Oh, the things one does for nieces.

Our trip in was really fun. The only troubling thing that happened was that Joy got cold but did not say so until she so cold that she started crying, We stopped and bundled her up and she recovered nicely. I think being cold made her tired. I remember once falling into a little stream on my way to Roaring Brook when I was 10. It was so cold, and even though I was only cold and wet for a few minutes I was more tired at the end of that day than I had ever been before. Next time, I am going to be more careful about asking if she is cold. "How are you doing?" turned out to be not quite specific enough for a little one. We took the last two miles really slowly and it was a wonderful time. For a little while Joy took a nap on my sled, because who can resist such a cute person when they ask to rest on your sled?

We were intending to stay two nights, and play games and read books all day on Thursday, then leave on Friday morning. After we had unpacked and our cabin was warm and we were stuffed from dinner and ice cream, a ranger came to our cabin to tell us the park was closing the next day due to the coronavirus! We were very surprised. Before we left the park had sent out a notice saying not to stay in a bunkhouse with another party, and not to bring a party of more than 10, and we figured that since we were within those guidelines we did not pose a risk. We had supposed

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that we were leaving the coronavirus with the rest of civilization south of Millinocket. We packed up the next morning and skied back to Abol Bridge. The trip back was much faster, partially because so much of it was downhill and partially because getting home felt somewhat urgent. It was a strange experience.

On the whole, we had a great time. It was Joy's first time on an overnight camping trip and she is hoping to go again! Such success. It was beautiful, we were safe and healthy, and it was a wonderful few days to spend time with my little nieces before we all started self-imposed household isolation.

