Journey findings list

☑ Robin
☑ Rabbit
☑ Goldfinch
☑ Turkey vulture
☑ Pill bug
☑ Cat bug
☑ Flicker
☑ House wren
☑ Tent caterpillar
☑ Red tail hawk
☑ Blue jay
☑ Gypsy moth
☑ Slug
☑ Yellow swallow tail
☑ Mocking bird
☑ Frog
☑ Water strider
☑ Squirrel
☑ Geese
☑ Dace
☑ Great blue heron
☑ Dragon fly
☑ Chimney swift
☑ Orange butterfly
☑ Blue bird
☑ Bald eagle
☑ Trout
☑ Flying squirrel
☑ Chickadee
☑ Rose breasted grosbeak
☑ King fisher
☑ Osprey
☑ Egret
☑ Starling
☑ Song sparrow
☑ Crow
☑ Grackle
☑ Barred owl
☑ Garter snake
☑ Northern oriole

JOURNEY

A Program of Manchester Youth Services

Journey: A pathway to leadership, community service, and nature
One day Journey was walking to Verplank trail. And this guy comes up to us and gives use a spice bush butterfly to release on the trail. The guy’s name was Nate and he started talking about how he raises monarch and spice bush butterflies. Next he told us that how he has two male humming birds at his feeder. Humming birds are territorial and they will chase each other around until one of them leaves. Nate set up so they can’t do that. Finally Nate starts to talk about how the state is planting trees and other plants that won’t help any of the wildlife in the area.
Some of my favorite experiences that I liked are the trout hatchery, Union pond, Sessions woods, and the East Hartford Linear Trail. I liked the Trout Hatchery because we went further down. We saw a Bald Eagle. I liked Union Pond because we went fishing and saw a snapping turtle. At Sessions Woods we went on a longer trail and we saw a flying squirrel. At the East Hartford Linear Trail we hiked and I found a couple feathers of a blue jay. We also saw two rare Herons.

My best day was the fishing at Union pond. I caught zero fish but I still had fun. One person caught 6 fish, and one was a baby bass.
My favorite days making a bird house. This is how I made it. First you cut the wood the same length for the walls. Then make a roof and floor. Next I nailed it to get it. Next I drilled a hole. I also made a bat house. Butterfly house. And I used a coping saw to make a sea turtle out of wood. I enjoyed wood working.
Water Quality Testing

What we do is we go to a stream or brook and try to capture and observe the little creatures that are there. We do it to determine the quality of the water. For example if there are trout in the stream that usually means that the water is clean because the trout need oxygen or if there are leeches in the stream that means that the stream is dirty. We might see leeches, trout, crawfish, dace, snails and more. This is important because knowing the quality of the water is community service.

The last two weeks were the funnest weeks ever. I learned all about birds and birdwatch. I also learned how to tell how clean water is by identifying the animals and life in the water.

(Signed Anthony)
The best day was when we went to union pond and I saw the mama flicker feeding her young that was really interesting to watch I have never seen anything like that before and that was really interesting and cool to witness.
The most neat thing about today was the ten minute solo. It was really fun because I saw a really pretty pink flower. Also a pineapple-looking plant. It was spikey and green. Another thing I saw was a gold finch. The gold finch was a pretty small bird. It was yellow/black and looked like a bee but in bird form. And the last thing I saw was the great blue heron. It was really far away but since it was tall we could see it.

-Tia Olson
Build a Book

Build a book is a wonderful experience. The idea is simple, and self-explanatory; we build a book. The books are nature themed, with a particular focus on urban wildlife. Journey, as a group, has already authored and illustrated two books, and copies of each were given to participants, local libraries, and schools. The books are testaments to what kids can do when they have a clear goal that they work together to accomplish. This school year, the process begins anew, with another book. If you want to lend a hand, Journey meets most Thursdays during the school year from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.
Sessions Woods: An Experience

Sessions Woods is one of the most interesting DEEP sites in the state. It has an abundance of habitats, ranging from wooded areas, to meadows, and even to marshes. The meadows provide a great opportunity to find Bluebirds, and within the marsh there is a beaver lodge as well as an observation tower. Asides from the trails, Sessions Woods also has an education center, which features a variety of stuffed animal bodies and some interactive exhibits. Outside the education center, there is a small pond, which presents a good chance to catch some frogs. The area has such a great mix of habitats and species, and is an amazing trip for anyone fascinated by nature.