



### Yuck! Campers Learn About Dissection

Ever wondered what was inside a fetal pig? How about all those piggy parts we eat on a regular basis...ham, bacon, sausage, and even chitterlings? "What is all that juice running out of my pig, Mrs. Efir?"

Recently a group of rising fifth grade Anson County students were invited to participate in the first Academic and Intellectually Gifted (AIG) camp at the Rotary Planetarium and Science Center, and they had all those questions answered with their own forensic dissection of a fetal pig. This three day camp was held as a mini-investigation on conducting a fetal pig autopsy. Students were instructed on the correct way to use dissecting instruments as well as removing the body organs as a group, weighing and measuring, and carefully examining distinguishing characteristics of the internal organs.

Mrs. Wendy Efir, Planetarium Director who conducted the camp, reported only a few students got a little on the squeamish side, and the students did an excellent job in conducting themselves as major forensic scientists, gingerly cutting away skin and muscle tissue. Many students were quite amazed at the internal organs of the pig and how closely they were related to the human. The dissection was an awesome learning experience for the young scientists!

During the other day of camp students had an opportunity to investigate the world of Legos. Much of their previous experience building with Lego kits were simple structures or people. The Lego Education group has put together some kits where students can actually build a working Ferris wheel with the aid of the computer. The activity kits come with various motors where students construct an array of objects, such as roaring lions, soaring airplanes, drumming monkeys, chomping alligators and stop and go sensor cars. The motors connect to the USB port in the computer and allow the Lego to come alive. A computer program designed for movement allows the student to program their Lego to come to life and change the motion, sound, music and time span of how long you want your Lego to be in motion. One quite interesting kit was the tilt sensor that was installed on the Lego airplane. As the student picked up and tilted the airplane the engine sounds changed as the airplane went up and down. The motion sensors allowed for the chomping alligator to

sense "food" in its sight and would begin moving his mouth as objects came within the "sight range" of his mouth. The students enjoyed manipulating the motion and sounds via the software program to change the personality of their constructed Lego.

The AIG program at Anson County Schools is directed by Mrs. Georgia Maner, Administrator of iTech, AIG and Assessment. This program recognizes students who are academically and intellectually gifted. Opportunities are provided for students throughout the year to enhance their learning and encourage creativity through exploratory activities.

The Rotary Planetarium and Science Center provides hands-on activities for students of all ages throughout the year. Anson County fifth grade students visit the planetarium six times during the school year to experiment with activities that are related to the Essential Science Standards. The planetarium also serves groups, but on an appointment basis only due to the high numbers of students participating in science activities during the year.

### Taylor Bates Signs with Wingate University

Anson High School's Taylor Bates signed with Wingate University on Friday, November 17 to play softball for the Lady Bulldogs.

Taylor, a left handed pitcher, has been chosen to the all-conference team for three years and was named MVP for two years. In addition to her play for the Bearcats, she is also a member of the TeamNC Showcase Travel Team.

Taylor is the daughter of Candace and Tracy Lamond and Alvin and Missy Bates.



### Parks & Rec Basketball Registration

Anson County Parks & Recreation Youth Basketball registration starts Monday, November 5th and runs through Monday, December 10th. Youth Basketball is for ages K through 12th grade boys and girls. The cost is \$25 per player, and the deadline to register is December 10. You may come to Little Park to register, Monday through Friday, and there will be registrations at the schools below:

- Monday, December 3 - Wadesboro Elementary & Wadesboro Primary Schools
- Tuesday, December 4 - Peachland-Polkton & Ansonville Elementary
- Wednesday, December 5 - Lilesville & Morven Elementary Schools

For more information call Wanda Chappell or Wendell Small at 704-694-5751.

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Across from Police Station on Washington Street in Wadesboro  
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Appointment Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Friday: 8am-5pm Wednesday and Thursday: 8am-7pm



We are collecting coats for kids.

Please help by dropping off your new or gently used coats at our office from now to December 17.

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