



CONGRATULATIONS 18 SUCCESSFUL YEARS OF CAMP ABILITIES!

Congratulations to the athletes and coaches of Camp Abilities Brockport 2013 for successfully completing the 18th year of camp! Athletes competed in many sports and activities such as tandem biking, swimming, beep baseball, track and field, gymnastics, horseback riding, fishing and kayaking. We could not be more proud of the 50 athletes for setting goals, pushing themselves to achieve, and participating in every sport and activity throughout the week!



preview day for 5-8 year old kids with visual impairments to see how Camp Abilities works and how each day runs throughout the week. We had 4 kids participate this year! What a great start! Athletes in Blue Group, the older athletes at camp, worked very closely with the Camp Can-Doers showing them each sport and talking with them and making sure the day was fun!. We are planning on having this Mini Camp again next year as it was a great opportunity for both Camp Abilities athletes and the Camp Can-Do pre-



athletes. Thank you to Blue Group for sharing your enthusiasm for Camp with these young kids. With your help, Camp Can-Do was a success!

Camp Can-Do!

Some of you may know that we started something new this year at Camp! It was called Camp Can-Do! Camp Can-Do is a

Interesting links: on second page!!

Involvement in sports?

In the past, at Camp, we have had a panel of campers talk about what sports they are involved in at their respective schools. These campers share about the challenges and hardships they face during games, matches and practices. They also share what they need to do on a daily basis in order to participate in sports. Panel participants are willing to share their experiences with any camper interested in participating in a sport at his or her school. It is an awesome sight to see! As a follow-up, this year we are asking parents to email us and let us know the awesome things your child is doing in his or her sport. We want to celebrate with your child and you! You can Email Tim Busch at Timothybusch10@gmail.com, and he will keep us updated on your child's achievements throughout the year!!



Visitors

Each year we have visitor from around the area come and share his or her story with our athletes. We were fortunate to have a very inspirational visitor come to Camp Abilities 2013. John Robinson is a congenital quad-amputee, which means he has no arms past his elbows and no legs past his knees. His company, Our Ability, Inc. has organized a 350 mile "Journey Along the Erie Canal" this summer to raise awareness of the "ability inside all people with disabilities". In addition to biking, boating and walking from Buffalo to Albany in order to raise funds to support adaptive sports, accessibility, education and employment for New Yorkers with Disabilities, he and others give informational and inspirational talks to raise awareness. Journey Along the Erie Canal is a visual symbol showing that people with disabilities are capable and the world needs to see and understand. It just so happens that the canal goes through Brockport! Dr. Lieberman heard of John's story and reached out to him, asking if he wanted to stop to see Camp Abilities and talk to our campers. He eagerly accepted



and stopped by Camp. The "main point of his message to the campers was that many times opportunities are disguised at challenges".



Camp Abilities Brockport 2013 is history; however, the challenges overcome, the friendships established, and the memories made will all be remembered!

Interesting links:

Video taken of John Robinson at Camp Abilities Brockport 2013

<http://blog.timesunion.com/pilotgirl/camp-abilities-in-brockport-ny/5783/>

John Robinson's web page. See more about this amazing journey!

http://info.ourability.com/Journey_Along_Erie_Canal/

Brockport Camp Abilities Website! Check out registration, pictures, newsletters and more!!

<http://www.campabilitiesbrockport.org/>

Channel 10 visiting Camp! Check out it it's pretty cool!

<http://brockport-spencerport.whec.com/news/news/169021-camp-abilities-returns-brockport>

