



WILDERNESS IS OUR COMMON GROUND

Nature touches something deep inside of kids—something that TV shows and video games can't reach. It stimulates their minds and senses, and lets them explore life in a less controlled environment. As children learn about wild lands, they learn about themselves. They meet new challenges and overcome old fears. For some, a trip to a local wild place or the Eastern Sierra is life-changing. Their self-esteem rises. Some become health-conscious. Some find fresh interest and improved grades in school. Every child needs to experience our wild lands, because these special places provide the opportunity to discover who they are and who they can be. *Photo: Back row: Matt Nelson, Branch Manager, Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley, Michael Guerrero, Jason Velasco; Front row: Elizabeth Gonzalez, Zoe Murray, Daisy Gonzalez Photo credit: Lee Bergthold/Center for Wilderness Studies*

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