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Period 6

Human Interest Story

Did you know that rattlesnakes could swim? Have you ever stayed in a houseboat on Shasta Lake? You can see and experience some amazing things there. Some are really cool, some are annoying, some are a little scary, and others are just plain out amazing. We go to Shasta every year with the same main group of people. Each year we have mostly the same people, but not always.

Shasta Lake has amazing blue water and gets really warm. You can stay on the water in any houseboat that fits you and the people your going with. This lake is located in northern California about 5-6 hours away, depending on traffic. Shasta Lake is a huge lake about 35 miles long and 518 feet deep. This year we went with seven people for the first time. We usually have a couple more people. This trip we went with our friends: Jane, Kevin and Flaxel, then my parents and my brother. The houseboat we rented was called "The Royal Star" from Jones Valley. Shasta Lake is filled with lots of surprises!

While you are on Shasta Lake, you're not just going to sit on your houseboat the whole time. Here are a few things I like to do in Shasta. One of my favorite things to do is go on our ski boat. When we are on the boat we usually go tubing, knee boarding, wakeboarding, surfing or just go on a nice boat ride. Another thing my family and I like to do is go rafting or hiking on the shore. When you get home from a long day of water sports or rafting, floating is really nice. We bring many different floats and tubes to relax on. One feature our houseboat includes is a slide. Going down the slide and doing different challenges on it is another very fun activity. One thing I know is you'll never be bored when you're in Shasta!

If you aren't doing anything else, you usually will see some amazing things! A lot of those amazing things are all different types of wildlife. Three days into our trip we were floating in the lake and we saw something in the trees. It was pretty big and a dark brown color. Do you know what it was? That big brown thing was a bear! We followed it with our eyes until we couldn't see it anymore. After that, we hopped in our ski boat and drove to another piece of land. We wanted to see the bear again but we didn't want anyone to get hurt. Another amazing, but a little scary animal you could see is a rattlesnake. The night after we saw the bear, we saw a rattlesnake swimming right next to our boat. We all went upstairs on our houseboat and watched the snake swim to the shore and rattle away. Those are two animals you could see, and the last are fish. I've been to Shasta many times and my parents have been even more, and this trip, we saw so many fish. We have never seen so many before! They range from really small, about an inch, to about a foot. I bet there are fish bigger than a foot, but we just didn't see any. All of those animals are pretty rare to see!

In all, Shasta Lake is filled with many different amazing features. Most are good and others are not as good. We go to Shasta Lake every year and each year we see and experience even more new adventures. I count the days to Shasta every time. I love going to that lake! It fits all my family's hobbies and enjoyments. Where else would you rather go than Shasta Lake? There are games, water sports and relaxation, all in one awesome trip!