

## Wonders of the Wabash Field Trip

6th grade Wainwright middle school students had the pleasure of rafting down the Wabash River, stopping along sandbars along the way to participate in various science activities. Students launched from Tapawingo Park in West Lafayette and made a first stop to identify and learn about mussels and their importance to the health of the river. During the second stop of the day students learned about water quality and the importance of taking care of the river. Students tested the pH levels of the river, as well as performed a water transparency test. The third leg of the rafting trip was the longest, students, teachers, and rafting instructors were all getting tired but it was worth it to get to the last stop. Students were able to see seven or eight species of fish that live in the river including short and long nose gar, a blue sucker fish, flat head catfish, and more. These fish were fresh caught in the morning and students were able to see them up close and even touch a few. After the trip was completed at Fort Ouiatenon, students took a quiz and enjoyed a cookout before heading back to Wainwright. We would like to thank Wonders of the Wabash for such a great opportunity for our students!

