



When the Laosiri family sets its mind to doing something, it gets done - quickly. In less than a week, the three brothers and their parents visited eight of 12 parks on this year's Fairfax County Park Authority Discovery Trail Map, making them the first to win a prize packet and enter a drawing for a new bicycle.

"It was exciting," said 11-year-old Peter enthusiastically. "I got to see animals I've never seen before in real life." As they ventured out from park to park, they were amazed by what they found. Each setting offered a unique experience that delighted all members of the family.

"The animals and turtles at Hidden Pond Nature Center were so interesting," said the boys' mother, Mai Sankom. "The kids got excited everywhere we went and said, 'Oh, Mom! I want to come back to this place!'"

Green Spring Gardens was Mai's favorite site. "I got to see orchids and lots of beautiful flowers that I've never seen before," and her children remembered learning that some flowers are edible - something they didn't know before.

The historic house at Huntley Meadows impressed 12-year-old Patrick. "It had a lot of cool things," he said, and Mai remembered the beauty of Lake Accotink Park, "it was just after the rain and the leaves were so green!"

The park that got the family-favorite vote was Frying Pan Farm Park. "We got to see a lot of farm animals," said 13-year-old Paul. "My husband, Piwat, was most impressed with Frying Pan," Mai said, and Patrick started laughing as he recalled his favorite memory at the park. "Feeding the chickens grass because it's hilarious seeing the chickens eat grass! They looked kind of hungry."

The family's park adventures are far from over. They're already having fun using the prize packet tickets for mini golf and other park amusements and making memories that are sure to last a lifetime.

"It was a very good idea to do this [Discovery Trail Map] and have a family adventure in Fairfax County," Mai said. "It was a most precious memory to experience nature and to nurture - such a pleasant memory to visit a lot of parks."

Make lasting memories with your loved ones! Pick up a Discovery Trail Map at any Fairfax County RECenter, nature center, historic site, golf course or public library while the supply lasts.

Make  
**TREASURED  
MEMORIES**  
along the  
**DISCOVERY TRAIL**

