

Burke Lake Escape

By Lydia Gibbons 5th Grade

Spring

When COVID first hit I felt trapped in my own house
But someone forgot to advise the birds and flowers to do the same,
We didn't know what was safe and what wasn't,
So my family crossed the Parkway and took to the woods, through paths both paved and less traveled.

Summer

Our escape from COVID continued in this hidden paradise
Known as Burke Lake when the sun turned hot and the days got longer,
Away from the houses and bustling streets and breathing people and crowded sidewalks,
My family and I found shade, under the canopy of the trees and peace in the lake's reflection.

Fall

School starting in an online world made me crave the lake behind the trees once again,
This time, through our cloth masks, we could smell fall and see an explosion of color,
Throughout the Spring and Summer the trees stayed the same
But now in Fall the trees gave way to a glimmering glare,

Winter

Into the woods again and now there was so much more to see
All the gorgeous leaves departed, Leaving the trees as bare as an empty classroom,
Though it was cold and icy at times,
This was still my favorite COVID escape,

This weekend, we returned to the lake through the mud of early Spring
To see the cranes nesting high in the swaying trees,
A fox sneaking deep in the woods
Our neighbors re-emerging from the long winter,
We are no longer trapped in our houses
All saved by the beautiful lake.