

To Find Our Place in the World

To search for our own place in the world, to replace the assumptions of what we *think* we can do with the realities of what we actually can do, to shape our own behavior so that we are acceptable to both ourselves and others, these are a few of the experiences that campers bring home from Eagle Wing.

As a camper, I remember the feeling of being part of the environment. I would lie in my bunk knowing that I would rise with the approaching sun and my presence would shape the events of the day ahead. I would not be a spectator. I would not be a passenger. *I was to be a living part of the day.*

As the years have passed, I have found myself sometimes working to increase, sometimes to sustain, and occasionally to regain that energy and resolve to be part of the day. But, regardless of my current state, the standard by which I still measure myself was formed during those “camp days”. For your child, and our campers, those days still exist at Eagle Wing.

E.B. White, an expatriated New Yorker who came to Maine, wrote: “I was quite young to be so far north, but there comes a time in a young man’s (girl’s) life when they have nothing to guide them, but their unmanageable dreams, nothing to sustain them, but their good health, and nowhere to go, but all over the place.”

Such dreams, sustenance, and freedom still exist in the hearts of the children of the 21st century, but it is we, the children of the 20th century, who must make it possible for them to be expressed.

Chick BeVier
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PS To paraphrase the master swordsman in the novel Scaramouche, “You must hold the sword as a bird; too tightly and you crush it, too loosely and it flies away.” It is with the same wisdom we must ‘hold’ our children.

[Questions and Comments](#)