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CIES Nole News

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Going to the Rez

A visit to FSU's fun recreational park

FSU is very lucky to have a beautiful outdoor lake just a few miles from campus. The FSU Reservation, nicknamed "The Rez", offers the FSU community a **host** of outdoor activities. Swimming, canoeing, kayaking, sailing, and sunbathing are some of the many activities that are available there. Although the Rez is open throughout the year (whenever FSU is in session), it is very popular in the summer as FSU students look for a way to beat the heat!

Here at CIES we have a tradition of going to the Rez every summer. Our next trip will be this Friday after classes at 12:30pm. We will meet here at CIES, and be transported to the Rez. You can also drive yourself, but don't forget to bring \$2 as an entry fee.

Bring a lunch or something to eat because there is not food at the Rez. Also, be sure to bring **sunscreen** so you don't get burned. The Rez will provide life jackets, and we are going to rent several canoes. Everyone will enjoy the time spent on the water.

Where are we from?

Every session CIES hosts students from every corner of the world. Even though our summer sessions are always a little bit smaller, this session is no different. This session we have students from 22 different countries! This session we have the following countries represented:

Burkina Faso
Colombia
Germany

China
Ecuador
Indonesia

Iran
Jordan
Mali
Oman
Portugal
South Korea
United Arab Emirates
Venezuela

Japan
Kuwait
Mexico
Panama
Saudi Arabia
Thailand
Turkey
Vietnam

Special Thanks to Students

Due to a major mechanical problem involving our building's air-conditioning system, CIES had to relocate our classes to Bellamy building last week. The faculty and staff at CIES would like to say **THANK YOU** to all of you who made this temporary transition last week. We were able to hold classes as normal, and we had few interruptions. Hopefully, you all enjoyed the opportunity of having classes in another building at FSU.

A time to remember

As many of you know, Mr. Kyle Kaminski recently had a death in his family. His father, Jimmie, passed away a couple of weeks ago. This has been a difficult time for Kyle and his family. Here at CIES, we are like one big family. We always support each other through good times and hard times. Thanks for those of you who have contacted Kyle and sent him your love and support. Kyle said, "Thank you all for the love and support and your kind messages. Our whole family has been taken care of."

We thank Debbie, Calyn, and Sana for being great teachers while Kyle was away. We are all happy that Kyle will be back with us soon.

This week's birthdays

No CIES birthdays this week! We will all need to find something else to celebrate.

Culture Questions

*Question: Is it important that I **tip** in restaurants?*

Answer: Yes! For those of you who haven't been in the United States very long, you may not be very familiar with our tipping customs. Here are a few things to remember about tipping:

- (1) At restaurants in the United States, the minimum amount to tip is 15% of your total bill. However, in recent times, this percentage is more often 20%.
- (2) Servers at restaurants do not get paid the standard **minimum wage**. In Florida, workers get paid a minimum of \$8.05 an hour. However, if you have a job where you work for tips, your wage is only \$5.03. As a result, servers rely on tips just to make enough money.
- (3) In larger cities, the tipping percentage is often greater. In places like New York City, Miami, and most large cities on the west coast, people often tip between 20 and 25%

of the bill. As a general rule of thumb, though, 18% to 20% is fine!

(4) It is also customary to tip people who help you with bags at a hotel as well as people who cut your hair. However, here in Tallahassee, you are not expected to tip the person at Publix who helps carry your groceries to the car.

Question: Can I park at a local business and walk to class?

A: This is an important question and the answer is no. The parking lot at local businesses and restaurants are reserved for people that are at that business. For example, the Starbucks across the street is such a place. The parking lot is reserved for people who are ordering or drinking their drinks in the restaurant. Although many people do park there and walk to campus, it is something that you are not supposed to do. The Starbucks, for example, has even hung a sign on the door

asking customers not to park and leave. In the future, Starbucks may start watching the parking lot with a camera. When they do this, they can tell when someone leaves the area, and they will call a tow-truck to take your car and move it to another place. It can cost well over \$100 to get your car back. Although this hasn't happened yet, it probably will in the future. At the University of Florida, for example, parking in a lot and leaving often costs people hundreds of dollars. There are other legal ways to park that students can look into.

Language Question

*Question: Are the words **media** and **data** singular or plural?*

A: **Both.** Technically speaking, *media* and *data* are both (irregular) plural count nouns. These words are derived from Latin. The singular form of *media* is *medium* (noun) and the singular form of *data* is *datum*. However, many native English speakers do not realize

these words are plural, so you may often hear and even read these words being used as non-count (singular) words.

Correct: The data show that most people don't want to pay for a parking decal.

Commonly used, but technically incorrect: The data shows that most people don't want to pay for a parking decal.

Quote of the Week

Your mind is a powerful thing. When you fill it with positive thoughts, your life will start to change.

- Unknown



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This week's vocabulary:

- a host of (phrase) – many; a large number; a variety of
- sunscreen (noun) – lotion that is designed to protect the body from harmful UV rays and prevent sunburns
- tip (noun) – extra money that is given for a service provided (most often at a restaurant)
- minimum wage (noun) – a law that states the minimum amount of money that is paid to employees
- groceries (noun) – food and supplies
- tow-truck (noun) – a truck that will tow (move) vehicles that are illegally parked to another location
- media (noun) – newspapers, television, and radio; sources of news