



A BOBBY WARNER CHARITABLE YOUTH FOUNDATION

Winter 2021

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Win a Rifle Case with our

Big Buck Photo Contest

Want to show off this year's buck? Please submit your photos to us for a chance to win a SKB iSeries long rifle case. Here's how the contest works:

The photo with the most combined likes on the Beyond The Backyard Facebook page and Instagram page wins! All pictures must be received by December 12, 2021 to be entered into this contest. The contest begins December 13, 2021 and ends December 20, 2017. Winners will be announced on the Beyond The Backyard Facebook page and Instagram page on December 22, 2017. The contest is for BTB members only. You can register on our website for free. One entry per BTB member. It must be a recent picture from 2021.



Brooke Miller



Owen Wooten

To enter the contest, send your picture to Tara Bartlett at tbartlett@beyondthebackyard.org. Please include the member's name along with the photo.

Visit us at BeyondTheBackyard.org

BTB Member, Jaxon McCormick, Downs a Massive Boone County Buck

When Joe McCormick and his 12-year-old son Jaxon made their way to their hunting lease in Boone County back on October 2nd, the understanding was clear; it was Jaxon's hunt.

"I give God the credit and I'm really fortunate I'm able to take my son hunting. So he knows when he's with me, whatever comes in is his. I didn't even have a bow. I was just sitting there coaching him and mentoring him through it," said Joe.

Joe was aware of several bucks in the area and figured one of the two or three decent eighth pointers he had seen on his cameras in the area would present Jaxon a good shot. However, as darkness approached, the father-son duo caught a glimpse of something to their right. It was something much, much bigger than a run-of-the-mill eight-pointer.

"It was not quite dark; you could still see. We looked to the right, and we saw him coming, and I waited so I could get a better shot at it," said Jaxon.

What they saw was a buck Joe knew well.

"We knew about this particular deer for four years now. He was a nice 10 pointer in 2018. I actually shot the deer and tracked him two or three miles, but I was never able to recover him," Joe explained.

Figuring the deer was lost, a neighboring property owner produced a picture of the buck in December 2018, revealing he had survived the shot and was still haunting the dark hills and hollows.

"He wasn't nearly as big then as he is now," laughed Joe.

Jaxon eyed up the massive buck with his crossbow.

"From the time we first saw him to the time Jaxon shot him was about two minutes," Joe said.

Jaxon indicated he didn't even have time to get nervous.

"No, not really," Jaxon said.

"I had the nerves for him. I couldn't even talk after he shot," Joe said.

Neither was able to determine where the bolt struck the deer. Joe surmised it "sounded" like a good hit. They called for backup and, with the help of friends, located the massive buck about 75 yards from where he had been shot. Jaxon had put a double lung shot on the animal, but the blood was minimal since it was a little higher than usual.

It was quite a beast.

The unofficial green score was 170 2/8ths by Joe's brother, who he said is usually very close. Joe believed the buck's rack would net in the 160s for an official score.

The buck still carried nearly half of its velvet with bloody pieces still draped over each point. During the butchering process, it was determined a wound on the deer had healed over but may have been the cause of the late loss of velvet.

It's a buck of a lifetime for father and son, and Jaxon confirmed his buddies at Sherman Middle School were buzzing.

"Yeah, they sure were!" he said.

source: WV Metro News



Melting Ice Science Experiment with Salt and Liquid Watercolors

Materials:

- Bowls or dishes (for making the ice)
- A large tray with sides
- Salt
- Liquid watercolors or food coloring
- Droppers or a spoon

Instructions

Step 1:

Make the ice by filling different size bowls up with water and freezing them overnight.

Step 2:

Set up your melting station. Loosen ice from the bowls with a little warmer water and set them on a large tray with raised sides.

Step 3:

Add salt by sprinkling it over the tops of the ice domes. You will start to notice tiny ravines where the salt melts into the ice.

Step 4:

Add color by squeezing a few different colors into the ice. The liquid watercolors will highlight the ravines, crevasses, and tunnels forming in the ice as the salt melts it. The pooling swirls of water from the melted ice will look cool on the tray as well.

Step 5:

Take a piece of the ice outside and look at them in the sunlight. You end up with a pretty ice sun catcher!



5 Tips for Cold Weather Hunter Safety



1. Prep your gun for the cold weather - Start preparing for the hunt before you ever leave home by cleaning your gun thoroughly. In the cold, everything expands, making all the actions a little tighter. Take a little gun oil and mix in some dirt and grime. Mother Nature then adds in a bit of cold, causing expansion, and before you know it, you have a malfunctioning firearm. Be sure the gun is not lubricated, as the lube will gum up and cause the action to stick.

2. Dress in layers - First rule of dressing for the cold – dress in layers. You will start the day very cold and warm up as you move and the day warms. You should have a base layer to move moisture away from the skin (wicking), a mid-layer for insulation and retention of heat, and a top layer for added insulation. If it is really cold, you'll want a heavily insulated coat.

Layers allow you to remove or add clothing to control your body temperature as the conditions change. Invest in high-performance fibers for maximum effectiveness, lightness, and providing agility for freedom of movement. Cotton kills, particularly denim (jeans), as it soaks up the moisture and can cause serious problems staying dry, which is crucial for safe hunting in cold weather.

3. Prepare for the extreme - Check the weather report and be prepared for the worst. Safe hunting in cold weather requires you to be over-prepared: know the weather, have a survival kit, and make sure someone knows where you are hunting and when you will return. Three factors to consider for a survival kit: fire, shelter, and signaling. Number one, have a way to start a fire. And not just matches as the possibility of them becoming wet is high.

Have a fire starter with you and something to use as fuel, such as cotton balls soaked in petroleum jelly or dryer lint mixed with paraffin. Carry your cell phone, but have a compass as backup. You may be out of range, and batteries drain much quicker in the cold. Leave a hunt plan with someone. Tell them where you'll be and when you will return.

4. Listen to your body - The biggest detriment to safe hunting in cold weather is the danger of hypothermia. Hypothermia is the process of cooling to the point of death when your body temperature drops below 98.6 degrees and stays there for an extended period of time. It is most common when someone has become wet and remains wet. That is why survival instructions always focus on layering your clothing to keep yourself dry—therefore avoiding a drop in body temperature.

The first sign of hypothermia is shivering. If you start to shiver or one of your hunting buddies, add layers, start a fire and get warm. You can deteriorate fast in the cold, so you must act quickly. Rather than trying to teach you all the ways to deal with hypothermia, remember, add warmth and get to shelter as soon as possible if you are shivering or observe someone else shivering.

5. Remember ACTT - While you are in the field, remember the basics of a safe hunt as taught in your hunter education training: ACTT.

- A**ssume every gun is loaded.
- C**ontrol the muzzle. Point the gun in a safe direction.
- T**rigger finger. Keep your finger outside the trigger guard until you are ready to shoot.
- T**arget. Be sure of your target and what lies beyond.

Winter hunting can be fun and allows you to hunt different species than the fair-weather hunter. To ensure a safe hunt requires being smart and being prepared. You learn the basics in hunter education, but if you are serious about cold weather hunting, consider extra training and research to be well prepared.

*Enjoy
the hunt!*



Swim in the Snow? Yup, Waterslides and All!

Snowshoe Mountain Resort's Split Rock Pools are open year-round and free to resort guests. Other guests may access Split Rock Pools for a fee of \$15 per day. It heats up in the winter (literally): fountains, large pools, and waterslides.

And for parents? 2 words: Hot. Tubs. (And a sauna, too!)

But here's the cool part: Split Rock Pools are split, with indoor and outdoor sections divided by a plastic curtain that you can swim under! One minute you can be swimming around indoors, and the next, you can dive through and experience even West Virginia's most wintery weather from the soothing warmth of the water.

You may go to Snowshoe Mountain for skiing, but Split Rock Pools is without a doubt that final cherry on top of the wintery sundae, making your experience that much more memorable. It's the best of both worlds, the hot and the cold.



Word Find

Can you find them all?

Using the list to the right, find the words that are hidden in the jumble.

I	N	P	U	M	U	E	R	H	F	Q	M	B	W	K
Q	W	K	Y	C	F	S	Y	E	K	C	O	H	C	K
E	F	L	E	P	H	G	I	Y	P	T	Y	K	F	S
C	O	X	Z	D	U	N	R	M	V	K	W	F	L	G
H	O	K	I	N	I	E	C	K	X	G	O	P	I	W
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V	F	L	V	P	N	Q	A	I	F	L	C	O	G	E
B	G	N	Y	T	N	L	M	E	Q	I	L	F	Z	Z
Q	E	L	S	V	L	X	T	L	C	X	G	I	I	J
C	B	L	I	Z	Z	A	R	D	X	Z	L	D	H	C
R	H	E	X	V	F	I	R	E	P	L	A	C	E	C

BLIZZARD
FIREPLACE
HOCKEY
COATS
FROST
SNOWBALL
BOOTS
FOG
SLIDE
CHILLY
FOOTPRINTS
SLIPPERY



Become a Fan To Stay Up-To-Date

Beyond The Backyard is asking all of its members to become a fan of our organization at www.facebook.com/beyondthebackyard. This is a great way for us to share stories and photographs of our outdoor adventures. This also allows us to keep all of our members up-to-date on events around the Mountain State. We also post all of our hunting and fishing adventures on Twitter and Instagram. Find us at twitter.com/beyond_backyard and instagram.com/beyondthebackyard