

Plas y Brenin

On Friday the 12th of October at half past four, I was picked up from my house for the six-hour journey ahead. We arrived at the centre at about eleven o'clock and went straight to bed; everyone else had already arrived and was in bed. We woke at about eight and had breakfast, made our packed lunches and went to the briefing. After the briefing, we drove to the River Dee to start canoeing. We got changed and started on a small bit of white water where we did a bit of canoeing so the instructors could split us into groups. My group stayed on the bit of water we were already on and practised ferry gliding until lunch. After lunch, we got on the water higher up the river so we could go down the two weirs, which were fun. We played about a bit on the bottom of one of the weirs where I capsized, but although I capsized, I carried on playing on the water and I capsized again, by this time the other group had gone further down the river onto some fiercer water. My group stopped playing on the weir and met in an eddy just above the other bit of white water. We went down it one at a time; it was great because it was so bumpy and fast. After that, we got out and got changed. When we got back from the river Jo arranged a session on the bouldering wall for us after tea which was really fun. The next day we dove a little further up river, so we could go down a grade three bit of water, 'Serpents Tail'. We had to paddle a bit before we reached Serpents Tail and we got out just above it so we could have a look at it before we paddled down it. It looked terrifying, so we watched the other group go down first, and then we went down from half way so we knew what it was like. Now I had been down a small part of it, I wasn't as scared as I was at first but I was still terrified. We dragged our boats back to the top for the full run of it. I got in my kayak and I was off, as I got to the top of it the butterflies started, whoosh, I was sucked into the raging water then I was out, remarkably the right way up! After that we padded down as one big group to where we were the day before, where again we played about on the weir until we got out for lunch and to go home.

By Theodore Roberts