

Littleton Courier

Secret Sock Society's ski trips to Cannon Mountain a big hit with youngsters

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write the author

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FRANCONIA — A 2015 North Face Explore Fund Grant enabled fifth graders from Whitefield, Jefferson and Littleton to experience snowboarding or skiing for the first time.

On March 15, the Secret Sock Society hosted students from Whitefield and Jefferson. The following day students from Lakeway Elementary had their turn to hit the slopes.

The Secret Sock Society, run by Nancy Annunziato, takes all of their donations and puts it all directly back into programs, such as the snow sports field trip.

Students were slipping their feet into ski and snowboard boots for the first time to experience the best way to

spend free time during the long winter months in New Hampshire. Many of the students have only ever watched skiers and snowboarders on TV and in movies.

Over two days, 82 local students participated in the field trip along with ten school volunteers and 11 Secret Sock Society volunteers. Nearly half of those students were trying a snow sport for the first time.

Chaperones recorded quotes from the kids throughout the day.

Comments included, "This is the best day ever," "I'm a pro my first time," "Skiing is Awesome," and, "This is the best thing that has ever happened to me!"

When the students were asked if the program should continue next year they said, "Yes, because it gives kids a chance to get out. Please do it again." "Yes it's fun, all kids should have fun." "Yes, to give kids a chance to try something new." Lastly, "Yes, cause it is a chance to try something different and it was fun."

Annunziato said, "I would like to thank the Lahout family, who has been very generous in their support of the Secret Sock Society programs."

Berry Transportation provided the bus rides back and forth and Amoskeg Beverages and the Cannon Ball Pub provided hot chocolate.

All of the participants recommended the program continue next year so more students can have the same opportunity.

The Secret Sock Society Snow Sports Field Trip was recently awarded the New England Ski Museum Cal Conniff Grant for their work promoting the sport of skiing with local youth.

For additional information on the Society's efforts, go to: <http://secretsocksociety.org>.



Local fifth graders were able to experience skiing or snowboarding at Cannon Mountain on March 16 and 17. Some kids were seeing Cannon for the first time. (Courtesy Photo) [\(click for larger version\)](#)

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