

CLC visits The Academy of Natural Sciences

BY JENNIFER L. KACIMI

Philadelphia-Do you know that a turkey vulture is not really a turkey or that owls hear better than they see? Community Learning Center (CLC) students were unaware of these facts, too, until they visited The Academy of Natural Sciences.

CLC students spent the day visiting the dinosaur hall, meeting live animals, experiencing a discovery lesson, and walking through a butterfly forest.

The morning began with a discovery lesson entitled "Animals with bad reputation". As can you imagine, one of the goals of the lesson was to debunk the myths that certain animals, such as snakes, vultures, and sharks are out to get people. The most enjoyable part of the lesson was seeing a live turkey vulture, owl, and corn snake. Actually, meeting these creatures helped the students to ease their fears.

After the lesson, students were free to roam The Academy and visit exhibits such as the dinosaur hall and the butterfly forest. One CLC student commented, "I really enjoyed it when a butterfly landed on my arm. I had never experienced anything like that before."

The field trip was a great success and everyone enjoyed him/herself. In fact, one student said, "I learned a lot from this trip, and I want to come back with my children because I know that they would have a good time and learn a lot."

CLC would like to thank The Academy of Natural Sciences and The Foerderer Foundation for making this enjoyable and educational opportunity possible.

CLC, a non-profit adult literacy program, has served Kensington and North Philadelphia communities since 1987. CLC still has opening in its free GED and ESOL classes. For more information, please call: 215-426-7940.