

5/20/17

Hi Madeline,

I hope you are having a good time in school as summer break gets closer and closer. I've had a really good time being your pen pal this school year. I hope that you have learned some things from me, because I have learned a lot from you. I think being an 11-year-old can be really hard, and it sounds like you have really high expectations for yourself. You are already thinking about college! I hope you remember to work hard and keep your goals in mind, but also let yourself have fun and not worry too much all the time!

Do you have any fun plans for the summer? Maybe you'll get to do something fun outside with you friends! I have a lot of work to do this summer, but first I'm going on my honeymoon! I'm really excited. My husband and I got married almost two years ago, but we didn't take a honeymoon right after we got married because we were both so busy. Now, we are going to Hawaii! I'm most excited to see lava from volcanoes and maybe see a sea turtle!

I've also been really busy this last term because I have been teaching. It's been lots of fun! The class is about learning the names of California plants and learning about the places different types of plants like to live. I've put a picture of one of the places we took the students. It was a



really fun class because we took students out into nature to teach them. We even took our students on two weekend camping trips! Do you think you would like to take a class where you learn outdoors?

I'm also excited for the summer because it's such a good time to read books. Do you have any books you are looking forward to reading this summer? When I was your age I really liked Hatchet, My Side of the Mountain, and Julie of

the Wolves. I love to read! I hope you get a chance to read some books this summer!

If you ever want to write me more letters, I'd be happy to read them and write back!

Have a great summer!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Rachel'.

Rachel