



**The DREAM Program, Inc.**

P.O. Box 361  
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[www.dreamprogram.org](http://www.dreamprogram.org)



February 8th, 2005

**The Norwich DREAM Update  
March 2005**

Greetings from DREAM! Here is a summary of the exciting events and developments that occurred during March. You can always look back at past monthly reports or other programs' reports by going to: <http://www.dreamprogram.org/about/localprograms.htm>. And please, do not hesitate to contact us with questions or ideas.

The Norwich DREAM Program had a fun filled month of March. The month was shortened by the mentors' spring break, but the group welcomed in the spring when the mentors returned and took full advantage of the early spring weather.

Highlights from this month include:

- Continuing to plan their trip to NYC in the beginning of April,
- Enjoying the spring weather and playing outside, and
- Talking to some of the children about what DREAM means to them.

**Fridays:** The core of DREAM happens every Friday when DREAM mentors meet with their partners in group and one-on-one settings. The meetings occur on college campuses, onsite at the children's homes, and at spaces around the community. This month, Friday programs took advantage of the amazing spring weather, running activities and playing games outside. On the 24<sup>th</sup> the mentors started up DREAM again after spring break with a DREAM classic egg drop contest! The group spent 45 minutes gathering materials from around campus and constructing their protective egg pods. They then all went up to one of the mentors room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of a dorm, where they dropped their egg pods from the window to test out just how well their pods were. Some eggs fared better than others, but everyone had an amazing time! The afternoon was capped off with an egg toss and a great game of "everybody's it" tag.

**Trips/High Adventures:** Perhaps the most exciting components of DREAM are its end of semester trips and summer adventure programs. Children, mentors, parents, and staff look forward to these where the DREAM bus comes out of hibernation and the full group has new experiences together. High Adventure Trips are perhaps the most ambitious of all DREAM activities, and include children in the planning, fundraising, and governing of two-week adventures to places that have included Colorado, Utah, California, and Alaska. This month, the mentors continued to research places in NYC for the overnight trip they are planning for April 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. They have decided that they are going to take the ferry out to Ellis Island and also visit the Bronx Zoo and made phone calls to talk to local businesses and tourist sites about their DREAM program. The kids and mentors can't wait for the trip!



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**Other:** This month DREAM staff spent some time talking to DREAM mentors and children about their favorite DREAM memories and what DREAM meant to them. Here are some of the awesome things they had to say:

*“You know when you asked what was my favorite DREAM Friday? It is this one!”*

Justin Knepp, Norwich Mentor  
During the egg drop Friday activity

*“I’m more confident. People can make you feel like a loser but everyone’s crazy at DREAM. No one’s going to make fun of me. The adults act crazy, so I feel like I can too. I’m more confident to let out what I feel. It’s a place to feel free and fun.”*

Amber Monti, DREAMer  
In response to the question: How have you changed through DREAM?

It was amazing to hear the mentors and children talk about DREAM and verbalize their excitement for adventures to come. With New York City on the horizons and the weather getting warmer – this group’s excitement can’t help but build! Stay tuned! And as always...

Keep DREAMing!

Chad Butt  
Programs Director