

Estoy Cansado

Sunday, June 15, 2008 at 4:24pm

First of all I want to give a big shout to all the dads out there, especially my own. I don't know who I'd be without your help and guidance. Happy Father's day!

I forgot to mention in my last post that I have moved to my hammock outside. It is easily the best decision I've made since arriving in Juanilama. I'm off the concrete floor and out of the hot, packed house. I'm now out in the cool outdoors.

Our first English class was a complete success. We've had villagers ask us to make them longer and I predict that the already big turnout will double next week! We also have games nights on Fridays. We taught them Ultimate Frisbee, dodgeball, wink murder, etc. Again, turnout is growing each time, and the residents here are really opening up to us. We're setting up a trash pickup day with the kids at the primary school too. As environmentally conscious as Ticos are, they litter a *lot*.

We hosted a fiesta for the community at our place last night. It was fantastic - I had full Spanish conversations with several people, asking them about post secondary education in Costa Rica, talking about Canada and the way of life here, asking them about Costa Rica or Nicaragua, depending where they're from. It seems as though we've got something going every night, mostly getting invited to houses for family parties, soap making, one wants to teach us to make "proper" tortillas (I think our are already delicious though =P). We've gone fishing a little while back, and we also had the chance to eat fresh coconut, right off the tree this week.

This week I've gone through the whole reserva twice. Once with Matt and Steve, where we had to machete a new trail around a monstrous fallen tree. The second time was at 5 this morning with Steve, Jaye, Will, Ellie and Robin. Some of the trees are massive, bugs are 10 times the size as the ones home. I got a few ant bites. It takes a couple of hours to walk through the whole thing.

Once in a while we go to a local bar/club, the dancing is wicked =) and the beer is cheap. The local brand, Imperial, is delicious too, better than Corona in my opinion. We only got to bed at 4:30 that morning. Suffice to say that after that, and the hike this morning, I am really pooped. It's going to be an early night for me I think.

I've had the chance to bond a lot more with the Group Leaders. Again, I have to emphasize how much I'm learning here. This experience is all about personal growth now.

Cheers everyone. Thank you all for your encouragement and messages!
-Andrew

P.S.: I'm doing it...my back is getting waxed tonight.



[Sarah Burke](#) at 2:36am June 16

Andrew with no back hair!?! ;) haha.. I think I speak for everyone - or maybe not at all - when I say we want to see photos of that!

Glad to hear it's going well and that the hammock is working out!

xox