

## **PINEDALE FISHING ADVENTURE – 2017      ALEX**

The story about little Alex. I would go up to Alex in class at Pinedale Elementary and try and talk to him and other students would run up to me and say, "He can't talk, like he really can't talk." I would say, he can talk and they would reply, "No, he really can't talk." I knew he could talk because I have heard him, but only in a really small mousy voice when no one was around. They actually believed he was mute because he never spoke in school.. His mom would have to come to the school so he could test because he wouldn't talk for the teacher. They thought he had a disability however his mom insisted he talked normal. (He doesn't have a disability)

The day of the fishing event I heard him speak with such a strong voice for the first time ever! I was in shock!!! He was so excited to catch fish that he exclaimed to me how many fish he caught! I even videotaped him talking and sent it to his 1st grade teacher. She emailed me back and said it made her cry because she now knows what his voice sounds like. As I was saying goodbye and thanking the owner of the property, I was telling her about Alex. As we were talking he ran up to me and exclaimed..."Mrs. Linda, I caught 5 fish!" she asked him a question and he answered and then he went on his way. I told her, "You do not understand that is a miracle that just happened!" When I told his teacher about how he ran up to me to say that and how no one really understood how much of a miracle it was she agreed. It was a great day! The Principal was even shocked to hear he spoke!

Thank you for providing our children with such an amazing opportunity to fish and fellowship with one another! I loved how they encouraged each other!

All of your volunteers were so helpful and kind! Little Amy was so excited to not only catch her first fish but she caught the biggest fish of the day! It was also good to see families work as a unit. It was a wonderful day and we appreciate you thinking of us to participate special event!

Consumed by the call,

Linda Amparano  
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