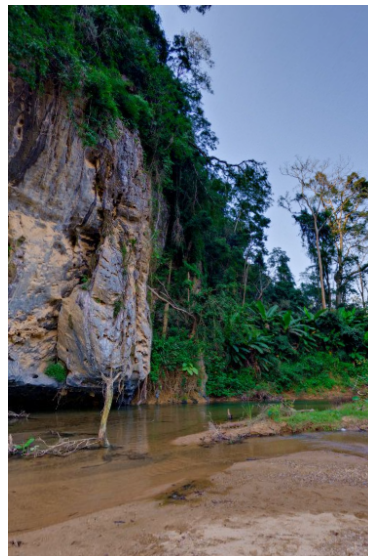


Name: Caitlin Pham
Username: cpham
School: West Valley High School

The outdoors is currently not accessible to me, because I do not have a car or reliable means of transportation. However, for this assignment, I have chosen one of my dream locations: the Hang Sơn Đoòng cave in Vietnam! Imagining that I was to get from here (Washington State) to Vietnam, I would love to go with my grandmother, who lived there as a child in order to adventure together and be able to see sights together as long as we can, before she becomes unable to do so. Unfortunately, we would have to catch a plane to the Dong Hoi airport (so much carbon emissions!) Then, we would catch the train from Dong Hoi and transferred to the Phong Nha – Ke Bang National Park. We would have to walk one day, staying overnight in a village on the path.

Because my grandmother would be there, we could cook together! She has an amazing spring roll recipe that is easily made organic, and they're light and easy. To lessen waste, we would carry our own reusable water bottles and food containers, as well as metal utensils to eat with along the way. Our attire is from Patagonia, seeing as in this imaginary world, they were to sponsor our trip! Plus, we know certainly that they are sustainable and ethical. This destination should be visited during February to April, because Vietnam humidity is absolutely terrible. I would need to take special precautions with my grandmother, because the hiking would be arduous for her.

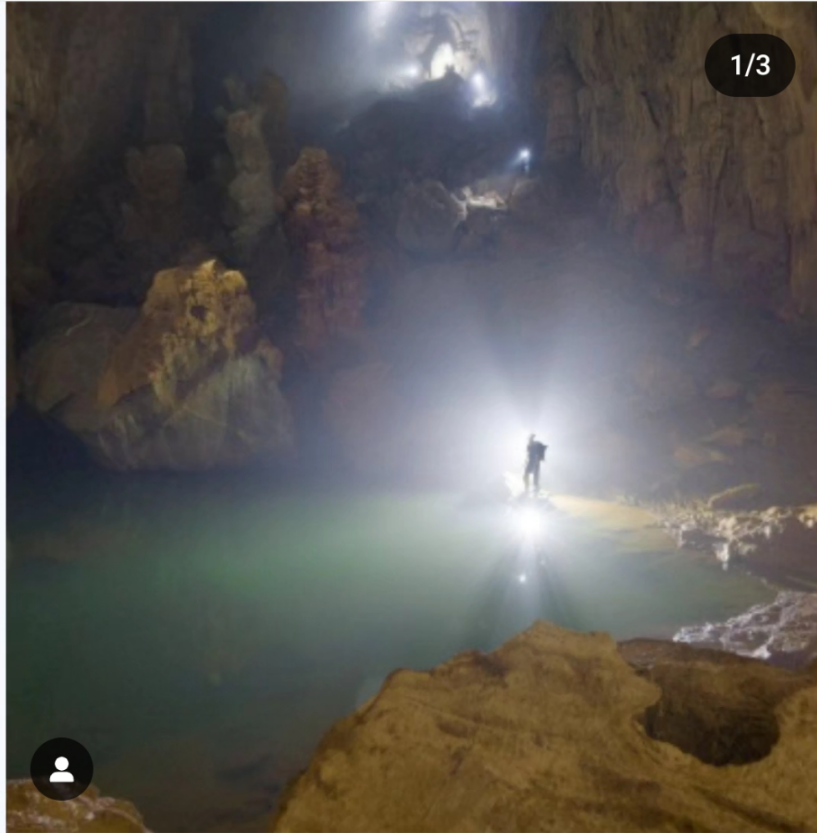


We see a beautiful cave with stalagmites and stalacites formed over milleniums! There is a river flowing through the cave, but it is shallow enough that we can pass through it. As we enter the cave, there are various types of trees, growing wild over rocks, in the middle of the water, and on the banks of the river. There is algae, the roof of the cave having collaped in, allowing light in and plants to grow inside. Fish are in the river, as well as scorpions, spiders, and millipedes. It is humid but slightly chilly in this cave, and slightly terrifying in the dark!

The intention that I expressed pre-adventure was to see sights with my grandmother in her home country. She visited us yesterday, and while I was slightly worried that the Project Green Challenge would take up time we were going to spend together, it made us closer! She was able to tell me stories about her childhood and the time she actually visited the cave in-person. Therefore, we stuck to the plan fairly closely!

I think the fact that we only toured the cave virtually helped strengthen the relationship more, because we got a glimpse of what there is still left in the world that we haven't seen yet. We might never see it, and perhaps that is what is the scariest part. Our actions are killing these places, these gorgeous geological remnants of history.

← Posts



projectgreen_2023 Today, I virtually visited the Hang Sơn Đoòng cave in Vietnam with my grandmother! We wanted to connect with a natural space that was important to her as a child, together. Although taking this trip in real life would have needed numerous modes of transportation, thousands of dollars, and lots of planning, we were able to take a virtual tour through the cave online!

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