

## Summertime and the livin's easy (not so much)

Written by Holly  
Tuesday, 16 June 2009 -

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While families are preparing for summer vacation and my fellow educators are counting down the minutes to the last day of school (which is today), I am working myself into quite a tizzy as I prepare for a six-week extended school year program and a multi-week experiential summer learning program for kids who learn differently. I have so much to do in the next 10 days that it is hard to fathom.

Don't get me wrong - I LOVE MY JOB!

It's the stress that wears me down. So, in preparation for what is to be a super-busy, exciting work-related summer, I went to Seattle this past weekend. Yea, you heard me right. We flew to Seattle on Friday and returned home on Sunday. I love the Pacific Northwest and tell myself that I would move there if it weren't so dang far from the East Coast. Something about the PNW puts me at ease. Maybe it's the "green-ness" of the trees or the ruggedness of the mountains or the cool breeze off the sound. The PNW calms me (and that's hard to do)!

Aside from a brief stomach virus Friday night, the trip was a GREAT EXPERIENCE. We've been to Seattle 5-6 times in about 6 years. I got to see old friends and meet new ones. We didn't explore Seattle as much. We just soaked up the sunny (yes, I said, "sunny"), warm weather and took some time to regroup and refresh ourselves. Oh - did I mention that we attended a "secret show" by Brandi Carlile at the Triple Door? Always an amazing treat!

Yesterday it was back to reality for me. No more vacations or trips until Labor Day - when we trek BACK to Seattle for some R&R. Until then - I'll do my best to keep you all updated and will try not to stress out too much.

So, TBA Readers - what summer plans do you have? Do you have any great summer vacation memories or rituals?

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Let's hear from you!