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Smooth sailing at this camp



BIG SPLASH: Stephen Fassnacht rows

Matt West photo

By Samantha Tatro

Children hit the water in Scituate, honing their sailing and canoeing skills at a once-a-year camp that brought together children with special needs and those that are developing typically.

“It’s a real departure to how we do things,” AccesSportAmerica founder Ross Lilley said. “We teach on a more intensive level and get to see skills increase and fears drop at a really high rate.”

One week a year, AccesSportAmerica hosts a learn-to-row canoe and paddle board camp for about 150 kids at the Scituate Maritime Center. The camp aims to raise confidence and skills by teaching children boating sports. Two boys started the week barely willing to get into a canoe, Lilley said. By the end of the week, he said, the boys had “a gleam in their eyes” and rushed to “hop on the windsurfer without any protest.”

Campers wrapped up the week with a final cheer.

- See more photos at:
http://bostonherald.com/photos/access_sport_america_camp