



Summer Stuff

Letter from the Executive Director:

Dear Summer Stuff Families:

I remember my first year of teaching like it was yesterday. At parent orientation I spoke about nurturing my students social and emotional growth and how to help them with separation. I thought I knew everything...and then I had two children.

Fast forward about 8 years to just last week. I dropped my 3 yr old off to his first day of camp and he hung to my leg and begged me to take him home. I gave him a hug and told him I would be back after I ran a couple errands. I did everything I tell parents to do when this happens to them. He cried at the fence and screamed for me to come back. I ran to

my car and sobbed. Who knew how hard this parenting stuff would be?!

We are two weeks in now and he is proudly showing me his art work and singing the songs Ms. Julie has taught him. He is raving about his new buddies and even requesting to dress like them for camp each day. There are no more tears. We hit some bumps, but he is all smiles now. As for me, his happiness means the world...and then some. I hope your first couple weeks have brought many smiles and laughter to your homes and hearts. We are looking forward to 4 more weeks of fun!

Ellen

Quotable Quotes

Things overheard at camp:

Camper right before the 4th of July parade:

I can't wait to go outside and see the smile on my Mom's face.

Camper during our Thursday Hot Dog Cookout:

A bun is like a house for my hot dog!

Camper at the end of the week:

I wish camp went on for 100 years!

Summer Stuff PLUS Happenings

PLUS Art this week was filled with new vocabulary. The campers were tongue twisted when attempting to learn about our artist. We learned about Jackson Pollack. Jackson Pollack is famous for creating amazing, yet controversial, splatter paint art. His style of painting can be called, get your

tongue ready, "Abstract Expressionism." The campers helped us define his style of painting as "getting the feelings out of your body." On Monday we dipped golf balls and marbles in paint and rolled them on paper. On Tuesday, we used yarn as our "paint." The campers arranged multi-colored yarn on

their paper to create abstract art. On Wednesday, we saved the best for last. We laid butcher paper in the grass and used paint brushes to splatter paint. Jackson would have been proud.

America was the theme in the Construction Room this week. Plenty of flags and patriotic items were created!

Summer Stuff Day Camps

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Upcoming Events

- No Camp next Monday, July 5!
- Don't forget—Every Monday is Music Day!
- Thursday is our weekly cookout! Your camper may bring a hotdog and we'll do the grilling! Please send it in a plastic bag labeled with your camper's name and group. Don't forget the bun!

Reminders

- We have limited space to store lunches at camp. Summer Stuff prefers to have everything sent to camp in a disposable bag in order to conserve space. Thanks!
- Please LABEL everything that comes to camp. We don't want anything lost or misplaced.

Summer Stuff Daily Events

Design by Joe

Talk about a busy week for design! Our science project focused on freezing and melting water. As groups, we filled chip dip trays with water and miscellaneous items. We froze the water and brought the ice blocks outside the next day. We watched our items drop to the ground as the ice melted in the sun. And of course, we had our fourth of July parade! The campers marched around the playground holding their American flags, hats, and airplanes. We sang some well known American songs and started the fourth of July weekend in style. Thanks to all the parents and families for coming to this Summer Stuff tradition.

Sports and Games by Sue

This week in sports we practiced our t-ball skills with fun games. On Monday, we perfected our throwing by playing forward and backward catch. On Tuesday, we reviewed a hitters stance and played "home runners" where all the campers ran the bases with every hit. On Wednesday, we played a baseball version of bozo buckets and bases four corners. We wrapped up the week playing a game of T-ball to use all of our practiced skills.

Story Drama by Kirsten and Beth

Campers greeted each other this week while expressing different emotions from happy to sad, to acting like they just heard a funny joke. The deep down belly laughs were amazing. We then broke off into small groups and played the Charade Game "What is my Job?" After each camper acted out a job within their small group, the group picked one of the jobs and acted it out as a group and all the other campers had to guess the job. There were so many creative jobs and movements chosen from each group. We ended the week by playing sculpture. Campers came

together and formed sculptures by holding poses where they had to be touching one other camper. The audience then got to name the sculpture. We had a museum of, "The Big Fence", "Fireworks" and "The Worm". Finally, on Thursday we read Hurray for the Fourth of July and Hats Off for the Fourth of July to prepare for our parade today!

Next Week

Next week's theme is "Out of This World" and we will be focusing on space.

Art by Adam

The campers created some patriotic masterpieces in art this week! We started the week off with a bang on Monday when we made fireworks by blowing on drops of liquid water color with straws. On Tuesday, we painted airplanes and top-hats. On Wednesday, we worked collaboratively making shredded paper collages on particle board. Finally, on Thursday, we again worked in collaborative groups making vinyl collages. In this project we arranged American

themed shapes on a table. Then, we covered the shapes with clear vinyl and traced them with Sharpies. The campers "clearly" had a blast!



Clear Vinyl Art Project