

parent's CORNER



Summertime Fun

Summer can be a challenge when it comes to keeping kids entertained once the excitement of school being out begins to wear off. Screen-free crafts are a great way to beat boredom, encourage creativity, and make lasting memories. Best of all, many summer crafts use simple, inexpensive materials you likely already have at home or can find outdoors.

Try turning nature finds into art by painting rocks or shells, creating DIY bird feeders from pinecones and birdseed, or making colorful paper flower bouquets that never wilt. Friendship bracelets are another classic favorite, helping kids build fine motor skills while creating something they can wear, share, or even sell. For outdoor fun, homemade sidewalk chalk paint and giant driveway murals provide endless opportunities for creativity and play.

The key to a successful summer craft day is keeping supplies on hand and embracing a little mess along the way. Stock a craft bin with basics like paper, glue, scissors, paint, and string, then adapt activities to fit your child's age and interests. Most importantly, display their finished creations with pride! Seeing their work celebrated builds confidence and makes the experience even more rewarding.



STEM ACTIVITY

Materials:

- Cardstock
- Measuring spoons
- 3 cups or small bowls
- Spoon
- Q-tips or a brush
- Old newspaper or cardboard
- Paper Towels
- Water
- Lemon or lemon juice
- Iron

INSTRUCTIONS

Prep Work:

1. Squeeze the juice of half a lemon into a cup or small bowl.
2. Add half a teaspoon of water to the lemon juice and mix it with a spoon.

Instructions:

- Dip a Q-tip into the lemon juice-water solution.
- Use the damp Q-tip to draw a letter, symbol, or write a secret message on the white cardstock paper. Re-wet your Q-tip if necessary. Be careful to not soak the paper too much.
- Let the paper dry completely.
- With the help of an adult, plug in the iron and put in on high setting. Carefully run the hot iron over the paper several times.

tinyurl.com/centricstemactivity

Centric Federal Credit Union
1091 Thomas Road
P.O. Box 2456
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THE AWESOME, KID-FRIENDLY QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

sprout CENTS



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CREDIT UNION



summer SCHEDULE

MAKE IT **MONDAY**
THINKING **TUESDAY**
WATER DAY **WEDNESDAY**
TAKE A TRIP **THURSDAY**
FUN DAY **FRIDAY**
SELFLESS **SATURDAY**
SPONTANEOUS **SUNDAY**



HAVE YOU STARTED FILLING UP YOUR SPROUT SUPER SAVER CARD?

Get your card punched for every \$10 deposit you make! Drop your card off at any Centric location for your chance to win awesome prizes each month!



SPROUT SUPER SAVER CARD

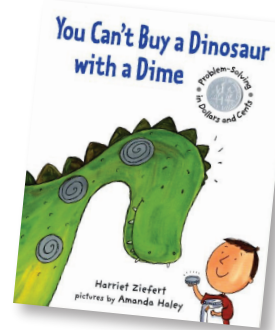


CUT OUT YOUR
SPROUT SUPER SAVER
CARD, AND START SAVING!

sprout's READING LIST

YOU CAN'T BUY A DINOSAUR WITH A DIME
by Harriet Ziefert
BL: 2.3 AR Points 0.5

You Can't Buy a Dinosaur With a Dime by Harriet Ziefert introduces children to the basics of earning, saving, and spending money. Through Pete's journey to save for a toy dinosaur, young readers learn that reaching a goal takes patience, planning, and smart financial choices. This fun, engaging story is a great introduction to financial literacy for children.



AND THEN COMES SUMMER
by Tom Brenner
BL: 3.9 AR Points 0.5

And Then Comes Summer by Tom Brenner celebrates all the sights, sounds, and traditions that make summer special. From baseball games and backyard adventures to fireworks and ice cream, this nostalgic picture book captures the excitement of the season and the joy of making memories with family and friends. It's a cheerful reminder to savor the simple moments that make summer unforgettable.



CHECK OUT AREA EVENTS

KidsFit Summer Camp
The Wellness Center
3215 Cypress St. West Monroe, 71291
July 7-11 | 8:30 - 12:30 | Ages 5-11
Call for Details: (318)329-9100

Summer Zoo Camp
LA Purchase Gardens and Zoo
1405 Bernstein Park Dr. Monroe, 71202
July 6-10, ages 8-10 The Great Connection
July 13-17, ages 11-13 Wild About Art
July 20-24, ages 5-7 Globetrotters
July 27-31, ages 8-10 Wildlife Engineer
<https://monroezoo.org/camp/>

Back to School STEM Festival
Monroe Civic Center
401 Lea Joyner Memorial Expy
August 15 | 12 to 3
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/back-to-school-stem-festival-monroe-la-tickets-1990452626387>

Brick Convention
Monroe Civic Center
401 Lea Joyner Memorial Expy
Sept 5-6
<https://www.brickconvention.com/monroe>



SUMMER READING CHECKLIST

☐	READ BY A FLASHLIGHT	☐
☐	READ A BOOK IN A SILLY VOICE	☐
☐	READ A COMIC BOOK	☐
☐	READ A BOOK AS A FAMILY	☐
☐	READ A BOOK ABOUT YOUR COUNTRY	☐
☐	READ UNDER A TREE	☐
☐	VISIT A LIBRARY	☐
☐	READ A BOOK ABOUT FRIENDSHIP	☐
☐	READ A BOOK ABOUT SPACE	☐
☐	READ IN A BLANKET FORT	☐
☐	READ A BOOK TO A PET	☐
☐	READ A BOOK WITH A COLOR IN THE TITLE	☐
☐	READ A BOOK WITH CHAPTERS	☐
☐	READ AT BREAKFAST	☐
☐	READ A BOOK ABOUT A CITY FAR AWAY	☐
☐	READ A BOOK OF POEMS	☐
☐	READ A BOOK ABOUT YOUR FAVORITE ANIMAL	☐
☐	READ A MYSTERY	☐

TO FIND MORE FUN ACTIVITIES, UPCOMING EVENTS, SAVINGS TIPS AND SO MUCH MORE, VISIT SPROUT ONLINE AT WWW.MYCENTRIC.ORG/KIDS.