

FCS FRIENDS COMMUNITY SCHOOL *Summer Camp!*

Friends Community School Summer Camp Weekly Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue No. 1

Friday, June 14th, 2019

We are off to a Great Start!



This week, our time together included building patterns, making our own slime, creating films, learning archery, and many other exciting adventures! Campers spent their time in Little Explorers: Dino Fun (ages 3 ½ - 4), Building and Patterning (Grades K and 1-2), Sticky Science (Grades K and 1-2), Filmmaking (Grades 3-5), and Archery and Strategy Games (Grades 3-5 and 6-8). Thank you for sending your children to FCS Summer Camp. We know that you have many options and appreciate your support!

Highlights from Session 1

Little Explorers: Dino Fun

Teacher: Kelly



Dinosaurs! All this week, the Little Explorers have been exploring the world of dinosaurs. We completed a web of things we already know about dinosaurs, and it turns out we know a lot! We read some great books, including funny dinosaur stories and a few nonfiction books to collect more facts. In preparation for creating our Model Magic dinosaur sculptures, we talked about dinosaur bodies and made a word list. All of the children had an opportunity to share their dinosaur creation with the class during our

meetings. We worked collaboratively on a large dinosaur floor puzzle and practiced singing and moving to the song “We Are the Dinosaurs” by Laurie Berkner. One of our favorite books this week was *We Don't Eat Our Classmates* by Ryan T. Higgins, which made us all laugh a lot! All in all, we had a fantastic week!

See more photos [here!](#)



Sticky Science and Creative Construction (K-2)

Teachers: Keely and Donna

Did you know that you can make playdough out of cornstarch and conditioner? All week we combined common household products to make awesome, gooey creations. Students got messy with lots of hands-on scientific investigations. We mixed up slime and noticed how adding more or less starch affects its texture. After reading *Bartholomew and the Oobleck* by Dr. Seuss, we combined cornstarch and water to



make our own Oobleck and observed how it sometimes acts like a liquid and other times like a solid. We made our own face paint and playdough. We created our own bubble solution to make gigantic bubbles, and created our own bouncy balls. Throughout the week, students practiced combining colors with food dye and paint to make each of their creations unique. Students have a recipe book with all the recipes from the class and notes with their tips for success when trying the experiment at home.



In Creative Construction, campers experimented with a variety of media and art techniques as we explored the idea of building community. We worked as a team to create a 3-dimensional village. Inspired by Daniel Pinkwater's picture book *The Big Orange Splot*, we used wax cartons, cardboard boxes, craft sticks, bottle caps, and other recycled objects to construct structures for our neighborhood, including a triple-decker house shaped like a cake, a monument with a domed roof, a fire station, a boat, a playground, a school, and an art museum. When painting, we learned to make secondary colors and tints by

mixing primary colors and white paint. We discussed patterns, texture, and balance when we embellished the buildings with recycled objects. We sketched our plans and our final creations, just as artists and engineers do. Each day we read a picture book that reinforced the theme of building community: taking care of ourselves, each other, our communities, and our Earth. These are some of the books we enjoyed:

- *Hands: Growing Up to be an Artist*, by Louis Ehlert (Harcourt, 1997)
- *Iggy Peck, Architect*, by Andrea Beaty (Abrams, 2007)
- *Last Stop on Market Street*, by Matt de la Pena (Penguin, 2015)
- *Roberto, the Insect Architect*, by Nina Laden (Chronicle, 2000)
- *The Tin Forest*, by Helen Ward (Puffin Books, 2003)
- *Uptown*, by Bryan Collier (Macmillan, 2000)

See more K photos [here](#) and 1-2 photos [here](#)!

Building and Patterning (K)

Teacher: Patricia

This week in Kindergarten Building and Patterning, campers had fun building and creating. They used recycled materials to build the tallest and longest structure possible, a pretend roller coaster, and a marble run. Campers created movement patterns, noticed patterns in numbers, and made many patterned items: snakes, turtles, woven fish, and collage animals out of paper they patterned. Everyone loved "campers choice," where they could choose between Duplo Legos, K'nex, play dough, free art, puzzles, magnet blocks, and pattern blocks.



See more photos [here!](#)



Building and Patterning (1-2)

Teacher: Maddy

This week in Building and Patterning, we considered the question: "What is a pattern?" Campers discovered that patterns can exist in colors, shapes, music, letters, movement, and in nature. Campers learned about and painted AB and ABC patterns, and created their own

patterns. We played movement pattern games such as "The Wind Blows" and "Guess the Pattern Changer." We made mandalas with pattern blocks, and read books with word patterns. Through our building challenges, we explored the sturdiness of structures. We made tin foil boats, floated them in water, and put pennies on them to see whether smaller or wider boats could carry more weight. We built towers out of recycled materials and afterwards discussed which materials were the best to build tall structures. We made popsicle stick bridges, balanced them on chairs, and put blocks in the middle until they fell. For all the building challenges, campers practiced explaining their strategy for how they were going to build the structure and reflected on the parts of their structure that were successful. It was a pleasure to spend time with such smart, creative campers; fun was had by all!

See more photos [here!](#)



Filmmaking

Teacher: Jennie



In Filmmaking camp, we discovered how animators at Pixar, Cartoon Network, and Disney produce animated cartoons and movies. We created drawings and brought them to life, using production techniques such as timelines and keyframes in Stop Motion Studio™ - the same software used to create many popular web cartoons. We worked as a team, made friends, and explored animation techniques like

claymation and “humanimation.” At the end of the week, we shared our stop-motion-animated films with family and friends.

See more photos [here!](#)

Archery and Strategy Games (3-8)

Teacher: Mark and Langston

This week in archery camp, we learned about the different types of bows (standard, recurve, and compound) and arrows (indigenous and manufactured), how they are made, the anatomy of an arrow, the proper way to identify safe and unsafe arrows, and how to effectively shoot the arrow and hit the target from various distances. We also learned and applied range safety and situational awareness during shooting. Campers now have an understanding of the importance of a proper stance, drawing the arrow, releasing the arrow, and have learned to identify mistakes and adjust positioning when needed. I am very proud of the progress campers made with their shooting skills this week. They have been patient, mindful, serious about increasing their performance, and a lot of fun!



In Strategy Games, we played some old classics and learned some new favorites. Here's a recap of some of our favorites: Our hands are still a little sore from Slamwich, and Sleeping Queens was a hit. In Board Game news, we took it back to the classics with Clue and Chess. A few of our middle schoolers got caught up in a three-day game of monopoly. One of our friends brought in her own game of Vietnamese Horse Chess. I taught some campers a Danish card game and they taught me Wax Museum and Can You Spare a Dime. All-in-all it was a super great week!

See 3-5 photos [here](#) and 6-8 photos [here!](#)

Next Week We are Looking Forward to...

- ❖ Little Explorers: Under the Stars
- ❖ Baking (K-2)
- ❖ Prehistoric
- ❖ Soccer & Art
- ❖ Baking (3-5)
- ❖ Amazing Race
- ❖ Sewing
- ❖ SSAT Prep: Reading & Writing

For more pictures and information about upcoming sessions, make sure to check out the [FCS Summer Camp Facebook page!](#)