

# FCS FRIENDS COMMUNITY SCHOOL *Summer Camp!*

Friends Community School Summer Camp Weekly Newsletter

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## What a Fun Week at FCS!



This week, our time together included baking yummy treats, erupting volcanoes, chasing soccer balls, and many other exciting adventures! Campers spent their time in Little Explorers: Under the Stars (ages 3 ½ - 4), Soccer and Art (Grades K-2), Prehistoric (Grades K-2), Science and Art: Baking (Grades K-2 and 3-5), Amazing Race (Grades 3-5), Sewing and Fiber Arts (3-6), and SSAT Prep: Reading and Writing (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 2

## Little Explorers: Under the Stars

Teacher: Kelly



Under the stars! This week, Little Explorers learned that stars in the sky can resemble pictures, and people have always created “star stories,” or constellations. We invented a few of our own constellations with white pencils and black paper. We practiced singing “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star,” “Catch the Moon,” and “Rocketship Run” throughout the week. And instead of forming a circle for our morning gathering, we made a STAR! Check out our photo! Friday, we “camped out under the stars”.

It was lots of fun to use colorful glitter to make our own beautiful galaxy of stars. Of course, all week we read new books to “do some research” on stars. We loved learning that the sun is one of the 100 billion stars in the Milky Way galaxy! Some of our favorite books this week included:

- *Constellations* by Chris Sasaki
- *Night Sky* by Usborne
- *The Scholastic Solar System Science Vocabulary Readers*
  - *Stars and Constellations*
  - *The Solar System*
  - *The Planets*
  - *The Moon*
  - *The Earth*



See more photos [here!](#)

## Soccer and Art (K-2)

Teachers: Mark and Maddy

This week, our campers learned the fundamentals skills of soccer, such as passing, shooting, overhead throw-ins, and most importantly, working together. They have done a





fantastic job working hard and discovering the importance of playing as a team and respecting one another. Campers are encouraged to interact and play in a way that they enjoy playing for themselves and in the game of soccer.

See more photos [here!](#)

## Prehistoric (K-2)

Teacher: Alexandra



Children spent each day considering a topic, listening to read-alouds, discussing, and creating objects having to do with the theme. For our first day we dove into the idea of time -- DEEP TIME! We made and illustrated a timeline of the earth's life that includes when the first ferns turned up, when the first dinosaurs and ants appeared, and of course, when humans came into being. Another day our focus was fossils. We learned about what paleontologists do and created our own pretend fossils. We sorted dinosaur figures

according to 7 types, including Theropods, Stegosaur, and Ornithomimid. Campers had the option of creating their own artistic dinosaur eggs, one with glue, paint and pre-formed plastic eggs and the other using papier-mache. We made our own prints of dinosaur footprints, and, of course, made our own explosive volcanoes. A rip-RARING fun time was had by all!

See more photos [here!](#)

## Science and Art: Baking (K-5)

Teacher: Patricia and Maddy

This week in The Science and Art of Baking, campers learned about ingredients that help baked goods rise. They learned that baking soda needs to be used with acidic ingredients to create air bubbles, while baking powder already has the acid needed to react in the product. Bakers need three times as much baking powder to get the same leavening power as in baking soda. Campers made chocolate chip cookies with and without baking soda. They then tasted the baked goods comparing both taste and texture. They used baking powder to bake strawberry muffins. They used both baking soda and baking powder in banana muffins. Campers then got to compare yeast with baking powder. Yeast is a living ingredient that releases carbon dioxide as it



feeds on sugar. Campers made cinnamon rolls with baking soda and the following day cinnamon rolls with yeast. All the while campers used their ability to follow directions and math skills as they followed recipes. At the end of the week, campers took home a cookbook containing the recipes used in camp.



In Art, we focused on pop art and realism. Each day we learned about an artist who often uses food as the subject of their work. We then created our own works of art inspired by that artist. This week, we were inspired by Andy Warhol, Joël Penkman, Wayne Thiebaud, Pablo Picasso, Claes Oldenburg, and Marla Frazee. Our older friends (3-5) practiced using shadows to identify light sources in a still life painting while our younger friends (K-2) practiced using "I see" and "I think" statements to describe a piece of

art. For example, "I see a red oval and I think it is a plate." Both groups learned that artists often use unexpected colors to create depth in their work and practiced incorporating it into our own masterpieces. At the end of each day we had free time where campers could choose to do free art, read a book, play a game, or do a puzzle. We enjoyed exploring and learning together!

See more K-2 photos [here](#) and 3-5 photos [here](#)!

## Amazing Race

Teacher: Christie



Participants in the Amazing Race have had a wonderful week so far! This dynamic session has been full of surprises and challenges. Each day, teams have competed in an "amazing race" with 8 challenges. Campers have fired mini-catapults, built birdhouses, and "bowled" with their heads, not their hands! They have climbed, solved puzzles, hunted for hidden treasures, and built marble runs. Each race has involved both physical and mental components. Challenges have required campers to stretch themselves to

try new things, be patient with each other, and to persevere. They have learned the importance of building each other up even as they are overcoming frustration or personal differences. Most importantly, they've discovered that being efficient isn't always about being fast...it's about being thoughtful, flexible, and working together!

See more photos [here](#)!

# Sewing and Fiber Arts

Teacher: Jacqueline

Crafting with fabrics, yarns, and threads is a fun way to explore your creative side, and sewing is a great skill for anyone and everyone! From darning socks to making holiday ornaments and yarn toys, fiber arts skills can be both useful and relaxing. This week in Sewing and Fiber Arts, students learned basic hand sewing stitches: the running stitch, whip stitch, and ladder stitch. These hand-sewing techniques helped students assemble a variety of small projects, including a lavender sachet, a felt coaster set, and a small stuffed bird. Campers learned basic crochet stitches for making a small yarn pouch. Campers also spent time on sewing machines, practicing machine sewing basics and familiarizing themselves with the different buttons, levers, and pedals.



See more photos [here!](#)

# SSAT Prep: Reading and Writing

Teacher: Jennie



This was an amazing week in SSAT Prep: Reading and Writing! Throughout the week, our rising 8th graders learned test-taking skills, reading strategies, and writing strategies for the SSAT. To practice the skills learned this week, campers took several practice exams and completed timed writings. We then went back and reviewed each test to better understand why an answer was correct or incorrect. Although these assessments were challenging, campers persevered and improved throughout the week.

Campers learned valuable skills in timed reading and question/answer relationships that they will be able to apply to the SSAT and throughout the upcoming school year!

See more photos [here!](#)

# Next Week We are Looking Forward to...

- ❖ Little Explorers: Jungle Jam (Ages 3 ½-4)
- ❖ Soccer & Art (Grades K-2)
- ❖ Science of Color (Grades K-2)
- ❖ Fairytale STEM (Grades 3-5)
- ❖ Snack Factory (Grades 3-5)
- ❖ Archery and Strategy Games (Grades 6-8)
- ❖ SSAT Prep: Vocab (Grade 8)