



WELCOME, FRIEND

FCS Summer Camp Weekly Newsletter



From the Desk of the Director

Early in the morning on the first day of camp, I was busily running all over campus to put the final touches on camp preparations and making sure that we were ready to receive our camp community for the first time in 2021.

I happened to encounter a neighbor from the nearby Westchester Park homes on campus for her morning exercise, and we ended up chatting about what was going to happen in just a few short hours.

She shared with me about how the school felt so quiet when we were not on campus for much of the previous year before we returned this past spring. She glowed as she shared that it was beautiful that we were going to operate camp this summer and provide a safe space for children to play and have fun.

This brief conversation made me take a moment from all of the busyness to remind myself about why we are here at Friends Community School Summer Camp.

It is not a typical summer by any means, but let's focus on letting our kids play and have fun.

Welcome to Summer @FCS 2021!

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CAMP DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY

A LOOK INSIDE OUR SUMMER CAMP PROGRAMS

CAMP ACTIVITIES YOU CAN TRY AT HOME!

THIS WEEK'S PHOTO GALLERY

Produced by Danielle Probst

01A1 - Little Explorers: Oh, the Places You'll Go!

Led by Lindsay Bearden

Assisted by Taylor Washington

For many of our campers, this was their first time into a large peer social group, and we spent a lot of time getting to know each other, learning how to play with the materials, and how to take care of not only ourselves, but our friends as well.

We visited imaginary parks, museums, aquariums, gardens, and even a zoo!



01B1 - Nature Explorers

Led by Samantha McKay

Assisted by Lauren Hill

Nature Explorers spent as much time outdoors as possible without living out there! From arrival freeplay to recess and every opportunity in between, our backyard was our exploration space.

We made a paper tree and hung real leaves on them. Our campers loved going bug hunting and collecting them for observation. Did you know that our compost has a lot of worms, pill bugs, and other decomposers?

Of course we also learned about cicadas as there were so many still flying about. In between all of our adventures we played outside, inside and made new friends.



UNMASKED PHOTOS WERE TAKEN DURING MEAL TIMES

01C1 - Agility Adventures

Led by Jadyn Brick

Assisted by Camille Samuels

We lived on the playground this week! Well, the playground, corral area, multipurpose room, and wherever we could run around.

When we're not swinging across bars, crossing a slackline, or running fast, we enjoyed our downtime with marble runs, which is basically an obstacle course for marbles! On Friday, we even made a mini obstacle course out of cups, sticks, and other crafting materials.

There was a lot of different ways to play, but we enjoyed spending time with our friends most of all.



01C2 - Create Your Own Book!

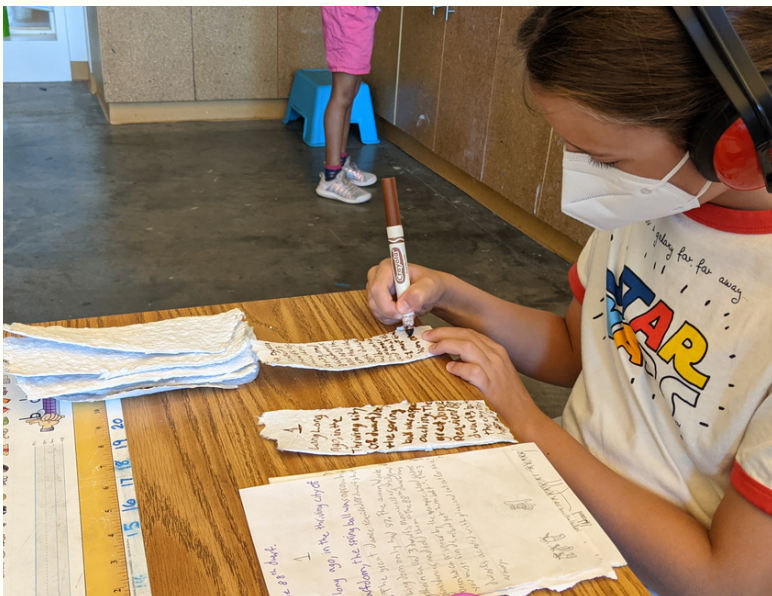
Led by Danielle Martin &

Jazlyn Olivera (Weds./Thurs.)

Assisted by Crystal Robinson

On Monday we planned out what theme our books would take. Some campers worked on stories of fantasy or non-fiction works about animals or the solar system. Others explored making wordless books of only pictures and textures. Tuesday and Wednesday were spent ripping paper into smaller pieces and using a blender with Danielle and Jazlyn helping campers to turn the paper into pulp with water.

A pasty mush was the result. We used the power of the sun to help dry our handmade paper and completed our books Friday. One book was 70 pages long!



01D1 - Archery & Wilderness Skills

Led by Mark Evans

Assisted by Alex Andrews and CIT Alan



Archery is always a popular and exciting activity, but before the arrows came out we learned and drilled safety protocols. New skills require practice and knowing the equipment so we drilled until everyone felt comfortable and confident. We worked on target practice and proper technique. For wilderness skills we learned how to navigate with compasses, set up tents and the things to keep in mind if lost in the woods: Shelter, water, fire, food. We had a great week!



Try this @Home!



Museum-ready Sculptures!

Our Little Explorer friends visited a imaginary museum where they had the opportunity to create sculptures to put on display!

When working with sculptures and little hands, it is a great opportunity to develop their fine motor skills to be able to push, squeeze, and smooch materials like modeling clay or playdough.

Mindful that the process is just as important as the results, and our campers had plenty of the opportunity to talk about colors and shapes. Some even told stories about their art pieces.

DIY Tree Art

Our Nature Explorers blended art and natural materials by using tree rubbings as the basis of their tree and branches before adding actual leaves and other natural materials to the showpiece.

This cool blend of artistic techniques offers the joy of scavenger hunts and texture exploration to make a beautiful collage designed by many hands.

We may be mindful of our physical distance to each other, but our art can always bring us together.



Try this @Home!

UNMASKED PHOTOS WERE TAKEN DURING MEAL TIMES



Catch a Bug!

Did you know that not all bugs are insects? Our campers in Nature Explorers took to the outdoors every single day to find, observe, and eventually release their new buggy friends.

You can find bugs nearly anywhere, and the variety depends on the habitat. Of course, Brood X cicadas were found nearly everywhere on campus. Mantises can be found near shrubs and pill bugs were often found under rocks!

Later in the week, our campers also explored the wonders of decomposition and found plenty of worms near our compost pile.

Of course, ticks were often found as well, so make sure to do your daily tick checks at home and send into camp any latched ticks for testing!

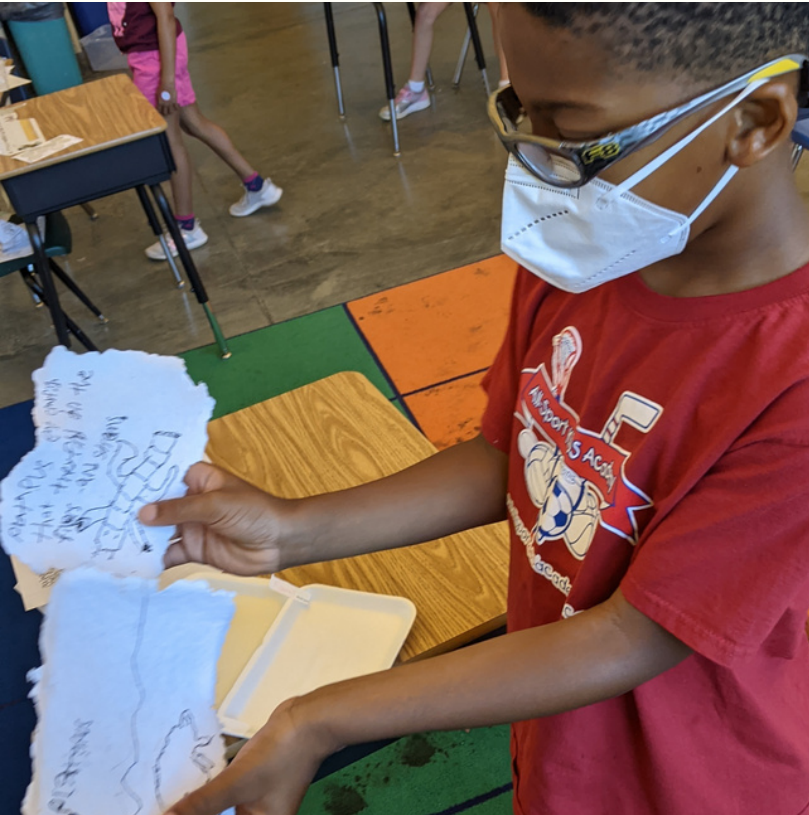
Move your Bodies!

At Agility Adventures, we explored different ways to move our bodies while working on balance, speed, flexibility, strength, and stamina. Each day, campers practiced moving through different obstacle courses, played movement games and collaboratively designed an obstacle course.

Campers can practice right in their own backyards with movements such as standing on one leg, walking backwards, lunging, crawling, and walking on a line. Time yourself and try to beat your own speed! Keep notes to see how you improve.



Try this @Home!



Make Your Own Paper!

Using paper to make paper? That's what our campers in Create Your Own Book did this week!

Campers took scrap paper that was already going to get recycled, cut or shred them with scissors, and finally, added these pieces to a blender with water.

Blend and adjust either the amount of paper (too wet) or water (too dry) until the mixture becomes pliable enough to be picked up without dripping too much water.

Spread them into a flat tray as thin as possible, and let it dry in the sun. Once it's hardened, you can write your own book on it!

Hit that Target!

In Archery & Wilderness Skills, our campers first learned about the parts of the bow, different kinds of bows, and range safety. Our targets are well loved, but you don't need a target at home to practice the hand-eye coordination integral to getting a bullseye!

Start with a soft ball or beanbag that you can comfortably hold in your hand. Find a safe spot nearby that you can throw it at. Tree trunks, fence posts, or even a spot on the ground all work!

Mark your standing spot, and try throwing the ball a few times to calibrate your shot. Did the ball fly a little too far to the left? Try doing the same thing again, but aim a little to the right!

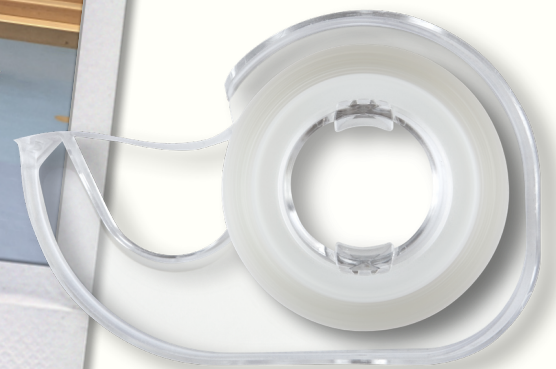
You can increase the challenge by using smaller balls, further targets, or even limiting how many times you can throw it!





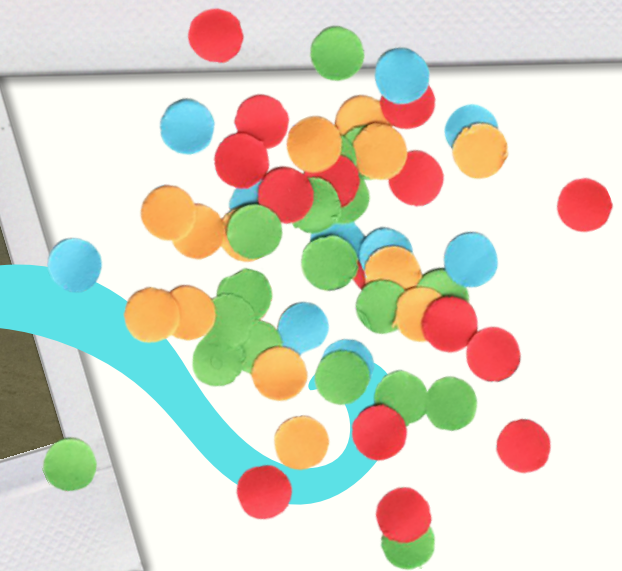
Additional thanks to:
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Jazlyn Olivera (Substitute)
Gillian Rosenzweig-Stein (Substitute)

Hi!



JUNE 14-18, 2021

SESSION 01





See you next week!

02A1 - Animal Planet

02B1 - Agility Adventures

02B2 - Building & Patterning

02C1 - Archery & Wilderness Skills

02C2 - Food & Art: Cooking

02D1 - Theatre Arts Camp

02D2 - Coding & Strategy Games

02DV - SSAT Prep: Vocab