

FCS FRIENDS COMMUNITY SCHOOL *Summer Camp!*

Friends Community School Summer Camp Weekly Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue No. 8

Friday, August 2, 2019

Another Week has Come and Gone!



This week, our time together included befriending reptiles, dreaming of inventions, whipping up tasty treats, and many other exciting adventures! Campers spent their time in Little Explorers: Animal Planet (Ages 3 ½-4), Food and Art: Baking (Grades K-2 and 3-5), Blast OFF: Flight, Rockets, and Kinetic Art (Grades K and 1-2), Reptiles and Amphibians (Grade K-2), Mad Scientists (Grades 3-5), Shark Tank (Grades 3-6), and SSAT Prep: Math (Grade 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 8

Little Explorers: Animal Planet (Ages 3 ½ -4)

Teacher: Lois

This week our Little Explorers engaged in creative, explorative, and fun activities based on the theme “Animal Planet.” Campers looked at different types of animals, where these animals live, what they eat, and some of their characteristics. During Morning Meeting, campers sang songs related to different animals, including “Baa, Baa Black Sheep,” “There Was a Farmer Who Had a Dog, and “Five Little Ducks.” We read *The World of Wild Animals*, *Animals Action ABC*, and *Giraffes Can’t Dance*, and identified the different types of animals in the stories. In Art, the Little Explorers made animals from the stories using paper plates. We then created a mural with our new animal masks. In Mathematics, campers counted spots on each dalmatian dog and pasted pom poms to match each spot represented. Campers also had the opportunity to measure the height of different giraffes using linking cubes. They were able to identify the tallest and shortest giraffe. In the Block Center, campers had the opportunity to build an animal planet using the animals they were given. We had a great time working together and using our creativity to build an animal planet!



See more photos [here!](#)

Blast OFF: Flight, Rockets, and Kinetic Art (Grades K and 1-2)



Teachers: Malik and Ronnita

This week in Blast OFF, students learned the difference between various types of planes. We made two models of paper airplanes and tested them to see which design works best for speed and distance. Using our models, we had an in-class airplane race. In addition, we learned terms used to describe aircraft movement like force, thrust, and lift.

In the art portion of the day, we explored motion and how we can initiate it to complete an action. We used the concept of “sharing weight” with a partner to learn about pushing and pulling objects. We later transferred that principle to creating our very own scissor lifts, using popsicle sticks held together by brass fasteners. For fun, we attached our own drawings to the scissor lifts! In addition, we learned some staple drawing techniques, such as hatching, proportional drawing, and color theory using watercolor paint.



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

Reptiles and Amphibians (Grade K-2)

Teacher: Keely



Our campers in Reptiles and Amphibians have met and cared for many live reptiles and amphibians this week - Skarlet the bearded dragon, Cora the corn snake, Buddy the ball python, Bacon the western hognose snake, Lizzy the legless lizard, Annie the anole, and Whip the white tree frog. Campers learned about each animal’s habitat, helped feed the animals, and made sure they had clean, treated water. Everyone had the opportunity to pet and hold the snakes, and pet the bearded dragon and tree

frog. Throughout the week we looked at skeletons and specimens to learn hands-on about the variety of reptiles and amphibians and watched videos and read books to learn more. We read both nonfiction and fiction books that feature reptile and amphibian characters like *The Mixed Up Chameleon*. We then created our own crafted reptiles and amphibians to take home.

See more photos [here](#)!

Food and Art: Baking (Grade K-2 and 3-5)

Teachers: Patricia and Maddy

This week in The Art of Baking, campers learned about ingredients that help baked goods rise.



They compared baking soda and baking powder. Campers made chocolate chip cookies with baking soda. They used baking powder and soda to bake banana muffins. They made cupcakes with either baking soda or baking powder to compare the cupcakes. Campers also used yeast, a living ingredient that releases carbon dioxide as it feeds on sugar, to make dinner rolls. At the end of the week, campers worked in a group and made a change to a recipe to see if they could improve on the recipe.



This week in the art section of Baking, campers learned about several styles of illustration. Every day we read a children's book that featured food, paying special attention to the illustrations. For each activity, we either took inspiration from the techniques used or responded to a prompt from the book. We looked at *Apple* by Nikki McClure, *Little Green Peas* by Keith Baker, *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* by Judy Barrett and Ron Barrett, and *Pancakes* by Eric Carle. After reading *Pancakes*, we emulated Carle's technique by experimenting with mixing colors on the page, cutting out shapes from the painted paper, and

making a collage of a favorite food. On the day we read *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*, we pretended we were members of the town of Chewandswallow that had fled to a new land and needed to build a new town, but the only materials we had to use were the giant pieces of food that had fallen from the sky. Campers drew plans for their houses, libraries, cars, and playgrounds they were going to build out of foods like candy canes, stale pieces of bread, and broccoli. We enjoyed reading together as well as playing games together during free time.

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

Mad Scientists (Grades 3-5)

Teacher: Eshe

Boom! Splat! Woosh! The sounds and sights of Mad Science were epic. From the exploration of some of nature's effects within magic, to explosive rocket launches, our scientists spent each day exploring the properties of matter and the laws of physics while experimenting with concoctions, constructions and some good ole fashioned fun. Using our observation skill of sight and memory, on Monday we challenged ourselves with identifying objects close up for their physical properties. Who knew a toaster looked so much like a fence! We defied the laws of physics by stepping into index cards, pushing quarters through dime shaped holes, and imprinting codes onto sugar cubes. By Tuesday we used our gigantic dice to answer trivia questions about the largest ocean and number of valves in the human heart. Levitating matches and bulbous balloon



solutions kept us fascinated and led us into our egg drop challenge on Wednesday. By Thursday we launched our carriers from the school's roof, watching some clear with soft landings and others fall victim to gravity's mighty pull. We observed chemical reactions between substances and explored their place on the periodic table. By Friday we launched our rocket with several of those solutions and created plans for new ways to be mad about science!

See more photos [here!](#)



Shark Tank (Grades 3-6)

Teacher: Brighid

This week, Shark Tank campers stepped into the role of inventor and blossoming entrepreneurs. To set the stage for meeting such ambitious goals, each camper researched and explored inventors and inventions of the past dating back to prehistoric times, including accidental discoveries like saccharin sweetener and Teflon.

They then created a board game that tracks a selection of inventions of their choice. Just like young inventors seen on Shark Tank for kids, our campers brainstormed, sketched, built, named, branded, and marketed their own invention after considering function, improvement of lifestyle, audience, cost, and more. They designed not only their new product, but also a brand logo. Ultimately, each invention was written up and assembled with a patent request. Then they presented a scripted 1-minute product pitch to the potential investor panel of "Sharks." Campers shared their prototype with their pitch much to the wonder of the panel who then awarded each inventor with their "earnings." Over the course of a creative week, these young people proved that our future in new ideas and technologies certainly looks bright!

See more photos [here!](#)

SSAT Prep: Math (Grade 8)

Teacher: Christie

Students in SSAT prep have worked hard this week to master both math content and test-taking strategies! Campers worked through various drills and games to help them get used to the structure of the test and learn how to pace themselves. We reviewed the content areas covered: geometry, computation, algebra, and word problems that ask students to apply multiple skills. We used key math vocabulary every day during games and activities to build a foundation for understanding tough questions! Perhaps most importantly, students practiced



applying strategies such as back-solving, making a diagram, and solving with an easy number to get past any moments in which they feel stuck or uncertain. Lastly, we've looked at outside resources that allow students to study math topics independently. Students have definitely grown in their skills and level of confidence this week!

See more photos [here!](#)

Next Week We are Looking Forward to...

- ❖ Little Explorers: Under the Sea (Ages 3 ½ -4)
- ❖ Elephant and Piggie (Grade K and 1-2)
- ❖ Medieval Times (Grades K, 1-2, and 3-5)
- ❖ Junior Robotics (Grades 2-3)
- ❖ Musical Theater (Grades 5-8)

Sign up for upcoming sessions [here!](#)