COOP SCOOP
17 May 2024
A PSCS NEWSLETTER
pioneersprings.org

# Try some Field Day inspired water play at home this summer





Playing in the sprinkler is a classic summer activity. Water play is not only joyful, it also provides the perfect excuse to get outdoors! When planning Field Day, Ms. Tosha intentionally designed water activities that are simple, and that use equipment that is on hand in most homes. Ask your student to describe their favorite activity and recreate it, or try these water games at home with your family:

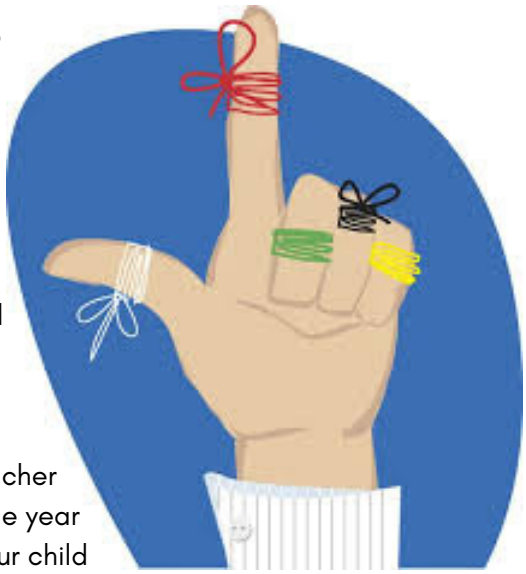
1. **Slip 'n Slide Spectacular**: Turn your lawn into a slip 'n slide paradise with a DIY water slide! Simply lay down a long sheet of plastic, add a generous amount of water and soap, and let the sliding fun begin. Kids and adults alike will love zooming down the slippery surface and splashing into a kiddie pool the end.
2. **Bubble Bonanza**: Who says you need a pool to enjoy water play? Create a bubble bonanza in your back garden with bubble wands, bubble machines, or even homemade bubble solution. Let the kids chase and pop bubbles to their hearts' content while staying cool and entertained.
3. **Water Limbo**: Put a watery twist on the classic limbo game by adding a sprinkler or garden hose! Set up the limbo stick and have participants take turns bending backward and the shimmying under while getting sprayed with refreshing water. It's a fun and refreshing way to test flexibility and agility.
4. **Water Art Masterpieces**: Unleash your creativity with water-themed art projects! Set up an outdoor painting station with watercolour paints and large sheets of paper cardboard. Let the kids paint their own underwater scenes. ocean creatures, or abstract designs while experimenting with watercolour techniques.
5. **DIY Water Obstacle Course**: Design a back garden obstacle course filled with water obstacles to challenge agility and coordination. Set up hurdles to jump over, hoops to crawl through, and tunnels to navigate - all while getting sprayed with water from sprinklers, or misting fans. It's a fun and refreshing way to stay active and beat the summer heat.

With these exciting water activities, you can turn your back garden into a summer oasis and create cherished memories with your family without ever leaving home. So grab your swimsuits, sunscreen, and sense of adventure, and get ready to make a splash this summer!

## IMPORTANT DATES & ITEMS TO NOTE

- 8-24 May: Authors' Teas
- 15-29 May: EOG/ EOC schedule
- 21 May: Pioneer Players, 5-7pm
- 21 May: K Step Up celebration, 1pm
- 22 May: 5th grade Step Up celebration, 1pm & Middle School dance, 5-7:30pm
- 23 May: 8th grade Step Up celebration, 1pm
- 24 May: Kindergarten Campfire at PSCS
- 29 May: **Last day of school** & Class of 2024 Graduation
- Academic & Events Calendar

## Important items to remember...



- The end of the year is here! Please remind your students to bring their mud boots home, and to check lost and found for water bottles, clothing, and any other items that have wandered off. Boots left on campus on June 1 will be sold at the WINGS orientation boot sale. Other left behind items will be donated to a local thrift store.

- EOGs, EOCs, and high school final exams are right around the corner. Here is the exam schedule.

- For families of students in grades K-8: to view your child's benchmark results: Go to https://login.i-ready.com/. Your teacher emailed their usernames and passwords at the beginning of the year to each of you. If you need it sent again, please reach out! Your child may also have it memorized if you ask them. Once you are logged in you should see "For Families" in the upper right corner. When you click on that you should see "For Families Report" . Our school code is Y83Z4F. This will give you your child's benchmark results!

## The power of all-weather outdoor play







This past week we had some remarkable rain showers, and Pioneer Springs' campus was filled with deep puddles. Our elementary classes took advantage of the puddles for outdoor water play. Playing in the rain and puddles is an important part of childhood. Not only is outdoor water play joyful, it also provides sensory and academic benefits.
When children get wet and muddy, they develop tolerance for a wide variety of sensory experiences. Additionally, observing the way in which water flows and runs through mud develops a foundational understanding of erosion. When children build mud dams and dig new water channels, they are experimenting with engineering. These early childhood experiences lay the foundation for a love of the outdoors, an understanding of geological processes, and engineering principals.
Take time to play in rain and puddles as a family, and share your observations of the natural world with each other!

## How to contribute to the WINGS end of year staff gift



WINGS, our homegrown PTO, is collecting contributions for staff gifts for ALL teachers, administrators and support staff. We will pool the money collected to distribute a cash gift evenly amongst our amazing staff! With success at this approach previously, we have decided to continue this collective giving for our teacher and staff appreciation during this season of endings and beginnings. Our hope is that each family can contribute $25 per child (or any amount you are comfortable giving) to the fund. This would ensure that each staff member receives a meaningful cash gift heading into the summer break. Our goal is to make your last days of school less stressful! We know finances can be tight, so please don't be stressed if you are unable to participate or if you choose to honor your teachers in your own special way.

Our teachers and staff are why PSCS is such a special place for our students and we want to make sure each and every one of them gets a cash gift to honor their hard work. To make an online donation to the PSCS staff gift collection fund by May 28, please click here. You can also leave a check at the office with a memo saying "Staff Appreciation Gift Collection." Let's end this year by showing this exceptional staff how much we love them!



# Authors' Teas

## Kindergarten




## 1st grade





## 2nd grade






# Pioneer Players' *Little Women*



















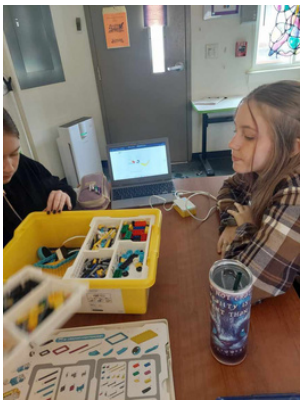


# Classroom Happenings



High school Honors Chemistry students race to turn their alkaline solution clear by blowing CO2 into it. This experiment illustrates chemical reactions that cause the acidification of our oceans, which negatively impacts marine life.





6th Grade Explore students learned how to Lego Spike.





4th Grade studied pond macroinvertebrates with our naturalist, Ms. Sandy.










Ms. Brandi and Ms. Leslie's classes attended a performance of *Swan Lake*.