

July 2014

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Summer Guide inside
pages 16-22



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Twilight Thursdays at the Sacramento Zoo

Through July 31st, the Sacramento Zoo will stay open late for extended summertime entertainment on Thursdays. As the heat of the day wears off and dusk begins to settle, come enjoy uniquely themed Thursdays filled with hot cars, live music, good food and cool drinks. Music starts at 5:30 p.m. with the last admission ticket sold at 7:30 p.m.; guests may stay on grounds until 8 p.m.

The Zoo will also host a local non-profit organization during each of these evenings as a means to collaborate with community partners and to help raise awareness for other local causes.

General Zoo admission gets you in for these evenings of fun. If you're a Sacramento Zoo member, free admission is one of your membership benefits.

Bring your own picnic basket or your family can enjoy the evening's \$9.95 Dinner Special. Kampala Cafe's classic choices will also be available. Please note that alcoholic beverages

may not be brought into the Zoo but can be purchased inside.

• **July 3 - Red, White & Blues, live music by Mick Martin and the Blues Rockers** Car show featuring: American Muscle Cars, dinner special: bacon cheeseburger sliders with red and blue fries

• **July 10 - British Invasion, live music by Mania, Beatles tribute band** Car show featuring: British and Euro cars, dinner special: fish and chips

• **July 17 - Rockabilly Night, live music by: The Nickelslots** Car show featuring: Kustoms and Rat Rods, dinner special: beer battered deep fried hot dogs with fries

• **July 24 - Classic Rock, live music by: The Count** Car show featuring: Vintage Trailers and Classic Cars, dinner special: buffalo wings with sweet potato fries



• **July 31 - Old Skool Groove, live music by: East Wind** Car show featuring: Lowriders, dinner special: patty melts with onion rings

The Sacramento Zoo is located at 3930 West Land Park Drive, at the corner of Land Park Drive and Sutterville Road in William Land Park, Sacramento. For more information visit www.saczoo.org.

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Maidu Museum and Historic Site events

New Exhibit:

“Off the Walls of Pacific Western Traders: Photographs from the Herb Puffer Collection”

Exhibit Show Dates: Through August 9

The photographs featured in this exhibit lined the walls of Pacific Western Traders, an American Indian Art Gallery, opened by Herb Puffer on October 1, 1971 in Old Town Folsom. The shop quickly became a gathering place for the native community and a unique resource for traditional and contemporary California Indian Arts. These photographs provide an extraordinary visual record of the elders, weavers, artists, dancers, educators and community members whose presence alongside the Puffer family made the recently closed shop a significant and memorable place in the history of Native California.

Continuing Exhibits:

“Legends of the Land: The United Auburn Indian Community Tribal School Tells its Own Story”

Exhibit Show Dates: To July 15
This exhibition will showcase the recently published books from Native

American artist, educator and cultural activist Stan Padilla, “Legends of the Land” and “R is for Roundhouse: A Sierra Nevada Foothills Alphabet Book”. The books were created for the intended use of the UAIC Tribal School as cultural and academic enrichment curriculum materials. This exhibit includes original colored pencil drawings from the books and original copies of the books. Stan has exhibited his artwork and worked in education nationally and internationally for over 40 years. He is currently an Artistic/Cultural Mentor for the UAIC Tribal School with national and international experience in publishing and artist bookmaking.

“Our Journey - The First Families of East Yolo”

Exhibit Show Dates: Ongoing
The exhibit “Our Journey: The First Families of East Yolo”, curated by Thom Lewis and April Farnham, honors the first families - Native Americans - who lived, worked and raised their families in what is now West Sacramento. This collection of historical photographs, on loan from the West Sacramento Historical Society, includes pic-

tures from the 1940s-1950s of the Federated Indians of California, an “All-Indian Chapter” of the VFW in Bryte, California. Indian families have been actively involved in the civic and political affairs of East Yolo and the greater Sacramento region for decades. This exhibit shares some of those stories.

July Events

• **Campfire:** Friday, July 18, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Sit under the stars at the outdoor amphitheater to enjoy native stories around the campfire. The staff will provide roasting sticks and marshmallows for a sweet program’s end. Museum doors open at 7 p.m. \$5 per person, \$16 family of four, under 2 are FREE.

• **Storytime and Native Craft:** Bring your child Monday, July 14 from 10 to 11 a.m. for native storytelling and a craft, part of the Summer Reading Program. This free event will end with a short nature hike through the historic site. For ages 3 and up.

• **Night Out at the Museum:** Saturday, July 19, from 6:30 to 8:30

p.m. for a FREE Night Out at the Museum, part of the 3rd Saturday Art Walk. Jennifer Bates, Mewuk Basket Weaver, will present “A Look at Central Sierra Basketry”. Museum doors open at 6:30 p.m. Program starts at 7 p.m. Light refreshments will be available.

• **Volunteer Guide Training:** July 28 - August 29. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. If you like working with kids and learning about local native history and cultural heritage, join the team of volunteer guides. After training, volunteer docents lead tours of the museum and historic site to help teach children about native culture and the environment.

The Maidu Museum is open: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 3rd Saturdays 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Guided Tours Saturdays at 10 a.m. Self-guided tours on weekdays. Admission Fees: \$4.50 Adults, \$4 Senior/Child, \$2 after 2 p.m. The Museum is located at 1970 Johnson Ranch Drive, Roseville. For information, call (916) 774-5934 or visit www.roseville.ca.us/indianmuseum.

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RENT a real Caboose for your party or event.

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EXPERIENCE an all new program, *All Aboard for Story Time!* the first and third Monday of each month at 11 and 11:30 a.m.

SHOP for children’s items, gifts, books and DVDs in the Museum Store—a year round supplier of *Chuggington* and *Thomas* products!

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Photo courtesy of Patty Colmer

Fairy Tale Town events

• **July 5, Saturday, International Celebration, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Fairy Tale Town presents a day of international dance on the outdoor Mother Goose Stage. Enjoy nonstop performances of dances from around the world, including Chinese lion dancing and drumming, Scottish highland dancing, ballet folklorico and more. This program is free with paid park admission.



• **July 5 and 6, Saturday and Sunday, Puppet Show: "Little Red Riding Hood" 12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.**

Enjoy a playful puppet show in Fairy Tale Town's Children's Theater. Puppet Art Theater Company will perform the classic tale of "Little Red Riding Hood." In this nutty version, Little Red and her dog Fifi are taking pepperoni pizza to Grandma's when they run into a wolf. Little Red, Fifi and Grandma must try to keep the wolf from eating them and their pepperoni pizza. Tickets are \$2 for nonmembers in addition to paid park admission and \$1 for members. Tickets can be purchased at the Fairy Tale Town box office or at the entrance to the Children's Theater 15 minutes prior to show time.

• **July 12, Saturday, Arts for All Day, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Performances, visual art shows, and art "funshops" will be featured at this annual event presented by I Can Do That! Arts for All Day brings together children of all abilities to interact through, create and enjoy the arts. Enjoy a performance by ACT ON!, a children's theater camp project of I Can Do That!, and view visual arts creations by I Can Do That! students. Stop by the art "funshops" to make flying saucers, rumba shakers, pipe cleaner jewelry, spiral mobiles and more. This program is free with paid park admission.

• **July 19, 20, 26 and 27, Saturdays and Sundays, The Fairy Tale Town Troupers present: "Disney's Sleeping Beauty", 12 and 1:30 p.m.**

The unforgettable songs and characters from the Disney animated classic "Sleeping Beauty" are brought to life by the award-winning Fairy Tale Town Troupers. When Princess Aurora falls under the wicked spell of the evil sorceress Maleficent, it's up to brave Prince Phillip, with the help of the good fairies Flora, Fauna and Merryweather, to battle an army of ghoulish goons, penetrate the forest of thorns and defeat Maleficent to save the day. Performances will be held in the Children's Theater. Tickets are \$2 for nonmembers in addition to paid park admission and \$1 for members. Tickets can be purchased at the Fairy Tale Town box office or at the entrance to the Children's Theater.



• **July 26, Saturday, Family Campout at Fairy Tale Town, 5:30 p.m. through Sunday, Jul. 27, 7 a.m.**

Spend the night in Fairy Tale Town's storybook park. This exciting overnight adventure includes a theater performance, arts and crafts activities, a scavenger hunt, bedtime stories and a sing-along. Wake up the next morning under Fairy Tale Town's canopy of trees to a light continental breakfast. Prices range from \$25-\$30 per person and include all activities. Member discounts are available.



About Fairy Tale Town: Fairy Tale Town is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit children's park and educational center in Land Park whose mission is to promote the imagination, creativity and education of children. Established in 1959, Fairy Tale Town is home to 25 three-dimensional play sets based on favorite fairytales and nursery rhymes, a family of 22 rare and miniature breed animals, three interactive learning gardens and two performing arts stages. From March through October, the park is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., weather permitting. From November through February, the park is open Thursday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., weather permitting. Weekend admission is \$5.50 for adults and children ages 2 and older. Children ages 1 and under are free. For more information, visit www.fairytaletown.org or call (916) 808-7462.

Effie Yeaw Nature Center events

• **Summer Day Camps:** Under the Oaks Kids Camps give children the opportunity to discover, experience and explore the great outdoors. Each camp is focused on different nature-related themes with hands-on explorations, hikes, games, with crafts and stories. Pre-registration is required so register today. Online at sacnaturecenter.net or call (916) 489-4918.

• **Nature of Things Seminar and Field Study: RATTLE-SNAKES** with wildlife biologist Mike Cardwell. Enjoy this fascinating lecture and field study where you will learn about the ecology and behavior of local rattlesnakes, myths and bite prevention/treatment. Then join Mike in the nature preserve to radio track a live snake and learn how these animals are studied in the field. Space is limited, reserve at www.sacnaturecenter.net Lecture: Thursday, July 10, 6:30 to 8 p.m.; Field Study, Saturday, July 12, 10 a.m. to noon; \$30/members, \$35/nonmembers.

Weekend Events

• **July 5, Wet and Wild Pond Animals, Saturday, 10:30 a.m.**

Some are slimy, some are bumpy, and some even have hard outer shells. Join a naturalist for some "catch and release" activities in the Nature Center pond and discover the animals that call our local ponds and wetland habitats home.

• **July 6, Meet the Menagerie, Sunday, 1:30 p.m.**

Visit the critters that live in the Nature Center and learn why these animals couldn't survive in the wild.

• **July 12, Maidu Summer Village Tour, Saturday, 10:30 a.m.**

The Maidu people have lived in this area since long before Europeans came to California. Join a naturalist to view cultural artifacts and craftwork, and then take a tour of the Nature Center's replica Maidu village.

• **July 13, Whoooo's There? OWLS!, Sunday, 1:30 p.m.**

Meet an owl and take an eye-opening look at these amazing hunters.

• **July 19, Abalone Necklace Making, Saturday, 10:30 a.m.**

Join a naturalist in the replica Nisenan Maidu village to polish an abalone shell piece for your own unique necklace.

• **July 20, Scale Tales, Sunday, 1:30 p.m.**

Can a turtle climb out of its shell? Do snakes blink? Can you really tell the age of a rattlesnake by the number of buttons on its rattle? Discover all this and more in this program for all ages.

• **July 26, Beat the Heat!, Saturday, 10:30 a.m.**

Take time to appreciate trees for all the shade they provide by enjoying a leisurely morning walk on the Preserve trails. Join a Naturalist as you watch for deer, hawks, woodpeckers and much more before the afternoon heats up.

• **July 27, Leapin' Lizard Skinks, Sunday, 1:30 p.m.**

Blue bellies, and alligator lizards, oh my! Come meet some resident lizards and find out what makes these cold-blooded critters so amazing.

The Effie Yeaw Nature Center is located 2850 San Lorenzo Way, at California Avenue and Tarsbes Drive, Carmichael. Donations are gratefully accepted. There is a \$5 per car entrance fee into Ancil Hoffman County Park (Free to members). For more information, call (916) 489-4918 or visit www.sacnaturecenter.net.

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celebrate the 4th of July!

Hey Kids! Time to decorate with red, white, and blue and fly your American flag! Will you attend a parade, a picnic, or barbecue, and then enjoy fireworks displays in the evening with your family? Hooray for the USA! See how many hidden words you can find related to the 4th of July. Look carefully, as words can appear vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backwards and upside down.

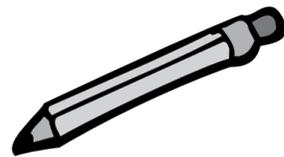
N J R E D B T Y X C D S M A S P C Z
E E E P O T Y N J U B G N E P A O N
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America
Barbecues
Blue
celebration
Family
Fireworks
Flags

Freedom
Fun
Hot Dogs
Independence
July
Patriotic

Picnic
Red
Sparklers
Stars and Stripes
Summer
Watermelon
White

MAKE IT YOURSELF!



3D Star Wand

Will you be watching a 4th of July parade this year? The children will need something to wave, and this 3D star wand could be just the answer.

You will need:

Blue, red and white card, A5 white card, glue, sticky tape

You will need to:

Roll your A5 card at a diagonal to form a tube. Tape to secure, and flatten one end. Cut 3 large stars. Tape the flattened tube to the back of one star. Fold each star down the center. Glue the stars back to back so they form a 3 sided star. Leave to dry.



Patriotic Paper Chains

You will need:

Paper in red, white and blue, scissors, stapler, glue or sticky tape

You will need to:

Cut your paper into strips. Roll each strip of paper into a circle and fasten by glue, sticky tape or with a stapler (adult supervision required). Put the next strip of paper through the circle and form the next link of your chain. Keep going until your chain is long enough.

Freedom Bell craft

This is a quick and easy Freedom Bell or Liberty Bell craft for Independence Day

You will need:

An empty and clean yogurt cup, kitchen foil (or gold acrylic paint), string, scrap of white card, pens

You will need to:

Cut a circle from the card. Write the word "Freedom" or "Liberty" on it, and decorate. Make a hole in the bottom of the yogurt cup (you will need an adult to do this). Cover the cup with kitchen foil. It should stick without glue if you wrap tightly. Alternatively, paint your cup in gold acrylic paint. Make a hole in the top of the card circle and tie some string through it. Make a knot in the string at the height you want your cup to sit. Thread the string through the hole in the yogurt cup and hang.



Patriotic Pencil Topper

Here's a cute mini Uncle Sam's hat made out of a cork - who says that even pencils can't be decorated for Fourth of July!

You will need:

Cork, red, white and blue paint, blue card, glue, pencil

You will need to:

Paint the bottom of your cork blue and the top white. Leave to dry completely - don't rush it! Paint some red stripes onto the white area, and some white stars onto the blue area. Cut out a circle of blue card and glue your cork into the center. Leave to dry and glue onto a pencil. Alternatively, an adult can use something sharp to dig a hole out of the center of the cork into which the pencil can be pushed. You then need to cut a matching circle out of the middle of the blue card before gluing it onto the cork.



Crafts courtesy of: www.ActivityVillage.co.uk - Keeping Kids Busy

A Note From the Nurse

Child Car Seats

By **Connie Goldsmith**
RN, BSN, MPA

All parents want to do what's best for their children, and that includes selecting the correct child car seat. Even though motor vehicle accident deaths have declined in recent years, 148,000 children between birth and thirteen years old were injured in car accidents in 2011. Another 650 died. Using the correct child car seat in the correct manner greatly reduces the risk of injury and death in young children. Still, half a million children ride in vehicles without seatbelts or safety seats at least part of the time.

Which seat is right for my child?

Child car seats depend on a child's height and weight. Convertible and three-in-one car seats can be used for several years as the child grows. Car seats reduce the risk of death for infants by 71% and for toddlers by 54%. Booster seats reduce the risk for serious injury by 45% when compared with seat belt use alone.

Rear-facing car seat: Rear-facing seats belong in the vehicle's back seat. Use this seat from birth until at least one year old. Some seats fit a child up to 40 pounds. As this is the safest position for small children, use the rear-facing seat until child reaches the weight or height limit of that seat. In a crash, rear-facing car seats protect the head, neck, and spine.

Forward-facing car seat: When your child outgrows the rear-facing seat (typically between two and three years old), move child into the forward-facing seat positioned in the vehicle's back seat. Leave child in this seat until at least age five, or until child reaches weight or height limit of seat. The seat may fit until age seven. A forward-facing car seat has a harness and top tether to limit forward movement during a crash.

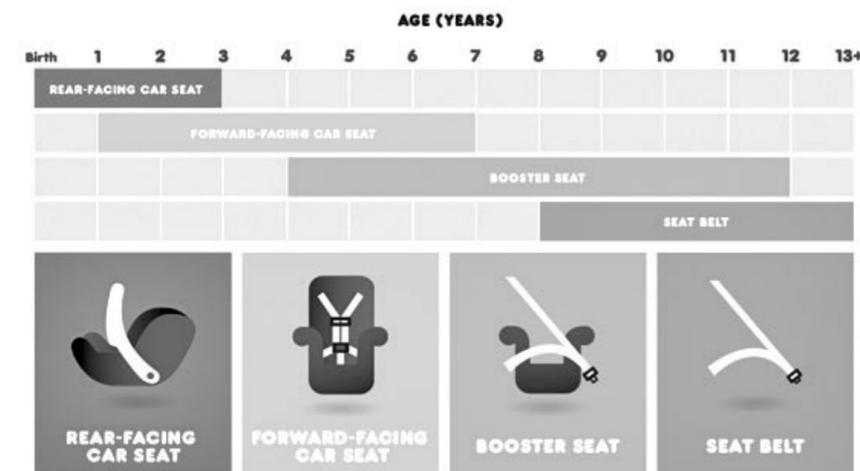
Booster seat: When the child reaches 57 inches tall, move to the booster seat, positioned in the vehicle's back seat. Booster seats may fit children between seven and twelve years old, and up to 100 pounds. It raises and positions children so vehicle's lap and shoulder belts fit properly. A booster seat keeps the lap belt from injuring the child's abdomen and keeps the shoulder belt in place to protect the upper body.

Seat belts: For a seat belt to properly fit, the child must be: tall enough to sit without slouching; able to keep back against vehicle seat; able to keep knees naturally bent at edge of vehicle seat; and able to keep feet flat on the floor. Children should not sit in front seats until they are at least thirteen years old, because airbags can kill young children.

Source: <http://www.safercar.gov/parents/RightSeat.htm> (government image is free for public use)

Do it right

In 2012 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported a study of child car seats of more than four thousand children from birth to age



eight. Child passenger safety technicians observed the children in their seats and interviewed adult drivers. Using child seats incorrectly increases the risk of injury to head, neck and body. The five most common mistakes were:

The wrong harness slot was used. Use the slots located at or below child's shoulders for rear-facing seats. Use the slots located at or above child's shoulders for forward-facing seats.

The harness retainer or chest clip was improperly positioned. Position it over the child's chest at armpit level, not over the abdomen.

The car seat was too loose. The seat should not move more than one inch from side to side, or front to back across the vehicle seat.

The harness strap was too loose. The strap should be tight enough so there's

no slack when you pinch the strap at the child's shoulder.

The lap belt was improperly placed on child in a booster seat, or one old enough to use the adult belt. The lap belt should lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the abdomen. The shoulder belt should lie snugly across the shoulder and chest, not the neck.

Studies find that seven out of ten car seats are incorrectly positioned. Yet nine out of ten adults are confident they've installed the seat properly. Take the time to carefully read the instructions that come with each car seat you place into your vehicle. Your child's life may depend on it.

Resources:

CDC Child Passenger Safety fact sheet: www.cdc.gov/

Motorvehiclesafety/Child_Passenger_Safety/CPS-Factsheet.html; Parents Central provides safety tips on car seats: www.safercar.gov/parents/carseats.htm.

Note: The information contained in this article is not intended to replace medical advice. Parents and caregivers should always contact their child's doctor for guidance with any health concerns.

Connie Goldsmith writes health and science books for young people and continuing education courses for nurses. She worked as a pediatric triage nurse on a 24/7 nurse advice line for several years. Her recent book, "Traumatic Brain Injury: from concussion to coma," offers further details on preventing head injury with correct car seat use. She maintains a health blog on her website at www.conniegoldsmith.com.

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You will need:

- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 egg
- 2 1/4 cups Gold Medal® all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons red colored sugars
- 2 tablespoons blue colored sugars

You will need to:

1. Beat granulated sugar, butter, almond extract and egg in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed 2 minutes. Stir in flour.
2. Divide dough in half; cover half and set aside. Place remaining half on waxed paper or plastic wrap; press into 8-inch square. Sprinkle with 1 tablespoon each of the red sugar and blue sugar. Using waxed paper to lift, roll up dough. Repeat with remaining dough and colored sugars. Wrap rolls in plastic wrap and refrigerate about 1 hour or until firm.
3. Heat oven to 375°F. Cut rolls into 1/4-inch slices. Place about 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet.
4. Bake 6 to 8 minutes or until edges begin to brown. Cool 1 minute; remove from cookie sheet to wire rack.

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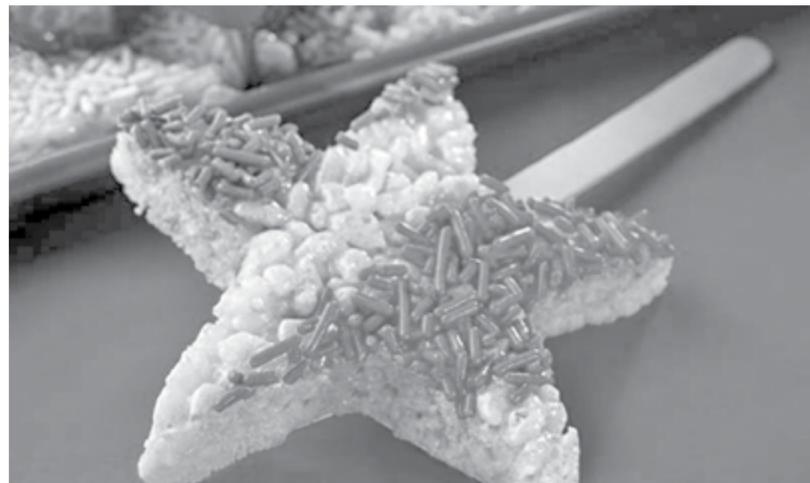
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You will need:

- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1 package (10 oz., about 40) regular marshmallows
- 4 cups miniature marshmallows
- 6 cups Rice Krispies®
- 6 cups Ready-To-Eat Cereal Cocoa Krispies™
- Assorted sprinkles
- 12 wooden ice cream sticks

You will need to:

1. In large saucepan melt butter over low heat. Add marshmallows and stir until completely melted. Remove from heat.
2. Add KELLOGG'S RICE KRISPIES cereal. Stir until well coated.
3. Using buttered spatula or wax paper evenly press mixture into 15 x 10 x 1-inch pan coated with cooking spray. While warm decorate with alternating rows of red, white and blue sprinkles. Cool slightly. Using cookie cutters coated with cooking spray cut into star shapes. Insert wooden stick into each, if desired. Best if served the same day.

MICROWAVE DIRECTIONS: In microwave-safe bowl heat butter and marshmallows on HIGH for 3 minutes, stirring after 2 minutes. Stir until smooth. Follow steps 2 and 3 above. Microwave cooking times may vary.

Note: For best results, use fresh marshmallows. One jar (7 oz.) marshmallow crème can be substituted for marshmallows. Diet, reduced caloric or tub margarine is not recommended.

Store no more than two days at room temperature in airtight container. To freeze, place in layers separated by wax paper in airtight container. Freeze for up to 6 weeks. Let stand at room temperature for 15 minutes before serving.

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Who wrote that?

The Creators of Your Child's Favorite Books

Featuring Erica S. Perl

By Patricia Newman

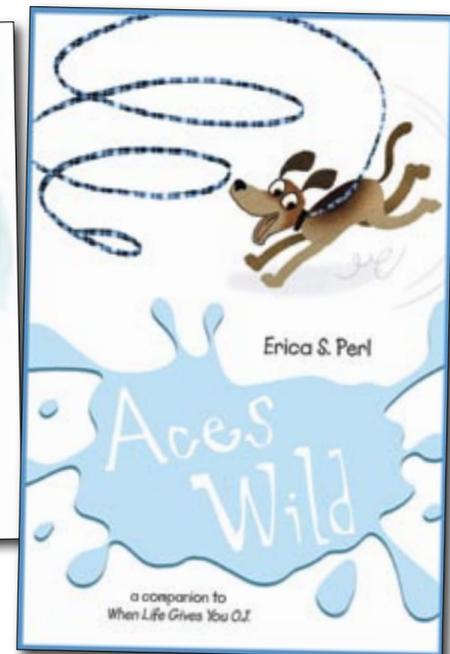
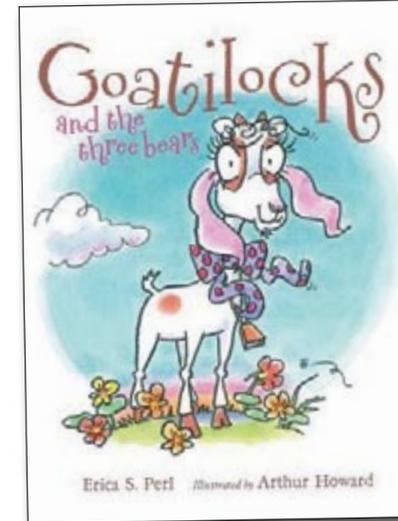
When Erica S. Perl was a child frequent moves and her faith left her feeling like the odd man out. "We lived in a part of Rhode Island where there weren't that many Jews that we were connected to," Perl says. "The summer before I went into third grade we moved to Vermont, and in Vermont it was even more extreme. It wasn't just the religious piece of it, it was my identity, the way I looked...I felt like nobody looked like me and everybody...fit in and I didn't." She took solace in books, and now as an author frequently addresses the issue of belonging to reach the child that somehow feels different.



figure out how the various elements came together.

"Long before I had kids I was obsessed with [children's books]," Perl says. "I felt [they] were the best thing there was and I aspired to write the kinds of books that I remembered from my own childhood." To achieve that goal, Perl connects with the kid she used to be and the kids she knows now. "I have two [daughters] of my own and spend a lot of time doing school visits and getting out there with kids." Perl writes for a wide age range—kindergartners to young adults. "I'm always sort of thinking in my head who my reader is, what makes them tick, what they think is funny, what's going to surprise them, so I'm always inspired by making that connection with the reader."

Unfortunately, criminal defense work did not satisfy Perl's creativity. "When you're a criminal defense lawyer you have to stick to the facts," she says. "You can't weave fiction into your client's story." A night class on writing and illustrating children's books became her creative outlet. "That opened my eyes to what the field was like and what the possibilities were." She received encouragement from her teacher and learned about The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (www.scbwi.org), "an organization I could join even though I wasn't published." Perl's experience in the class gave her the permission she craved to study children's books and



didn't know. A trip to her daughter's preschool class clarified that *Chicken Butt* was actually a dialogue between parent and child that involved an escalating confrontation in which the child pushed to see how far the rules could bend without breaking.

When Perl began writing her middle-grade novel *When Life Gives You O.J.* she thought it was a picture book about a girl whose well-meaning grandfather gave her an inanimate object as a substitute for the live pet she craved. But the story took on a life of its own. "I realized there was so much more I wanted to put in," Perl says. Autobiographical fragments from Perl's life became the backdrop of the story, for example her longing for a dog and the time when her grandfather lived with the family. Although Perl used humor as her entry point, she took inspiration from authors Roald Dahl and Daniel Pinkwater and wove strong emotion and a narrative arc that added depth to the award-winning book.

Perl attempts to write every day, but intersperses the demands of writing between family and job. "I work a full nine-to-five week and try to write around that," she says. "I write on weekends. I take vacation time to write." She heads up the publisher and author relations team at First Book (www.first-book.org), a non-profit

organization that distributes free or low-cost books and educational resources to programs and schools serving children from low-income families throughout the United States and Canada. "My job fits very nicely with the fact that I am a writer."

When Perl visits schools she says kids often think she knows what she's doing

because she's published. In fact, Perl says, "I'm still trying to figure it out. With each book I'm starting new and I don't know what I'm doing. With each story I'm trying to find my way. It's a constant process and I hope kids understand that, but I'm having so much fun that I can't stop doing it."

Next month: Sarah Albee

Patricia Newman visits schools! Her newest book Plastic, Ahoy! Investigating the Great Pacific Garbage Patch a Junior Library Guild Selection, is now available. Visit her website at www.patriciamnewman.com for more information.

LEARN MORE ABOUT ERICA S. PERL

Visit: www.ericaperl.com

SELECTIONS FROM ERICA S. PERL'S LIBRARY

Picture books

- Goatlocks and the Three Bears*, Simon & Schuster, 2014.
- King of the Zoo*, Orchard Books, 2013.
- Dotty*, Abrams, 2010.
- Chicken Butt's Back*, Abrams, 2011.
- Ninety-Three In My Family*, Abrams, 2009.
- Chicken Butt*, Abrams, 2009.
- Chicken Bedtime is Really Early*, Abrams, 2008.

Novels

- Aces Wild*, Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2013.
- When Life Gives you O.J.*, Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2011.
- Vintage Veronica*, Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2010.

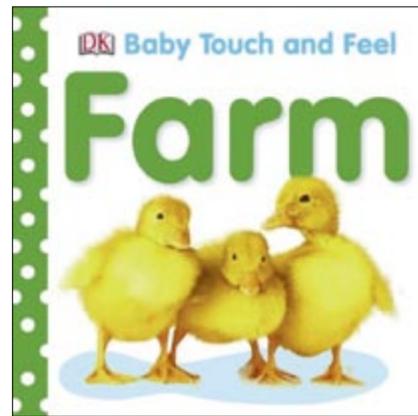
Upcoming

- Totally Tardy Marty*, Abrams, 2015.

For Baby!

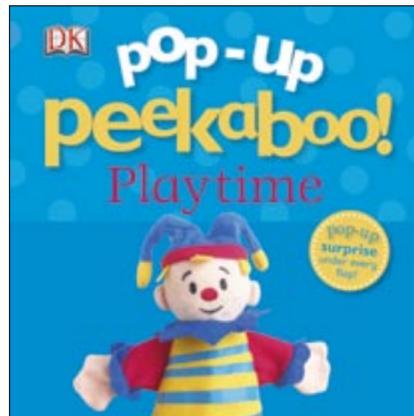
Don't forget the early learners on your list!

DK, the best-selling and award winning publisher parents know and love, has a host of new titles for toddlers and little ones that are perfect for quality learning time with Mom and Dad and will bring fun and engagement to story time. For more on the exciting new titles from DK, visit website: <http://us.dk.com/>



Baby Touch and Feel

Baby Touch and Feel books capture the attention of the very youngest children, and create an experience they'll want to repeat again and again. Simple images and labels encourage recognition skills, an array of novelty textures promote sensory learning and padded covers with rounded corners make these books safe for baby. Exploring the farm is more fun than ever with this interactive feel-and-find book. Using textured tabs to find accompanying images, toddlers are introduced to sheep with woolly fleece, chicks and ducklings with fuzzy down, pigs with pink foil noses, and more. Over 20 titles to choose from, including *Farm*, *Bedtime*, *Roar! Roar!* and more (\$5.99)



Pop-Up Peekaboo

Pop-Up Peekaboo books feature exciting, colorful pop-ups that promote parent-and-child interaction, memory and imagination. With hands-on play that makes learning fun, little ones will enjoy hours of hide-and-seek surprises! Babies love playing peekaboo, and with *Pop-Up Peekaboo! Colors*, they'll get to play their favorite game while being introduced to both books and colors. With this fun and interactive title, children aged nine months and up will delight in meeting a yellow duck, red bird, a blue fish, a green turtle and a rainbow butterfly hiding behind the flaps. Titles include: *Pop-Up Peekaboo: Playtime*; *Pop-Up Peekaboo: Farm*; and *Pop-Up Peekaboo: Colors* (\$9.99)

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Paws to Read with Norm Lopez

Come get your photo taken with the Capital's favorite fat cat and catch a feline-themed Summer Reading storytime. Come meet the Mayor...the Mayor of Midtown, that is. Capital fat cat Norm Lopez will be the guest star at Central Library, 828 I Street, Sacramento, Sunday, June 8, at 1 p.m. Visitors can get their picture taken with Norm and stay for a special feline-themed storytime. Norm—all 26 lbs. of him—is a Sacramento celebrity. Best-known for sprawling all over the sidewalk (a lot of sidewalk) by his home on 14th Street, his image can be found on T-shirts. Norm's Facebook page has thousands of followers, he's honored with an annual "Friends of Norm" barbecue, and he's even become a recurring character in the work of Sacramento Bee political cartoonist Jack Ohman. Last August, a concerned animal lover found Norm lounging on the sidewalk and mistook him for a pregnant cat in distress. She brought him to the Front Street Animal Shelter, (did we mention that Norm is a boy?). Luckily, the vet recognized Norm from his Facebook page, and he was soon back in his normal spot. For more information, call (916) 264-2920 or visit www.saclibrary.org.



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Bugs & Birds

By **Connie Goldsmith**

Kids are just naturally interested in bugs and birds. Perhaps it's because those animals are so very different from the cats and dogs, cows and sheep that children so often see. Insects have a lot of legs and very odd shapes. Birds have feathers. They fly and lay eggs. These simple facts are surprising novelties to the very young who know little about the animal world.

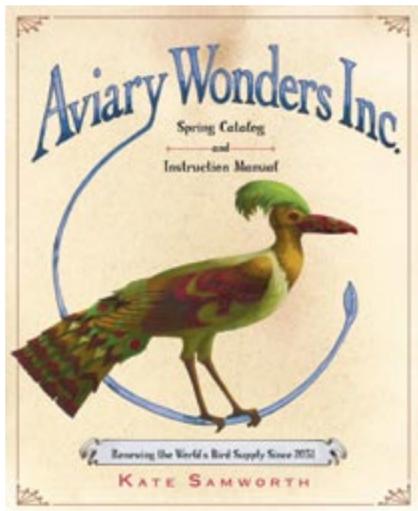
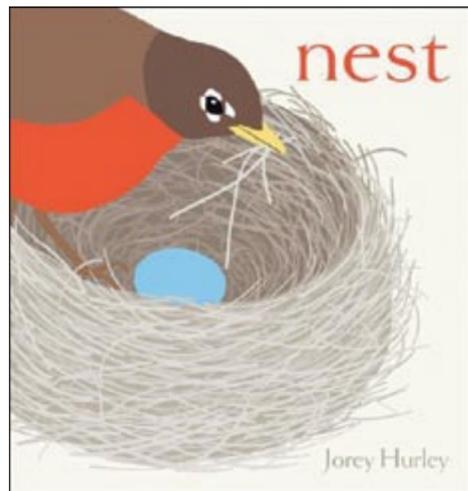
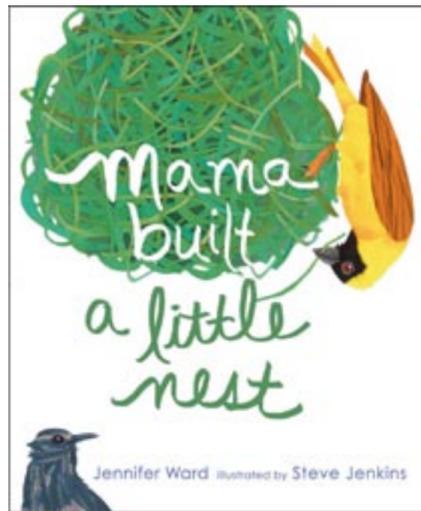
"Feathers Not Just For Flying," by Melissa Stewart, illustrated by Sarah S. Brannen. (Charlesbridge). This lyrical book opens with, "Birds and feathers go together like trees and leaves, like stars and the sky." Everyone knows that feathers allow birds to fly, but feathers do so much more. They warm a bird like a blanket, or cushion a nest like a pillow. Feathers can soak up water like a sponge and shade like an umbrella. Ms. Stewart compares feathers' functions to everyday objects familiar to young readers: jewelry, a bullfighter's cape, forklifts and sleds. The book is presented in a scrapbook format with images and text that appear to be taped or pinned to the pages. The lively watercolor illustrations of full-size feathers throughout the book are outstanding. This book works well for home or school use, and is sure to capture the attention of budding ornithologists.

"Some Bugs," by Angela DiTerlizzi, illustrated by Brendan Wenzel. (Beach Lane). This beautiful bug book focuses on what bugs do. "Some bugs sting. Some bugs bite. Some bugs stink. And some bugs fight." The book shows the world from a bug's-eye view, up close and personal. The scene of hidden bugs encourages the eye to look under leaves, behind grass stalks, and

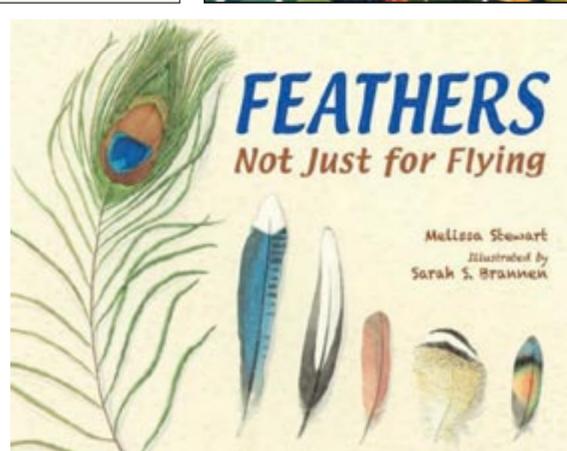
to suss out the bugs using camo to hide in plain sight. The mixed media-art, with detailed textures and patterns of bug bodies, amazes and astounds. While spiders *make* (webs), ants *take* (picnic food). The double page spread of ants raiding a picnic basket and carrying entire berries and grapes into their nest is hilarious. The book's ending encourages kids to look for bugs in their own back yard, while a visual glossary names each creepy crawly critter depicted. ** Reviewer's pick of the month**

"Aviary Wonders, Inc., Spring Catalog and Instruction Manual," by Kate Samworth. (Clarion Books). Quirky, unique, and yes, a bit troubling, this futuristic mail-order catalog has been "renewing the world's bird supply since 2031." It sells bird parts, such as wings, feathers and legs for those who wish to make their very own bird. Why? Real birds have disappeared from the world. To make your own bird, you first select a body, such as a swimming or wading bird, a perching or flightless bird. Then you select a beak, a tail and wings, legs and feet. The book tells how to teach your bird to fly and sing. The art is gorgeous; the message disturbing. If we don't take better care of our world, we may have to resort to build-your-own-bird in the future.

"Mama Built a Little Nest," by Jennifer Ward, illustrated by Steve Jenkins. (Beach Lane). Who knew birds built so many kinds of nests? Cavity nests built by woodpeckers; woven hanging basket nests built by weaverbirds; burrow nests dug into the ground by burrowing owls. Then there are the not-nests: a daddy penguin holding his egg on his feet and shorebirds that lay eggs among the rocks. Each double-



page spread contains a simple four-line rhyme about the nest on one side, and a few sentences at a higher reading level on the other side for older children. Jenkins' trademark colorful, cut-paper collages will surprise and delight. And the final two pages bring it home. "You have a nest - your very own! A place to rest your head, with pillows soft and cozy thoughts - your nest is called a bed."



and explore his world. In the last few pages, "Meet," as our now-grown baby finds a friend, and they in turn, make their own "Nest." The deceptively simple art evocatively chronicles the universality of nature and life's milestones. Intended for the very young, the activity on each lovely page invites discussion between parent and child.

Connie Goldsmith (www.connie-goldsmith.com) lives in Carmichael where she writes for adults and children. Her newest nonfiction juvenile books, "Bombs over Bikini," and "Traumatic Brain Injury: from concussion to coma," are now available. Other books include: "Battling Malaria: on the Front Lines Against a Global Killer," and "Influenza," one of the USA Today Health Reports series. Her books can be found in school and public libraries, and at online booksellers.



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Need a Mentor? Go to Camp!

American Camp Association

The idea of a mentor is an ancient one. In Greek mythology, when Odysseus, King of Ithaca, went to battle in the Trojan War, he placed his friend, Mentor, in charge of his son and his kingdom. Today, Mentor has become synonymous with someone who imparts wisdom to and shares knowledge with a less experienced person. Mentoring relationships are special and often life-changing.

The camp experience is uniquely designed to foster these relationships. When counselors and camp staff engage with campers, they are not just teaching – they are using the core elements of positive mentoring relationships.

Camp counselors share and teach through stories and anecdotes. They impart wisdom from their own successes and failures, and offer the insight that comes from experience.

- Camp counselors model appropriate behaviors. They show campers how to play fairly, show empathy, and win and lose gracefully.
- Camp counselors guide campers through the learning landscape of life. They teach the things that cannot be taught in school – how to live with others, how to build friendships, how to lead, and how to work as a team.
- Camp counselors support campers emotionally. They offer reassurance when situations become difficult or overwhelming. Counselors are there to not only lend a hand but to help campers work through difficult moments and feel the sense of accomplishment that comes from conquering obstacles.

These relationships aren't just a nice addition to childhood and young adult development – kids need them. They need nurturing mentors – people outside of their family that take an interest in who they are, root for their successes, and help them learn that failures are critical stepping stones on the path of success.

About ACA The American Camp Association® (ACA) works to preserve, promote, and enhance the camp experience for children and adults. ACA-Accredited® camp programs ensure that children are provided with a diversity of educational and developmentally challenging learning opportunities. There are over 2,400 ACA-accredited camps that meet up to 300 health and safety standards. For more information, visit www.CampParents.org.

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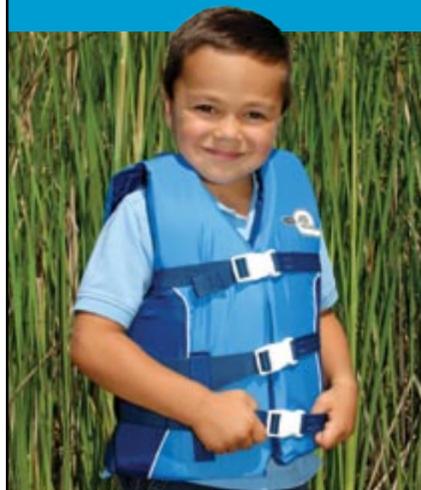
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The Camp around the Corner: Day Camp

American Camp Association®

For 150 years, camp has been the natural extension of traditional education — an expanded learning environment that provides enrichment and a hands-on experiential education like no other. Experts agree that camp is essential to a child's development — teaching life lessons such as leadership, teamwork, empathy, and problem-solving.

The most successful camp experiences occur when families and children work together to find a camp that best matches everyone's needs. What about families who feel a sleep-away camp is not the right fit, but still want their child to experience all that camp has to offer?

The answer may be right around the corner at a **day camp**. The American Camp Association® (ACA) reminds families that the benefits of day camp are extensive:

- **Camp close to home** — Perhaps a child is too young for resident camp, or perhaps scheduling does not allow for extended time away from home. Regardless of the reason, day camp is an excellent alternative.

- **So much to do** — Day camps offer a wide range of programming and activities, from sports to arts to science and education. Like resident camps, day camps offer team-building activities, leadership training, and wilderness programs.

- **Keep those neurons pumping** — Research indicates that participation in intentional programs, like camp, helps reduce learning loss during summer months. Camp is the ultimate classroom, using experiences to teach problem-solving and skill-development.

- **Get those bodies moving** — Camp provides children the opportunity to try new things and participate in human-powered activities. According to surveys by both the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, an American child is six times more likely to play a videogame on any given day than to ride a bike. According to research conducted by ACA, 63 percent of children who learn new activities at camp tend to continue engaging in these activities after they return home. This leads to continued physical exercise that lasts a lifetime.

- **Budget-friendly options** — In certain circumstances, day care expenses, including transportation by a care provider, may be considered dependent care services and paid with a dependent care flexible spending account or pre-tax dollars. In addition, day camps may qualify for special tax incentives like child and dependent care tax credits.

It's not too late to find the perfect day camp experience. Families can visit www.CampParents.org and use the Find a Camp database to research camps by location, cost, and activities offered.

Day camp is life-changing, providing growth and development through teachable moments, experiences, friendships, and most importantly, fun.

About ACA The American Camp Association® (ACA) works to preserve, promote, and enhance the camp experience for children and adults. ACA-Accredited® camp programs ensure that children are provided with a diversity of educational and developmentally challenging learning opportunities. There are over 2,400 ACA-accredited camps that meet up to 300 health and safety standards. For more information, visit www.ACAcamps.org.

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SUMMER GUIDE

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Wilder Ranch State Park activities

Located two miles north of Santa Cruz, on Highway 1 (831) 426-0505

- **The History of Wilder Ranch: A tour of the Historic Ranch Buildings**
All Saturdays and Sundays in July at 1 p.m.
Discover what life was like a century or more ago on this innovative dairy ranch. The hour-long tour includes the 1850s Meder house (Old Farm House), the 1897 Victorian home, 1896 water-powered machine shop, barns and other historic buildings. Park store sells maps, books, water, peanuts and unique gifts.
- **Living History Demonstrations: Some Saturdays and Sundays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**
History comes alive at Wilder Ranch State Park on many weekends; July 20 learn about hand quilting with master quilter Carolyn Miller from 10:30 am to 2 pm. Call the park for more dates and times.
- **History, Nature, and Scenic Views: A Tour of the Grey Whale Ranch Area, Saturday, July 12, 9 a.m.**
This challenging guided three-hour hike will explore the natural and cultural history of the upper hills of Wilder Ranch State Park. Meet at the Wilder Ranch parking lot. Bring good walking shoes, lunch, snacks, and water. Hike cancelled if rain.
- **Wilder Ranch Coast Nature Walks, Saturdays, July 5, 19, 26, 11 a.m.**
On these two-hour natural history excursions you will explore the plants, animals, and geology of the spectacular coastal bluffs. Meet at the Wilder Ranch Interpretive Center. Bring a snack, water, binoculars, and good walking shoes. Binoculars are now available to borrow.

Park is open 8 a.m. to sunset. Wilder Ranch State Park features over 30 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails.

Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park

20 miles south of Half Moon Bay or 30 miles north of Santa Cruz, off Highway 1 (650) 879-2120

Victorian Days Walking Tour at Pigeon Point Light Station State Historic Park,
Sunday, July 27, 1 p.m.

Travel back to the days of the Maritime West on a docent-led tour of the historic grounds of Pigeon Point Light Station. Meet at the flagpole. Hear tales of the many shipwrecks, the building of the lighthouse, the "Wickies" and their families, and the anticipated restoration of the tower (currently closed to the public). Visit the Fog Signal Building to view the magnificent First Order Fresnel lens and explore the exhibits. Local maritime historian JoAnn Semones, author of *Shipwrecks, Scalawags, and Scavengers: The Storied Waters of Pigeon Point* will also be there to sign copies of her book. Proceeds support the Coastside State Parks Association. For directions, go to www.parks.ca.gov/pigeonpoint. This presentation is coordinated with the San Mateo County Historical Association for its 2014 Victorian Days Walking Tours.

Seacliff State Beach

Located on State Park Drive, 5 miles south of Santa Cruz off Highway One (831) 685-6444

Step Back in Time - Explore Seacliff's History, Sundays, July 13 and 27, 11:30 a.m., Sundays, August 10 and 24, 11:30 a.m.

Join docent Pete Wang, a local history enthusiast in pursuit of Seacliff's colorful past. How did Don Raphael Castro and Claus Spreckels help develop the area of Aptos? Hear about the boom and bust of Seacliff Park and the story of "madman" Paul Woodside. What's the fascinating history behind the cement boat, Palo Alto? Enjoy a one-hour guided tour through Seacliff's amazing past. Meet on the deck of the Seacliff State Beach Visitor Center at 11:30 a.m.

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SUMMER GUIDE

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Seminar and Field Study on Rattlesnakes

Join the staff at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center for an interactive talk on northern California's rattlesnakes with wildlife biologist Mike Cardwell. Seminar topics will include rattlesnake ecology and behavior and rattlesnake venom discoveries.

The Field Study will focus on how biologists study rattlesnakes including capturing the snakes, data collection, marking and radiotelemetry. A wild rattlesnake may be anesthetized, marked and biometric data recorded. Participants may also be able to accompany Mike into the Nature Preserve to radiotrack a wild rattlesnake and observe natural behavior.

The seminar will be held Thursday, July 10, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The Field Study will be held Saturday, July 12, 10 a.m. to noon. For more information call (916) 489-4918 or visit www.sacnaturecenter.net.



Bluegrass concert

Bring your blankets, lawn chairs and picnic to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center to enjoy a delightful evening of music featuring Laurie Lewis and the Right Hands.

Over the past three decades Laurie Lewis has established herself as one of the leading lights of American acoustic music, a genuine national treasure. Though best known for the bluegrass she has performed with her various bands over the years as well as on solo projects, she's also branched out into country, swing, blues and anything else that highlights her sweet-yet-earthly voice and elemental fiddle playing.

The concert will be held Saturday, July 12, from 7 to 9 p.m. The Effie Yeaw Nature Center is located at 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. For details on these events or to purchase tickets, visit www.sacnaturecenter.net or call (916) 489-4918.

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4

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JULY						
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27	28	29	30	31		

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Portola Redwoods State Park

From Highway 35, turn west onto Alpine Road, go 3 miles, and turn onto Portola State Park Road. Use low gear as both these roads are steep and winding (650) 948-9098

• Old Tree Amble, Fridays in July at 3 p.m.

Join interpreter, Audrey, on a scenic and gentle 1-mile hike to the ancient and awe inspiring redwood tree known simply as "The Old Tree". See the majestic redwoods in all forms and stages of their development and learn about what makes these giants so unique, and vital to the plant and animal community. All hikes meet at the Hopkins grove, next to the Visitor Center. Hike generally lasts 1 hour.

• Campfire! Every Friday and Saturday in July, 7 p.m. and Monday, July 28, 7 p.m.

Come enjoy marshmallows, the comforting warmth of the camp-

fire, and have some fun. Some activities include entertaining and educating slideshows about the unique and interesting features of our park, as well as sing-alongs, silly skits, and trivia. Program generally lasts around 1 hour. Meet at the Campfire Center.

SPECIAL CAMPFIRE - Banana Slug, Saturday July 12, 7 p.m.

Come learn about a favorite yellow slimeball while roasting marshmallows, singing songs and participating on stage. Fun for all ages and will meet at the Campfire Center.

• Junior Rangers -- Every Saturday and Monday in July, 11 a.m.

Have some fun playing in the woods and learning about the redwoods and its inhabitants: past and present. Junior rangers is a State-wide program designed for children ages 7-12 and gives children an opportunity to

learn, have fun, and earn themselves the coveted title of Junior Ranger. Program topics range from plants, and animals, to Native Americans and Historical Events. Sorry parents, this program is just for kids. Drop-off and pick up is at Hopkins Grove next to the visitor center. Programs are one hour long.

• Little Rangers -- Every Saturday and Monday in July, 2 p.m.

Littlest rangers should have some fun in the forest too. Little Rangers is designed for children ages 3-6 accompanied by their parents. This gives children an opportunity to learn about some of their favorite plants and animals in the park while having a total blast. Activities include puppet appearances, games, puzzles, sing-alongs, and coloring. Groups meet at the Hopkins grove next to the visitor center and last roughly 30 minutes.

• Coffee n' Crafts -- Every Sunday in July, 9 - 10:30 a.m.

Come to the Visitor Center for a good ol' fashioned cup o' joe and your very own bat! Free coffee is provided for our grown-up visitors, and a bat-making project is provided for our littler visitors, but grown-ups are welcome to make their own bat too. Learn about these cool winged mammals, hang out with Audrey the Interpreter and your fellow campers, all while enjoying your coffee and crafts.

• Creek Sneak -- Every Sunday in July, Noon

Fun for the whole family. Join interpreter Audrey for fun activities down at the creek. Learn about the cool little critters living in the water, and how important the water here is to us and the plants. All ages are welcome, parents must accompany their children. Activity is drop-in style, and lasts 1.5 hours.

Calendar of Events

Arts & Crafts

July 19, Abalone Necklace Making, 10:30 a.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Join a naturalist at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center in the replica Nisenan Maidu village to polish an abalone shell piece for your own unique necklace. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

Critter Events

July 5, Wet and Wild Pond Animals, 10:30 a.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Come to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center for this fun program. Join a naturalist for some "catch and release" activities in the Nature Center pond and discover the animals that call the local pond and wetland habitats home. Some are slimy, some are bumpy, and some even have hard outer shells. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

July 6, Meet the Menagerie, 1:30 p.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Bring the family to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center and visit the critters that live in the Nature Center and learn why these animals couldn't survive in the wild. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

July 10, Rattlesnake Lecture, 6:30 to 8 p.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Biologist, Mike Cardwell, will be at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center on Thursday presenting a special lecture on rattlesnakes. Learn about local rattlesnakes, myths and bite prevention/treatment. Then on Saturday, July 12, Mike will be at the Center for "Rattlesnake Field Study," 10 a.m. to noon. Join Mike in the nature preserve to radio track a live snake and learn how these animals are studied in the field. Space is limited, reserve at www.sacnaturecenter.net. Cost is \$30/members, \$35/nonmembers.

Hands on History:

Mining the Miners - Sutter's Fort and the Gold Rush

"There's gold in them thar hills!" was the cry echoed around the world in 1849 and precipitated the largest, unforced migration in the history of humanity. People from everywhere descended on the lightly populated and ungoverned land of California and their primary destination was Sutter's Fort, before they started their quest for the treasured and ephemeral gold. The most profitable game in town, however, became "mining the miners." As for John Sutter, he was not able to profit from the Gold Rush; it instead destroyed his empire. Learn who did get rich off the Gold Rush and learn how and why some folks were able to succeed when others failed.

Hands on History: Mining the Miners will be held Saturday, July 19, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Sutter's Fort. Sutter's Fort State Historic Park is located midtown Sacramento between K and L Streets and 26th and 28th Streets. For more information, call (916) 445-4422 or visit www.suttersfort.org.



Courtesy of Sutter's Fort State Historic Park

July 13, Whooo's There? OWLS!, 1:30 p.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Bring the family to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center and meet an owl and take an eye-opening look at these amazing hunters. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

July 20, Scale Tales, 1:30 p.m., 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. Can a turtle climb out of its shell? Do snakes blink? Can you really tell the age of a rattlesnake by the number of buttons on its rattle? discover all this and more in this program for all ages. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

Special Events

July 2, Read to a Dog, 6:45 p.m., 11601 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Fair Oaks. Bring your child, ages 6 to 12) to the Fair Oaks Library to read aloud to a quiet, friendly dog. Each dog is attended by an adult volunteer, and both are trained and licensed by Therapy Dogs, Inc. Children who read to the dogs can earn a book of their choice from the collection of books provided by the Friends of the Fair Oaks Library. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Sing Along, 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento. Join your neighbor-

hood favorite, Mr. Cooper, for 30 minutes of music time and freeze dancing at the Belle Cooledge Library. This free program is best for ages 3 to 7. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 3, Cooking and Science Program for grades K-5th, 2 p.m., 7335 Gloria Drive, Sacramento. What kinds of animals live on a farm? What foods do farm animals make for us? Kids will learn while they color an activity sheet. Then they'll taste a favorite farm treat: a hard-boiled egg snack with fresh farm veggies. But there's a catch: the egg snack also LOOKS like a chicken! Your child will love this edible craft. The staff at the Robbie Waters Pocket-Greenhaven Library will read *Mrs. Wisby Washy's Farm*. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 3 and 7, Movie Matinee, 3 p.m., 5605 Marconi Avenue, Carmichael. Families are invited to the Carmichael Library to enjoy a movie. This is a free event. Visit Carmichael Library for a list of upcoming movie titles. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 3, 10, 17, 24, Musical Safari, 4 p.m., 891 Watt Avenue, Sacramento. Join the staff at the Arden-Dimick Library for a lively interactive show for the whole family featuring musician Juan Sanchez. This Paws to Read program will have you dancing, clapping, laughing and singing along for his bilingual tunes

about animals. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 8, 15, 22, 29, Homework Help, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., 2443 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento. Drop-in homework help for school-age students is available at the Arcade Library on Tuesdays. Volunteer homework coaches will be available to assist students in grades 1-8 with homework assignments. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 8, 15, 22, 29, Read to a Dog, 3:30 p.m., 5605 Marconi Avenue, Carmichael. Specially trained therapy dogs are waiting for children to come to the Carmichael Library and read to them. For kids ages 5 to 10 years old. Earn credit for the time spent reading and earn a book, too. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 12, Maidu Summer Village Tour, 10:30 a.m., 2820 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael. The Maidu people have lived in this area since long before Europeans came to California.

Join a naturalist to view cultural artifacts and craftwork, and then take a tour of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center's replica Maidu village. For more information, call (916) 489-4918.

July 12, Food Preservation Demonstration, 10 a.m. to Noon, 4145 Branch Center Road, Sacramento. The Sacramento County UC Cooperative Extension Master Food Preservers presents a free demonstration: "Step by Step!" -basic introduction to safe water bath canning techniques. For more information, call (916) 875-6913. No advanced registration is required.

July 16, Food Preservation Demonstration, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., 4145 Branch Center Road, Sacramento. The Sacramento County UC Cooperative Extension Master Food Preservers will hold a demonstration: Salsa Dancing Tomatoes! Tomatoes and Salsa. There is a \$5 material fee, payable at the door. For more information, call (916) 875-6913.

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Calendar of Events

To October 29, Wednesday, Picnic in the Park, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m., 4th and C Streets, Davis. Bring the family to the Farmers Market in Central Park. Enjoy the International Food Faire, kids activities, and live music. For more information, visit www.davisfarmersmarket.org.

Storytime & Puppet Events

July 2, 9, 16, 23, Preschool Storytime, 10:30 a.m. 828 I Street, Sacramento. Join the youth services librarian at Central Library for a rockin' storytime full of songs, fingerplays and books galore. This program is designed for children ages 3 to 5. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Baby Lapsit Storytime, 10:30 a.m., 601 Alhambra Boulevard, Sacramento. Babies from birth to 18 months old and their parents/caregivers can enjoy great books, lively songs and rhymes, and meet other babies in the neighborhood. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 3, 10, 17, Toddler Storytime, 9:30 a.m., 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento. Toddlers and their caregivers will enjoy fun songs, stories, and fingerplays at the Belle Cooledge Library. After storytime, there will be a stay and play group or a simple craft. To ensure that storytime is a positive experience

for all, attendance is limited to 40 children, they can bring as many adults as they want. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Toddler/Preschool Storytime, 10:30 a.m., 601 Alhambra Boulevard, Sacramento. Join the staff at the McKinley Library for songs, fingerplays and stories especially for ages 18 months to 5 years, followed by playtime. Make new friends and play with toys. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m., 828 I Street, Sacramento. Join Miss Caitlin at the Central Library for stories, songs, and lots of fun. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Preschool Storytime, 10:15 a.m., 5605 Marconi Avenue, Carmichael. Join Miss Angela at the Carmichael Library for stories, songs and a craft. Toddler Storytime will begin at 11:15 a.m. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Stay and Play, 11:45 a.m., 5605 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento. Parents and caregivers are invited to bring their babies, toddlers and other children to the Carmichael Library to "stay and play." The staff will put out toys for the children to play with while their parents socialize. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 8, 15, 22, 29, Baby Lapsit, 10:30 a.m., 2443 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento. Come

to the Arcade Library for this new program designed for you and your baby (0-18mos). The staff will encourage early literacy development and parent/child interaction through stories, songs, rhymes, finger plays and more. Stay afterwards, until 11:20) for play time with age-appropriate toys and a chance for caregivers to socialize. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 8, 15, 22, 29, Baby Storytime, 12:30 p.m., 5600 South Land Park Drive, Sacramento. Join the staff at the Belle Cooledge Library for nursery rhymes, fingerplays, simple stories, and songs designed to encourage a range of early literacy skills. This program is for children up to about 18 months old or until they are ready for toddler storytime. Each child must be accompanied by a participating adult. Following the program, babies and their caregivers are invited to stay and play with activity learning toys. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 8, 15, 22, 29, Preschool Storytime, 11:30 a.m., 11601 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Fair Oaks. Enjoy weekly storytime fun with the staff at the Fair Oaks Library. Enjoy stories and songs, for ages 3 to 5. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

July 8, 15, 22, 29, Toddler Storytime, 11:20 a.m., 2443 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento. Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and fingerplays, designed for children ages 18 months to 3 years at the Arcade Library. Join the staff for play time before the program, at 10:50) which gives toddlers a chance to play with age-appropriate toys and caregivers a chance to socialize.

July 8, 15, 29, Baby Lapsit Storytime, 2 p.m., 11601 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Fair Oaks. Join the staff at the Fair Oaks Library for a special storytime for babies 0-18 months and their caregivers. Stick around for baby stay and play at the end of storytime. For more information, call (916) 264-2920.

Discovery Museum Science & Space Center activities

• To July 3, Fourth of July Fun, 12:30 to 4 p.m. Enjoy a visit to the Discovery Museum with a self-guided tour of their "Blast from the Past" exhibit. Kids show patriotic pride by crafting an old favorite, a star-spangled waver. Planetarium shows are at 1 and 3 p.m. are included with admission (ages 4 and above only); "Creature Features" at noon and 2 p.m. are for all ages.

• July 5 and 6, Saturday and Sunday, Fanciful Fishes, 12:30 to 4 p.m. Are you ready to swim like a fish? Visit the Discovery Museum this weekend to experience our Swim For Your Life experience. The visitor is an avatar salmon fighting their way upstream to spawn. Beware of the bear, eagle and fisherman! This experience is found in the Nature Room which has an exhibit highlighting life along the river. In the classroom, kids craft a woven paper fish mat to remember their fishy day at the museum. Remember, admission includes planetarium shows at 1 and 3 p.m. for ages 4 and older.

• July 12 and 13, Saturday and Sunday, Summer Sun Fun, 12:30 to 4 p.m. Beat the summer heat and come inside. Have a prehistoric adventure in the "Blast from the Past" exhibit. Greet one of the live animals in the noon and 2 p.m. "Creature Feature." Blast-off into space by attending a planetarium show at 1 or 3 p.m. (ages 4 and older). To complete your day of fun, children decorate a bedazzled sun windsock to take home as a souvenir.

• July 19 and 20, Saturday and Sunday, Turtle vs Tortoise, noon to 4 p.m. Have you ever wondered what the difference was between a turtle and a tortoise? Meet the live turtles- Bump, Samantha and Larry and Boris the tortoise, so you can see the answer for yourself. Catch the presentations at noon and 2 p.m. with live animals. Take a walk outside to view the wild turtles living in the pond. Kids 12 and under get to make a fun craft to take home. Remember, admission includes planetarium shows at 1 and 3 p.m. for ages 4 and older.

• July 26 and 27, Saturday and Sunday, Butterfly Bash, 12:30 to 4 p.m. Butterflies abound at the Discovery Museum this weekend. Multiple insect cases are on display highlighting local and exotic species of butterflies. Take a close up look at butterfly wings using a stereoscope. If you would like to take a walk, enjoy the butterfly garden. Kids- make giant paper butterfly wings to wear home. Remember, admission includes planetarium shows at 1 and 3 p.m. for ages 4 and older.

The Discovery Museum Science and Space Center is located at 3615 Auburn Boulevard, Sacramento. General admission: \$8 adults (18+), \$7 seniors (60+), \$7 teens (13-17), \$6 children (4-12), \$0 children (3 and under), ages appropriate for 4 to 12 years old. For more information, call (916) 808-3942 or visit www.thediscovery.org.

Rancho del oso Nature and History Center

Located 17 miles north of Santa Cruz, at 3600 Highway One, Davenport, California 95017

Open Saturday through Monday Noon to 4 p.m. For more information or to schedule a group call (831) 427-2288.

• Way up to Westridge Hike, Sunday, July 6, 10 a.m.

Hike up the Clark Connection Trail to where it meets the Westridge Trail. Travel from sea level to views of Ano Nuevo and coastal valleys atop the ridge on this strenuous, 4-hour, 6-mile hike. Arrive early at the Highway 1 gate across from Waddell Beach, and then walk in approximately 1 mile to the Ranger Station to meet your guide. Bring plenty of water, lunch, and energy.

• Wildflower Hike, Saturday, July 12, 10 a.m.

Take a hike among the wildflowers of Rancho del Oso's Waddell Valley. Docent naturalist Scott Peden will lead an approximately 4-mile hike to view a variety of wildflowers - there's always something exciting in bloom. Photographers are easily accommodated. Show up with lunch, water and energy to hike! Hike starts at the Rancho del Oso Nature and History Center.

• Movies at the Ranch, The Gnome-Mobile, Saturday, July 12, 7 p.m.

"Timber was the cry...and hilarity the result" as Rancho del Oso goes Hollywood with a movie night at the Nature and History Center, featuring "The Gnome-Mobile," made in Big Basin Redwoods State Park. This 1965 fantasy film features a tall tale about very small people. So join a 943 year old gnome in the redwoods (run time is 1 hour, 24 minutes). Enjoy a picnic on the porch before seeing a part of California's oldest State Park on the silver screen at the Rancho del Oso Nature and History Center.

• Fireside Stories, Sunday, July 13, 11 a.m.

Pretend, play, sing and explore. Bring the family and gather round the fireplace together at the Nature and History Center for a story followed by activities focused on the theme of the story. This 30-minute program will introduce youngsters (recommend children be at least 3) to the wonders of nature.

• C.S.I. - Creekside Investigation, Sunday, July 20, 10 a.m.

Bring the family to get down and look around as you become creek detectives out on the trail, searching to solve the aquatic mysteries of Waddell Creek. Hike to Waddell Creek, and use nets and other tools to discover all the tiny critters that live in the water and learn about why it is so important to keep our streams clean. Wear

shoes that you're not afraid to get a little wet on this three hour, 3-mile hike and program. Meet at the Ranger Station, located approximately one mile from the gate opposite Waddell Beach.

• Monday Marsh Mosey, Mondays, July 14 and July 28, 10 a.m.

Enjoy a family friendly walk as you listen with your deer ears, walk like a fox and use your owl eyes to experience the wonder of the Marsh Trail. Find evidence of animals, learn about plants, and see Waddell Creek on this one mile, one hour walk. Meet at the Rancho del Oso Nature and History Center.

• Bike and Hike the Waddell Valley, Saturday, July 26, 10 a.m.

Pump up the tires on your bike, grab your helmet and bike lock, and bring a lunch

and plenty of water on this guided bike and hike. Together, you'll ride up the canyon, learning about and seeing the sights of the Waddell Valley, including the Eagle Tree, remnants of William Waddell's logging operation, banana slugs and more. Travel up to 14 miles, dependent on the group, and you may even make it all the way to beautiful Berry Creek Falls. This bike and hike requires a bike that can handle rough fire roads. Participants must provide their own bikes, locks and helmets. The bike and hike will meet at the Ranger Station, located less than a mile in from the yellow gate opposite Waddell Beach, 17 miles north of Santa Cruz. Call (831) 427-2288 with any questions.

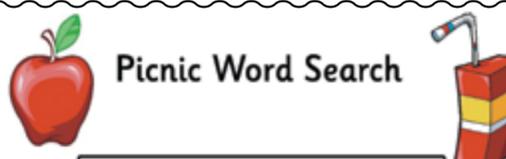
• Critter Crafts, Sunday, July 27, Noon to 4 p.m.

Drop in for fun nature-themed craft time at the Nature and History Cen-

ter. There will be a free make-and-take-activity most children can complete independently, although parents may need to assist preschool-aged children. Any age child is welcome to participate.

• Wildflower Wanders, Sunday, July 27, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Find out what's growing and blooming in the Waddell Valley on this approximately 1 mile hike, 1.5 hour guided walk with docent naturalist Ann Garside. She will share information about the plants of Rancho del Oso as the group walks from coastal scrub through one of the last native stands of Monterey Pine left in the world. Show up with questions, curiosity and energy to walk and learn. Hike starts at the Rancho del Oso Nature and History Center.



Picnic Word Search

g	r	a	p	e	s	p	t	b	y
i	i	s	q	i	a	n	e	c	d
l	n	s	q	c	u	e	g	h	r
c	a	j	f	a	s	n	g	e	i
o	p	u	c	k	a	g	s	e	n
o	k	i	m	e	g	q	j	s	k
k	i	c	g	v	e	g	d	e	s
i	n	e	b	a	s	k	e	t	p
e	s	b	l	a	n	k	e	t	u
s	a	n	d	w	i	c	h	e	s

basket	blanket	cake
cheese	cookies	drinks
eggs	grapes	juice
napkins	sandwiches	sausages

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Unicorn Party Ideas

www.birthdaypartyideas4kids.com

Invitation Ideas

- Decorate plain note cards with stickers of unicorns and rainbows.
- Decorate rainbow note cards with a unicorn cut-out in a solid color glued on the front. Enclose glitter in the invitations.

Party Decorations

- Cut out horseshoe shapes from construction paper or poster board and tape to the driveway or walkway leading up to the party.
- Decorate in bright rainbow shades or use silver, pink and purple.

- Silver candelabras make a pretty centerpiece or accent pieces for the party table.
- Instead of party hats make the birthday guests unicorn hats by making the party hat smaller and adding rhinestones and glitter.
- You can give the guests the unicorn horns already made up or have them basically done and let the kids decorate the hats themselves.

Party Games

Pin the Tale on the Unicorn - same as Pin the Tale on the Donkey, except use cut out of a unicorn. You can pin the tail or the horn.

Rainbow Tag - The goal ... don't be caught or tagged by the unicorn catcher!

To start choose a "unicorn catcher". Their job is to stand inside the playing field and catch the unicorns as they fly past. Without the catcher hearing give the other kids each a different color that they will answer to when called. When everyone knows what color they are the catcher yells out the name of a rainbow color and the ones who are that color have to fly past the unicorn catcher without getting caught to the other side of the field. The catcher can tag as many unicorns as he/she can as they fly by. The players that are caught become helpers to the catcher and stand inside the center of the playing field and help tag unicorns with the catcher. Tell the catcher that sometimes they can shout

"Rainbow" and if they do all the players have to cross the field together. The child that is caught last is the new unicorn catcher.

Catch the Unicorn's Tail - The unicorn tries to catch their own tail in this fast paced game of tag. To make the unicorn the kids line up and hold hands during the game. The head tries to tag it's tail (the last person in line) by running and trying to touch them through the other party guests in between the tail and the head. The tail tries to hide behind the rest of the kids (they can not let go of their hands) while being chased by the unicorn head. When the tail is caught the head moves into the tails position and the next child in line becomes the new unicorn head.

Unicorn Roundup - Each team needs 3 balloons and 1 broom. Before the birthday party blow up

pink, purple and silver balloons - these will be the unicorns. Divide party guests into 2 teams. One child per team starts and must herd the three unicorn balloons to the opposite side of the room and back.

***For younger children you can also play games like Candy Land and Twister. Food Ideas - Cotton Candy served in cone shaped paper (unicorn horns), serve ice cream on Unicorn horns (pointed ice cream cones), bugles (corn snacks that look like unicorn horns), cupcakes in pastel colors with sprinkles, or a cake decorated with a plastic unicorn. Party Favors - Unicorn stickers, unicorn shoes (horseshoes), unicorn stuffed or plastic figures, music box, unicorn jewelry, balloons. Goody Bags - Cone shaped containers (unicorn horns) or make them yourself from heavy poster board - tie up party favors in pink tulle and tie with a pretty purple ribbon.*

Frog Party Ideas

www.birthdaypartyideas4kids.com

Hop right in to these Frog birthday party ideas! Use these ideas for party games and activities to make your next birthday extra special.

Party Invitation Ideas

- Glue large googly eyes onto the front of plain green note cards to look like frog's eyes.
- Decorate the invitations to look like lily pads. Embellish with frog stickers.
- On the inside of the invitation write something like: "Hop on over to our lily pad for _____'s birthday party!"

Party Decoration Ideas

- Cut out large lily pads from green poster boards and tape them down along the walkway to the party for guests to hop on.
- Decorate the party table with a sky blue table cloth (water) and solid green plates, napkins and cups (lily pads). Tie bunches of helium balloons in different color greens around the party area.

Frog Party Games

- Leap Frog Relays** - Set up several relay games but instead of running have the children leap over one another or, if playing individually, hop.
- Divide children into two teams.** At the far end of the playing area set up an orange cone or some object that they must run around before they can come back to the line. First team that has all their players complete the course wins.
- **Here are some fun frog relays: Hop along** - Have kids place a blown up balloon between their knees. Then one by one they must hop around the cone and back without dropping the balloon. If they drop it they must 1. pick it up and start from where they dropped it or 2. go back to the starting line and begin again.

Lily pad balance - Have the kids balance a green Frisbee (lily pad) on their heads.

Spoon and the Frog - Dye an egg green or simply use a green permanent marker to color the egg green and have the kids balance the egg on the spoon.

Leap Frog - Set up a leap frog line (kids on each team on the ground with their hands, feet and head tucked under them) and have the last person leap frog over the team. Then the next person at the back of the line goes and so on. First

team around the cone and back to the start wins.

One legged Frog - Have the guests hop on one foot around the cone and back to their team.

Lily Pad Shuffle - Teams race from the starting point, around a cone (or any kind of marker such as a chair) and back using only one more lily pad then the total of kids on their team. This game takes a lot of teamwork! Cut out lily pads before the party begins. Place kids into teams and give them one more lily pad then the number of kids on their team. The team must place the lily pads in a straight line in front of them and then one by one "hop" onto them - one child per lily pad. Then the extra lily pad is placed at the front of the line and the team advances one lily pad. The lily pad at the back is then handed up to the front and it begins again until they are around the cone and back to the start.

Frog Toss - Float several green Frisbees upside down in a kiddie pool filled with water. Give each child several frogs and ask them to try and throw the frogs onto the lily pads. For older children (older than 3) you could use pennies instead of plastic frogs.

Party Food Ideas

- Green Jell-O Jigglers cut into frog shapes



- Bug juice - Freeze ice cubes in an ice cube tray and add one or two raisins to each ice cube before freezing. Pop them out and into glasses just before serving. The raisins look like bugs.

Birthday Party Favors: Kermit the Frog items, plastic frogs, stickers, green candies, sticky slap hands, "Frog and Toad are Friends" book

Goody / Loot Bag Ideas: Green frisbees, green bags or boxes, light blue bags with lily pads

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