



Summer report 2024

Summer Day Camp Recap

Our summer program began on June 17th and lasted ten weeks until August 22nd. Over those ten weeks, we provided care for 75 children, who visited us 1415 times, amounting to 11,106 hours of care. During their time with us, we offered three meals daily, team building activities, opportunities for social and emotional skill development, exploration of our beautiful coastline, literacy support, and enriching STEM, art, and physical activities, all within a safe and nurturing environment.

We started the summer with an Olympics-themed week, which would continue throughout our summer programming to celebrate the 2024 Summer Olympics. We delved into the history of the Olympics, various sports, countries, and good sportsmanship. Then, we organized our very own Potato Olympics, where students crafted bios for their potato athletes and guided them through various Olympic events to compete for the gold. In the gym, we played a blind obstacle course where students teamed up and had to use communication skills to guide their partner through the course. Additionally, we played indoor foosball and team basketball. We also organized volleyball, kickball, baseball, and Olympic games at the park.

During week two, we focused on space exploration. In our morning discussion circles, we shared facts about the sun, moon, and stars and played SEL space-themed games like Farmer to Astronaut and Human Constellations. In art class, we painted sunscreen on black construction paper to learn about the Sun's rays, wrote our names in stars, used foil to make moon prints, and created constellation sculptures. In the Imaginarium, we practiced measuring skills to make homemade playdough, which we used to create planets for our solar system. We also made models of the sun, earth, moon phases and stretchy space slime. We played space tag and ball and caught the stars in the gym. Additionally, we enjoyed outdoor activities such as shadow tag, disc golf, volleyball, and dragon tails at the park.

The theme for week three at the camp was Camp S'more. It was a short week because we were closed for the 4th of July. We didn't go on field trips due to increased traffic and visitors. During our morning Circle discussions, we gathered around a 'campfire' and told stories, adding to each other's parts. In Art, we worked on a collaborative project to make a giant camper out of recyclable materials, presenting some engineering problems the children had to solve together. This project was extended for three days because the children were so invested. In the Imaginarium, we made campfires from tissue paper and cardboard, decorated them with twigs, stones, and fairy lights, painted rocks for campfire storytelling, and made tube owls and big foot feet. We also participated in the Gleneden Beach 4th July Parade with about 15 children. It was a fantastic time, and we were happy to see many of our families, both old and new, as well as supporters and community members.

In week 4, we had a great time exploring STEM topics. We discussed simple machines, genetics, static electricity, and UV light and learned some new facts. We established agreements for using our gym space and equipment as a group. We played genetic bingo to

learn about ourselves and others. In art class, we focused on simple machines, creating big wheels, making DNA models from Twizzlers and mini marshmallows, and crafting UV detector bracelets and key chains with UV beads. In the gym, we added spy tag, beach ball games, and keeper of the castle to our activities. During Imaginarium, we made robot hands, extracted DNA from strawberries, and built electricity circuits with Play-Doh. We also created cloud dough.

Our theme for week 5 was "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle." During our morning circles, we talked about natural resources, pollution, and how to reduce, reuse, and recycle in the kids' zone and at home. For our social and emotional learning (SEL) focus, we discussed self-esteem and being a "bucket filler." Throughout the week, we used recyclable materials for all our activities. In the Art room, we repurposed toilet rolls to make bird feeders, used broken crayons to create crayon rainbow art, and utilized materials from our beach clean-up field trip for the slipperfish project. We also decorated canvas bags to reduce plastic bag usage. In the Imaginarium, we used gallon jugs and water bottles to make piggy banks, created crest heads, and held a robot and monster-building contest using recyclable materials. Additionally, we added new activities like rock, paper, scissor hoops, jump the noodle, and octopus tag to our rotation in the gym.

During Week 6, we had a "Jumpin' Jungle" theme. For our Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) focus during morning circle, we welcomed students to the jungle with various activities such as a fun safari supplies game, a conga line on Tuesday, a team game called "Monkey Around," and jungle nights. We also engaged in various crafts, including making a toucan from paper plates, crafting Jungle Huts from craft sticks, creating paper bag monkeys, and painting a sundown safari in the art room. We created Jungle Terrariums, Tiki torches, sleepy sloths, and flying monkeys in the Imaginarium. Additionally, we tested out some new games in the gym, such as "Storms and Sunshine," "Camping in the Jungle," and "Elephant Ball."

Our theme for week 7 was "Artastic." During the morning circle, we learned about different art forms and artists. Our activities focused on Impressionism, Pointillism, and Pop Art, inspired by Claude Monet, Van Gogh, Georges Seurat, and Andy Warhol. In the Art Room, we created Impressionism Glue Art, a Starry Night painting, Eiffel Tower Pointillism artwork, and rainbow string art. In the Imaginarium, we recreated Claude Monet's Japanese Bridge painting with our fingerprints, painted a watercolor self-portrait, designed our pointillism artwork with hole punch illustrations, and made a "Handy Andy" pop art piece inspired by Andy Warhol. We also used some inspiration for our gym games, adding Flowers and Lily pads, Shipwrecked, Pencil, Eraser, and Dot Tag.

During Week 8, we had a 'Fun in the Sun' theme. In Morning Circle, we reviewed what we learned during Space Week and added some exciting sun facts. We also played SEL-focused games like Let the Sunshine In, Colorful Fun, and Shadows. In the art room, we created Sunny Monoprints and suncatchers, did squishy paint rainbow art, and went outside to do shadow drawing. In the Imaginarium, we learned about Mosaics and created a sun Mosaic, stained glass window clings, a sundial, and a sunset in a jar. We played games like Don't Get Burned in the Gym, pool noodle baseball, The Floor is Lava, and their everyday favorites.

Our second-to-last week was themed Aqua Adventures, which is typically one of their favorite weeks. In the art room, we learned about the relationship between oil and water by creating an oil and watercolor painting, an ocean layers art piece, and an ocean diorama. In the Imaginarium, we completed a water bottle flip challenge, during which the children learned and used the scientific method to conduct experiments. Making predictions, collecting data, and forming conclusions while doing an activity they are normally not allowed to do. We made parachutes for water balloon launches; we used weight, measurements, and force to help us

design our parachutes. We finished the week with a water day; in the morning, we did our annual human battleship game and then our spray bottle water fight in the afternoon.

We had a "Keepin' it Cool" theme during our last week of summer camp. During the first three days, we had our usual activities. In the art room, we created silly windy hair self-portraits, used our feet to hold paint brushes to make masterpieces, and painted with ice. In the Imaginarium, we built marshmallow igloos, made rubber band paddle boats, and completed any projects the children wanted to finish before the end of summer. On the last day of summer, we held our first-ever Kids Zone Carnival. We had an inflatable obstacle course and a bounce house in the gym. In the game area, there was a preschool-size bounce house. Outside, we set up carnival games, inflatable axe throwing, and a dunk tank. Upstairs, we offered kite making and bingo for those who wanted a break or a less stimulating environment. We also had an ice food cart and a prize table for the children to turn in their tickets from games at the end of the day.

Summer Extra's

Surf Camp: Toby and I organized a surf camp in August this year. We had a relatively small group of older teen boys who had been with us for years. It's always enjoyable to watch them out there, especially when we've seen them grow from being scared of the ocean when they were younger to becoming young men who respect it. Next year, we expect to see many new faces in our surf camp, and many who want to participate will be old enough by next summer.

Literacy: This summer, I focused on promoting literacy for the children in our Kids Zone program. Many of our students are below their grades' expected reading and writing levels. Although we have always incorporated reading into our activities through instructions, materials, labels, and games, I wanted to provide more targeted support. I adjusted our afternoon schedules so that one age group could stay on site one day a week, allowing us to conduct small group sessions focused on literacy and social-emotional learning (SEL). We often combined these two areas. In addition to typical read-along and storytime activities, I sought to make literacy fun, especially for those struggling to keep up with their classmates, as it can be stressful and create anxiety. We introduced board games designed to target sight words, CVC words, phonics, sentence building, and expanding vocabulary. We also included team-building and SEL activities, such as escape room and 'who dunnit' style games, where reading, collaboration, and problem-solving were crucial to solving the mysteries. I received valuable assistance from Susan Sawyer, a local volunteer, who provided additional literacy support during the summer. Susan offered one-on-one reading support for those identified as needing tutoring. She will continue to support us during the school year, helping with our library and providing continued one-on-one reading support.

Salmon Army: We continued children's participation in the "Salmon Army" salmon enhancement program into the summer until July 17th. It was great to include it in our summer programming. Every week, we were able to send a new group of children, many of whom do not attend during the school year, to participate. This expanded their experiences and provided new opportunities for learning and community connections.

Karate: This summer, we were excited to have Sensei Mr. C return to teach martial arts classes at our facility. Mr. C has been teaching courses at NFK for a long time, even before we had our current facility. The classes occur every Wednesday from 4:30 to 5:15 pm and are free for the kids in our Kids Zone program. These classes will also continue throughout the school year. We have around 18 students participating, and half have recently received their

yellow belts. We are incredibly grateful for this opportunity for our youth. Participants at NFK can also attend Mr. C's classes in Newport on Tuesdays and Thursdays for free.

Mural: At the end of the school year, our gym wall with the world map mural, painted by Krista Eddy with Kids Zone kids, was damaged. Unfortunately, we had to replace the drywall, which ruined the mural.

We had funds for workshops in our summer spending, so Toby connected us to Veta Bakhtina, a local mural artist. We wanted something the children could see themselves in; she worked with them to create a beautiful mural that they are all so proud to be a part of and are still pointing out the parts they helped with.

Olympics: During the Olympics, we set up a projector in the gym, and during breakfast and lunch, we watched live events. The children enjoyed watching their favorite sports, learning about new sports, supporting their countries, and learning about new countries. It was a bonding experience for all the children as they chanted "USA" each time. They always had great questions and came in every day, asking which events were on that day. Every morning, we reviewed the USA's medal count and the sports in which they were competing. We also reviewed the overall standings for medals and learned new facts about different countries.

Summer Day Camp Demographics

Unduplicated - 75

Highest Attendance - 47

Lowest Attendance - 28

Average - 38

Demographics

Depoe Bay - 17

Newport - 20

Lincoln City - 24

Otis - 1

Toledo - 7

Siletz - 1

Otter Rock - 1

South Beach - 1

Yachats - 2

Portland - 1