



Bear Creek Newsletter

May 2019

Wrapping up the School-Year

We have had a wonderful year learning and laughing with the kids! We appreciate the partnership with our families and implemented changes based on your feedback throughout the year.

We added a homework incentive program, incorporated more opportunities for quiet relaxation after a busy school day, and enhanced the books and toys available to the kiddos. We hope that you and your children benefited from these changes! We believe that there are always opportunities to improve and welcome your input!

We are looking ahead to a fun summer around our "Novel Summer" theme! Please note that:

- The last day of school is **Thursday, May 23rd**.
- **Red Rocks last day of care will be May 21st** so that we can shut down our school-year site, do mandatory training and set-up for summer! If you haven't already planned for care the rest of that week we encourage you to reach out to friends, family and neighbors.

Important Dates

Tuition Due

May 1st

Tuition is always due on the first of every month, even on weekends.

Flex Testing

May 3rd & 6th

We offer Full Day care on testing days. Please register online.

We will put a sign-up sheet on the parent table for testing times!

Summer Orientation

May 9th

Join us at Kendallvue Elementary from 6:15 - 7:30pm to learn more about summer camp!



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Hours of Operation

6:45 AM – 6:00 PM

Keeping Your Child Stimulated All Summer Long

By [Courtney LH Baros](#) | February 26, 2019 | [ColoradoParent.com](#)

Read that title again. What? you're probably thinking. How is it even possible to keep children of any age "stimulated" for an entire week, let alone an entire summer?

As a parent and educator, I understand: planning for the summer comes with a lot of anxiety and worry. In this age of technology, it seems that our children need to be entertained every second. I certainly feel pressure to make sure my boys have activities that give them opportunities for growth and stimulate their intellects. And, like most parents, I feel like an utter failure when screens win. Ugh.

Yet, whether you are at home with your children or working all summer, it is possible to give your kids more this summer without overtaxing yourself. Summer camps do offer fun and educational summer experiences, but for the rest of the summer, here are a few ideas for each age group.

School-Age Children

At around five or six years, the child begins to expand their interests and their social sphere. They become interested in broader topics and want to dive more deeply into their imagination and ideas. At the same time, they become more aware of groups and shared activities.

This is an opportune time to have your child set the path for the summer's activities. For example, if your child has an intense interest in trains, you can research trains at the library, watch documentaries on trains, visit the Colorado Railroad Museum, find a train-lovers group to join, build cardboard trains, write stories about trains, take a ride on a train, or

whatever you can dream up. The possibilities are as limitless as your child's imagination.

Admittedly, you may find yourself very done with trains by the end of the summer, but your child will gain knowledge in a variety of ways on their subject of interest, which sparks their intellect and fosters their belief that you are interested in them.

For older elementary children, following an interest can still be very satisfying, but they are also moving into an age of categorizing themselves into groups. Finding camps, teams, clubs, and group activities with like-minded and similarly-aged kids may engage them in a way that we parents no longer can.

But What If They Still Get Bored?

I recently came across an article by Nancy Colier in Psychology Today entitled, "Can I Let My Child Be Bored?" It neatly sums up what I learned in my own educational research: "In boredom lies the possibility that we ourselves can become a worthy destination for our own attention." Does that mean that we can avoid planning for the summer? Of course not. But it does mean we shouldn't feel guilty about every moment of boredom our children experience. It gives us permission to turn off the Wi-Fi and say, "You're bored? Hooray! It's so good for your brain! I bet you can think of something to do." Or, for your own sake, "I can always use your help with..." Cue eye-roll and stomping off.

Read More:

<https://www.coloradoparent.com/keeping-your-child-stimulated-all-summer-long/>



Have a safe and happy summer! We look forward to seeing you for the 2019-20 School Year!