

**AUG
12**

**Inspire.
Imagine.
Create.**



kdl.org/summer

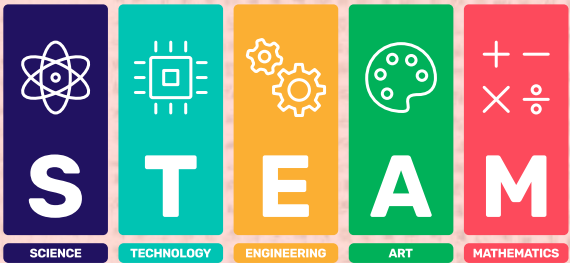
Kent
District
Library



Get creative with this year’s Summer Wonder Challenge! It’s FREE and includes adventures and prizes for ALL AGES. KDL has teamed up with Kent County Parks to offer StoryWalks® in the Park and a Find Curi Hunt. KDL is the perfect place to inspire, imagine and create.

Why Summer Learning?

Keep your child’s brain active! We know how hard kids work during the school year, and we want to help keep their learning alive and growing throughout the summer. The Summer Wonder Challenge is designed for multiple learning styles to keep families engaged and inspired. Read, explore and experience opportunities all summer long. Learn more at kdl.org/summer.



What is STEAM?

STEAM is an approach to education that focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics. With STEAM learning, children are able to develop their brains to think in a way that allows for creativity, tinkering, problem-solving, collaboration and exploration. Learn more at kdl.org/kdl-lab.



How to Complete Your Challenge

1. Decide if you want to track your goals on a paper log, using the Beanstack app or online at kdl.beanstack.org.
2. Start tracking your progress. It’s a challenge for all ages. Do one activity per day. There’s a variety of ways to complete your challenge depending on your age.
3. The earliest you can complete your challenge is July 5. Stop in to your local branch to claim your completer prize and be entered in a drawing for some other cool prizes.
4. When you finish your challenge, you can complete an additional All-Star log to be entered in a bonus prize drawing.

All Challenge reading logs and All-Star logs are due Saturday, August 12.

Workbook Contents

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Curi | Summer Wonder Guide



Summer WONDER Challenge

Kent
District
Library

June 5 – August 12

All-Ages Tracking Log

Earn points (one per day) when you complete an age-based activity listed on the next page. When you complete the challenge, stop in to your local branch starting July 5 and turn in your completed log to receive a special prize. All logs are due Saturday, August 12.

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30

Mark off one circle for each day you complete an age-based activity between June 5 and August 12.

ALL-STAR READERS

Once you've completed your challenge, stop in starting July 5 for an All-Star Reader log. After completing an additional 15 days of activities, you will be eligible to win one of five bonus \$50 gift cards to Schuler Books. All-Star Reader logs are due Saturday, August 12. For all ages.

PRIZES

Everyone who completes the Summer Wonder Challenge will receive a prize. Birth through age 17 will get to pick out a free book, and adults will receive a picnic blanket. Limit one prize per person while supplies last. All completers will be entered in a drawing for a gift basket and one of 40 \$100 Meijer gift cards. Details at kdl.org/summer.

Completer information:

Name (first) _____ (last) _____ Age _____

Phone _____ Library Branch _____

Email _____

School (if applicable) _____

Grade in the fall (if applicable) _____

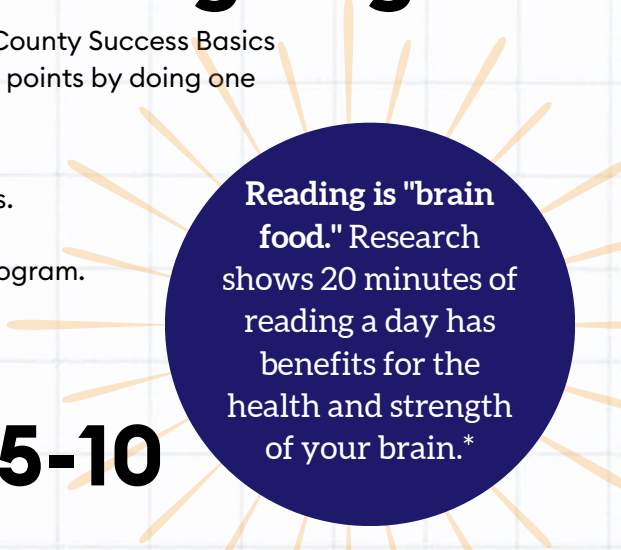
Ways to Complete Your Summer Wonder Challenge

For a full list of suggestions, visit kdl.org/summer.

Little Readers | Birth through age 4

As a parent, you are your child's first and best teacher. The Kent County Success Basics are five fun, easy and powerful ways to help your child grow. Earn points by doing one activity per day on any 30 days between June 5 and August 12.

- Read: Point to words and pictures as you read at home.
- Talk: Go for a walk and point to objects you see; sing the ABCs.
- Love: Snuggle, rock and have quiet time.
- Play: Blow bubbles; roll a ball back and forth; attend a KDL program.
- Count: Count fingers and toes; look for shapes at the store.
- Look on page 8 for more ideas.



Reading is "brain food." Research shows 20 minutes of reading a day has benefits for the health and strength of your brain.*

Youth | Ages 5-10

These are the ages when kids need access to books and learning tools the most. KDL wants to make sure that kids do not lose ground in the gains they've made over the school year. These activities will keep your child's brain active and count toward completing the Summer Wonder Challenge. Earn points by doing one activity per day on any 30 days between June 5 and August 12.

- Read for 20 minutes or more. Choose from books, magazines, graphic novels, comics, etc.
- Write a story, letter or journal entry or try one of the art or writing prompts at kdl.org/summer.
- Listen to an audiobook or have a book read to you.
- Do one of the awesome and easy STEAM activities starting on page 12, or attend a library program.



Teens and Adults | Ages 11 and up

KDL's Summer Wonder is for everyone – accept the challenge! Make these activities part of your summer routine. Earn points by doing one activity per day on any 30 days between June 5 and August 12.

- Read for 20 minutes or more. Choose from books, magazines, graphic novels, comics, etc.
- Write a story, letter, journal entry or poem.
- Listen to an audiobook or have a book read to you.
- Attend a library program.
- Do or explore something new! Visit a new park, try a new recipe or explore a new hobby. More ideas can be found on page 11 and at kdl.org/summer.



Find Curi!



Spot these signs for a chance to win an “Outdoor Fun” gift basket!

KDL and **Kent County Parks** invite you to go on an outdoor scavenger hunt! Use the clues below to find Curi, our Summer Wonder mascot, in park sites throughout the county. Can you find all ten Curi's? When you find a sign, answer the question in the description below, and then go online at kdl.org/findcuri to enter for a chance to win an “Outdoor Fun” gift basket.

Long Lake Park

13747 Krauskopf Rd. NE, Sparta
(Enter park from 17 Mile Rd.)

This park encompasses the northern two-thirds of Long Lake and offers great opportunities for swimming, fishing and non-motorized boating. From the Sand Beach parking lot, walk to the swimming beach. You will find Curi somewhere along the way. What do you see from Curi's spot? **E**

1

Level of Difficulty Key: **D** = Difficult **M** = Moderate **E** = Easy
Difficult trails earn two entries into the prize drawing.

Wahlfield Park

6811 Alpine Ave. NW, Comstock Park
(Corner of Alpine and 8 Mile)

Wahlfield Park features a main recreational area that also serves as a trailhead for its extensive trail network. Curi loves a playground and loves big boulders. You will find Curi somewhere near both. What can you see from Curi's spot? Notice the many trail loops that allow you to continue on foot or bike. **E**

2

Pickerel Lake Park

6001 Ramsdell Dr. NE, Rockford

Also known as the Fred Meijer Nature Preserve, Pickerel Lake Park offers a scenic mix of natural areas to explore along a branching network of trails.

Curi #1 – From the parking lot, venture across the boardwalk at the start of the Lake Trail. Curi loves to watch for birds over the water. What is the name of one of the birds on the sign? **E**

Curi #2 – This is not an accessible trail. If you are feeling adventurous, continue across the bridge. At the fork, go right to follow the Blue Trail around the lake. The color bands at the top of the post tell you what trail you are on. As you come around to the other side of the lake, look for an interpretive sign near a couple of benches. Curi is somewhere nearby. Curi is trying to learn what type of lake is found in this area. What is it called? **D**

Note: This park site is a nature preserve; watercraft, swimming, bicycles and dogs are not permitted.

3

Millennium Park

1415 Maynard Ave. SW, Walker

Millennium Park is one of our nation's largest urban parks, with more than 1,400 acres of rolling terrain and six miles of Grand River frontage.

Curi #1 – Park in the Secchia Meadows parking area. Head toward the Universal Bridge (to the right of the pavilion). You can walk or ride bikes! Curi loves to look out over the water from a favorite spot. Name something specific that you see from this magnificent view. **E**

Curi #2 The park map is helpful on this one. If you want to go even further, continue across the bridge. Stay on the main paved path and go left along the water. You will see the bridge you just crossed from across the water. The path will form a T near a park map sign. Go to the right until you see a short dirt path to an observation deck where Curi loves to watch the birds. Name three birds/animals you see from Curi's spot. **D**

Curi #3 – Park at the DeVos Boathouse lot on the Recreation Area side of Millennium Park. Take the trail to the left. Wind around the lake until you see a big rock. Take the Hansen Nature trail boardwalk until you come to a fork in the trail. Do you see Curi? Which way did you go? **M**

4

Fallasburg Park

1124 Fallasburg Park Dr. NE, Lowell

5

This park is a favorite for picnics and other recreational pursuits, and it features a covered bridge across the Flat River. Park at the enclosed shelter. Take the paved path on the right down a hill and cross a lovely bridge. You will come to a fork. You can go either way up the hill and find Curi. Name one of the tribes indigenous to this area. If you desire a route with better accessibility, take Covered Bridge Road to the baseball field parking lot, then take the path just right of the restrooms to find Curi. **E**



KENT COUNTY PARKS AND TRAILS

Trail Key

Managed by Kent County Parks

- Connector Trail - Completed
- Connector Trail - In Development
- Extended Hiking Trail - Planned

Managed by Other Agencies

- Connector Trail - Completed
- Connector Trail - Planned
- Extended Hiking Trail - Completed
- Extended Hiking Trail - Planned



Palmer Park

1275 52nd St. SW, Wyoming

6

Palmer Park offers more than 300 acres of greenspace within the City of Wyoming. Park in one of the lots near the shelter or on the main road. Walk to the end of the road and continue past the roundabout until you see a wonderful creek. Go to the bridge that crosses the creek and find Curi. From the bridge, look down into the creek. Name something you see. **M**

Lepard Nature Preserve

6030 76th St. SE, Caledonia

7

Lepard is a beautiful natural preserve with hills and bridges featuring excellent opportunities for hiking and exploration.

Curi #1 – From the parking lot, walk the short trail until you get to a lovely bridge. Did you find Curi? Name something you see from Curi's spot. **E**

Curi #2 – Continue walking the trail to the loop start. Please note that this trail is not considered an accessible trail as it can get a bit rough and is unpaved—enthusiastic hikers only! **Hint:** If you go left at the trail loop, you will find Curi faster. Once on the loop, pay attention to the interpretive signs. What is the name of the amphibian on the sign where Curi is? **M**

STORYWALK®

Walk along, read along! Kent District Library teams up with Kent County Parks to bring you special outdoor StoryWalks® to enjoy with your family through Aug. 31.

Dwight Lydell Park

4040 Leland Ave. NE, Comstock Park

A

Caledonia Lakeside Park

370 N. Lake St. SE, Caledonia

B

Millennium Park

1415 Maynard Ave SW, Walker

C

Featured
StoryWalk® titles



One Fox: A Counting Book Thriller
by Kate Read

Explorers of the Wild
by Cale Atkinson



Jayden's Impossible Garden
by Mélina Mangal

The Hidden Rainbow
by Christie Matheson



Little Readers

Birth – Age 4

**As a parent, you
are your child's
first, best teacher.**

The Kent County Success Basics are five fun, easy and powerful ways to help your child grow smarter.

30-Day Challenge Ideas

READ

AND DISCUSS STORIES

Reading turns kids into confident thinkers. Make books a regular part of your relationship from the very beginning. With infants, point at the pictures and speak with excitement. With toddlers, just make it fun.

- Read a story and act out movements to some of the action words.
- While reading, describe the pictures, talking about colors, shapes and characters.

TALK

SING AND POINT

Babies learn language from the moment they are born. Respond to their sounds and, later, their words. Connect through eye contact and a loving tone of voice, while pointing to help them know what you are talking about.

- Say and do the motions to one of your favorite rhymes.
- Make up your own verses for the song, "If You're Happy and You Know It."

LOVE

MAXIMIZE LOVE
MANAGE STRESS

Babies and toddlers thrive when their world feels loving, safe and predictable. Respond with smiles, words and touch to help them see, hear and feel your love. You will help them develop a sense of security and self-control.

- Have your child help you prepare dinner.
- Spend time outside together. Spread out a blanket, and look at the clouds.

PLAY

EXPLORE THROUGH
MOVEMENT AND PLAY

Babies are like scientists who love making discoveries. Watch to see what interests your child, then encourage their curiosity and help them learn when they play and explore.

- Put on a puppet show using stuffed animals, or make your own sock puppet.
- Get out spoons and pots to make a kitchen band.

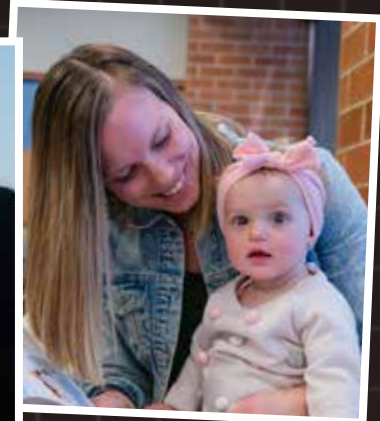
COUNT

GROUP AND COMPARE

Every child's brain is wired for math. Talk about numbers, shapes, patterns and comparisons as you go about your routines together. Watch your child learn to love math.

- Help your child clap to the beat as you listen to a song.
- Count a basket of objects together and sort them into related groups.

Please visit kdl.org/successbasics for more information.



Youth | AGES 5-10

30-Day Challenge Ideas

KDL's Summer Wonder is for everyone — accept the challenge! Make these activities part of your summer routine.

- Read for at least 20 minutes. Choose from books, magazines, graphic novels, comics, and more.
- Write a story, letter or journal entry or try one of the art or writing prompts below.
- Listen to an audiobook or have a book read to you.
- Do one of the awesome and easy STEAM activities beginning on page 10 or attend a library program.



Writing Prompts

1. Imagine that you own your very own island. What rules would you set on this island? Who would be allowed to stay on this island? What would the creatures and animals on this island get to do?
2. Write a how-to guide on planning the best picnic ever!
3. You are going to the seaside. Make a list of 10 things you need to pack into your suitcase and explain why you need each item.
4. Have you ever gone to a summer camp? What was it like? If you haven't been to a summer camp, write a fictional story about your ideal experience.
5. One day you are flying a kite in your backyard when all of a sudden...

Youth

AGES 5–10 (Continued)

Art Prompts

1. On a piece of paper, place your pen down and draw without picking your pen up.
2. Do you have a favorite book? Draw a different cover for that book.
3. Fold a piece of paper in half and draw half an animal on one side. Then have a friend complete the other side of the picture.
4. Tear some colored paper. Glue the pieces onto a different piece of paper to create a collage (a picture that is made from smaller images being put together).
5. Using chalk, create a sidewalk chalk zoo!



Teens and Adults

Ages 11 & Up

KDL's Summer Wonder is for everyone — accept the challenge! Make these activities part of your summer routine. Do one activity per day for 30 days.

- Read for at least 20 minutes. Choose from books, magazines, graphic novels, comics and more.
- Write a story, letter, journal entry or poem.
- Attend a library program.
- Listen to an audiobook or have a book read to you.
- Do or explore something new! Visit a new park, try a new recipe or explore a new hobby. See more ideas on the next page.



More 30-Day Challenge Ideas for Teens and Adults

1. Visit a KDL branch you haven't been to before. Visit kdl.org/locations for a list of the branches.
2. Hike a nature trail. Check out kentcountyparks.org for suggestions.
3. Practice a new language. Try Rosetta Stone or Mango (kdl.org/language-resources).
4. Recycle old magazines to create a vision board or dream journal. Check out your library's book sale for materials.
5. Create a photo tour of an outdoor space. Capture sights to share with others.
6. Plant a native flower in your yard or in a pot to support pollinators.
7. Write a story to tell around a campfire.
8. Visit a partner organization from KDL PerkPass (kdl.org/perkpass).
9. Clean and save recyclable materials to donate to school art projects.
10. Try a mindfulness activity. Choose a flower or leaf. Concentrate on it and list every detail in your mind – texture, color, features, outline, smell.
11. Attend a summer festival, a parade or a KDL event (kdl.org/events).
12. Start a journal. Check out a book or blog on different styles – bullet, art, dot, nature, travel, etc.
13. Watercolor or fingerpaint!
14. Watch a movie or listen to a Grammy-winning album. Browse Kanopy for movies or Freegal for music with your KDL library account. (kdl.org/downloads).



Win a
Picnic
Blanket!

Adult Prize: Picnic Blanket (While supplies last)

15. Select a recommendation from our KDL Staff Picks (kdl.org/staff-picks).
16. Play a new board, video or card game (kdl.org/games).
17. Discover local music (vibes.kdl.org).
18. Find support for your hobby or discover a new one (kdl.org/diy).
19. Try international cuisine at a local restaurant or check out a cookbook to try recipes from around the world.
20. Make a card for or write a letter to someone you haven't seen in a while.

Make a Telephone with Paper Cups and String



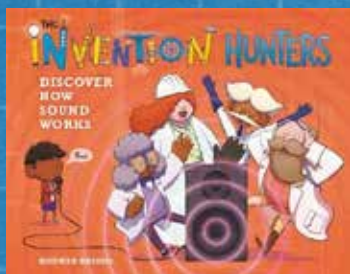
WHAT YOU NEED:

- Two paper cups
- A pencil
- String (about four feet)
- A friend to “call”

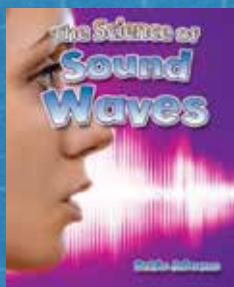
HOW TO:

1. Make a hole at the center of the base of the cups with a pencil. The hole should be big enough to feed the string through the hole.
2. Pull the string through the center of the cup and tie a knot to fix it in place. Then tape it to make sure the string sits firmly at the inside of the base.
3. Pull the loose end of the string and do the same with the other cup, making sure the bases of the cups are facing each other. Now you should have two paper cups attached together with a long string.
4. Move away from your friend and make sure the string is tight and stretched between the two of you.
5. Talk into the cup and your friend will be able to hear what you just said through your cup.

Related Books:



*The Invention Hunters
Discover How Sound Works*
by Korwin Briggs



*The Science of Sound
Waves* by Robin Johnson

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The bottom of each cup serves as both a microphone and speaker, picking up sound vibrations on one and reproducing the sound on the other. The sound of your voice vibrates the cup and this causes the string to vibrate. Our ears collect the sound vibrations, send them to our brain and then we hear the sound.

Nature Collage Art



WHAT YOU NEED:

- Collage materials like sticks, rocks, leaves, flowers, dirt, tree bark, sand or seeds
- Paper
- Glue or tape



HOW TO:

1. Go for a nature walk and take along a small bag.
2. Fill the bag with things from nature to use in your art.
3. Glue or tape the items to your paper to make your creation.
4. If you would prefer, you can lay your items out, take a picture and then return the items to nature.



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Collage art uses materials of different textures, colors or patterns to create a scene or pattern. Collage artist Lois Ehlert cuts out each of the pieces of her scenes and moves them around until she has created the picture she wants. She will use things from nature and also fabric or other materials. By using things you find in nature to put together a scene, you are using your imagination to create a beautiful work of art.

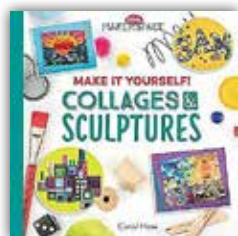
FUN FACT

Collage techniques were first used at the time of the invention of paper in China around 200 B.C. The use of collage, however, remained very limited until the 10th century in Japan, when calligraphers began to apply glued paper, using texts on surfaces, when writing their poems.

Related Books:



Birds of a Feather
by Susan L. Roth



*Make It Yourself!
Collages & Sculptures*
by Carol Hove



The Nature Craft Book
by Clare Beaton

Create a Colorful Design



WHAT YOU NEED:

- Coffee filter or paper towel
- Water
- Markers (washable)
- Tray (example: cookie sheet)

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Color Mixing – When two primary colors are mixed together, a new, secondary color is formed. Yellow and blue together make green, and yellow and red together make orange. Can you guess what color blue and red make when they are combined together?

Solubility – If something is soluble, it will dissolve in a liquid. The ink used in washable markers dissolves in water. When you added drops of water to the designs on the paper, the ink should spread out and run along the fibers in the paper with the water.

HOW TO:

1. Use markers to create a design or picture on a coffee filter or piece of paper towel. Try to cover the area as much as possible.
2. Place your coffee filter or paper towel on a tray in one layer.
3. Use your fingers to drip water on the coffee filter or paper towel and watch the colors spread.
4. Continue dripping water until the colors have mixed together.
5. Let it dry and then hang up your creation!
6. Try using a permanent marker along with the washable markers to test the difference.

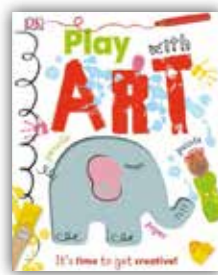
Related Books:



The Little Artists' Big Book of Activities
by Shannon Wong-Nizic



Busy Little Hands: Art Play! by Meredith Magee Donnelly



Play with Art by DK

FUN FACT

Sir Isaac Newton developed the first color wheel when he expanded color theory in his 1704 work, *Opticks*. Here Newton says that the source of color was light and that white light, when passed through a prism, created a spectrum of colors ranging from red to violet.



Pattern Play

Create a work of art using a pattern of flat shapes.



WHAT YOU NEED:

- A blank piece of paper
- Pencil
- Markers or crayons

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

You are making regular tessellations! A regular tessellation is created when something is covered in a repeating flat shape with no spaces or overlaps. Most tessellations are made using regular polygons, which are shapes made of straight lines where all sides are the same length. Triangles, squares and hexagons (six-sided shapes) are examples of regular polygons. You can also make semi-regular tessellations which combine two or more regular polygons. Can you make a new tessellation paper that uses both triangles and squares? Remember that you want to fill the paper as much as you can without spaces or overlaps.

HOW TO:

1. Decide if you would like to draw triangles or squares.
2. Draw your first shape with a pencil wherever you want on your paper.
3. Draw the shape again using one of the sides of your first square or triangle as a side of the new shape.
4. Repeat this pattern over and over until your page is filled as much as possible.
5. Make sure you don't leave any spaces and your shapes don't overlap. They should share sides, though.
6. Color in your squares or triangles however you'd like. Can you follow a pattern with how you color in your shapes as well?

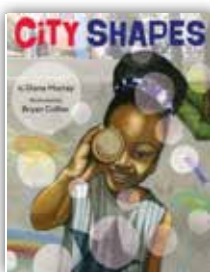
FUN FACT

Dutch Graphic Artist M.C. Escher can be regarded as the "father of modern tessellation" in art. He was a master of wood cuts and produced many superbly crafted tessellations in his vast body of work.

Related Books:



Pitter Pattern
by Joyce Hesselberth



City Shapes
by Diana Murray



Bracelets for Bina's Brothers
by Rajani LaRocca

Scan this code to open a guide you can print and use for drawing new patterns!



What Floats Your Boat?



WHAT YOU NEED:

- One 12-inch square of tin foil
- 40 pennies (or any mixture of coins)

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Buoyancy is the ability of an object to float when placed in a fluid. Surface area, the amount of space an object occupies, greatly affects the buoyancy of an object. A larger surface area allows the force (pennies) to be spread out over a larger area. This allows the boat to float even with the “cargo.”

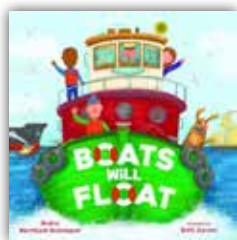
HOW TO:

1. Fold your tin foil into a boat. It can be any shape you like, as simple or as complex as you want.
2. Once your boat is ready, set it in the water.
3. How many pennies can you pile on your ship before it sinks?
4. Could you modify or change your design to support more coins?

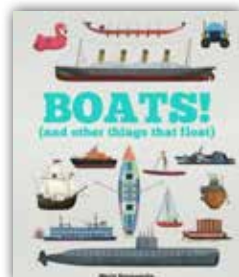
FUN FACT

Tin was the original metal used to make foil wrap. Aluminum proved less expensive and more durable, so it replaced tin. Some people still call aluminum foil “tin foil,” but it doesn’t have any trace of tin in it.

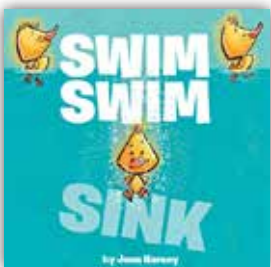
Related Books:



Boats (And Other Things That Float) by Bryony Davies



Boats will Float by Andria Warmflash Rosenbaum



Swim Swim Sink by Jenn Harney



Take Pictures with Your Own Nature Filter!

Create your very own filters with things you find in nature.



WHAT YOU NEED:

- This sheet of paper
- A pair of scissors
- A camera
- Nature

HOW TO:

1. Cut on the dotted lines on the reverse side of the page.
2. Take your picture outside. Find different things in nature to fill in the blank space. Could you use grass? Flowers? Dirt? Your dog's fur?
3. Take a picture of your very own nature filter.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

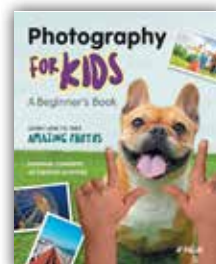
Online filters that let you put on dog ears or a flower crown work by seeking out the dark and light pixels of your face. This low-tech nature version allows you to be outside enjoying the sunshine while you think creatively about what different textures and colors would complement the picture.

FUN FACT

Out of almost all photographic genres, wildlife photography took the longest to develop. The first wildlife photograph was taken in 1906 for *National Geographic*, almost 70 years after the oldest photographic image ever. Wildlife photography required faster lenses and higher film sensitivity that were unavailable until that point.



Cool Technology
by Jenny Jacoby



Photography for Kids
by JP Pullos

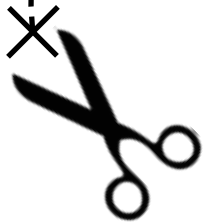


Exploring Nature
by Kim Andrews



Summer WONDER

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this page you can
print yourself!



Special thanks to these community partners:





kdl.org/summer