



### Summer Break 101: Have Fun And Be Safe!

**Summer is here - finally!** School is out, the weather is perfect... and you're bored. Not to worry! There are lots of fun, safe ways to keep you busy and entertained this summer, many of which will get you outdoors enjoying time with friends and family!

Suntime is Funtime - Soak in these warm-weather days by:

- \* Beating the heat at the closest pool whether it's in your backyard or at the community swim club.
- \* Packing a lunch, grabbing some friends and heading to the local park for a day of food and frisbee.
- \* Planning a beach day with some help from Mom or Dad pack a bag, jump in the car, and head to the shore.

Go Green - Embrace some environmentally friendly ways by:

- \* Planting a garden
- \* Learning to make compost
- \* Making a bird feeder
- \* Raising worms
- \* Joining a "green" club

Get Your Craft On - Some creative projects include:

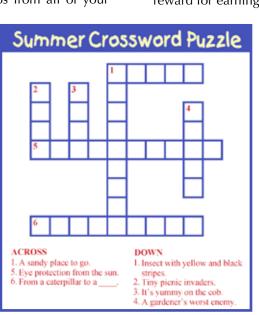
- \* Learning to make jewelry
- \* Starting a Summer Scrapbook with photos from all of your adventures

### Volunteer - Help people in need and

- make some new friends at:
- \* Your church or synagogue
- \* A museum
- \* An animal shelter
- \* Or, get more ideas at: www.volunteermatch.org

### Games and Hobbies - Try something

- new, like:
- \* A sport
- \* A board/card game
- \* Reading a novel
- \* Writing your own short story or poetry
- \* A hobby (photography, knitting, or cooking/baking)
- \* Experimenting with at-home science projects



## How To Make Saving Fun



When you think "saving money," you may not think "fun," but learning how to stash your cash actually can be pretty entertaining, and

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rewarding. If you're looking for some extra fun this summer, look no further than SPE and get your S-A-V-E on!

- \* Special place for money. Create a piggy bank, secret box, or coin holder of some sort. Get creative and make one that fits your style. Get ideas for your one-of-a-kind piggy bank at a local craft store or crafting website.
- \* Add to your savings. Place some hard-earned cash somewhere safe at home, like your new piggy bank. This amount can be for those things you hope to get soon or for spending money.
- \* Visit SPE to deposit money in your Share Savings Account. Your money will be safe and will actually grow by earning interest. While you're there, you can also turn coins into cash, learn about saving, or participate in special events.
- \* Each week treat yourself to something special. You deserve a reward for earning money and being a responsible saver. Just

be sure to avoid too much unnecessary spending - that will take the fun out of saving!



**Q.** What does the sun drink out of?



## **Attract Butterflies This Summer**

Butterflies are a pretty addition to your yard. By making a butterfly feeder, you can encourage butterflies to visit your yard and pollinate your plants. It is easy to make!

Sugar

#### What you need:

- Small Mason jar or baby food jar with sealable lid
- \* Kitchen sponge
- \* Hammer and nail
- Scissors
  Saucepan for making sugar solution

\* Heavy-duty string or twine

### ADULT SUPERVISION IS NEEDED FOR THIS PROJECT

#### How to make:

Illustration #2.

- 1. Prepare your solution (butterfly food) by mixing 9 parts water to 1 part sugar in a saucepan. Bring to a boil on your stovetop until the sugar is completely dissolved. (Do not add too much sugar to the water since it may dehydrate the butterflies.) Set the solution to the side and let cool. You will not use this until you finish the rest of the feeder.
- 2. Remove lid from the jar. Punch a small hole in the center of the lid with a nail and hammer. A small piece of sponge will need to fit snuggly in this hole, so keep it small. You can always make it larger if necessary. See Illustration #1.
- 3. Cut a 1/2 inch strip from your sponge and snipe off about 1/2 inch from the strip. This small piece is what you will be using. See
- 4. Pull this strip through the nail hole in the lid so half of the sponge strip is sticking out from the top. This needs to fit tight. (Be careful not to cut your fingers while pulling the sponge through the nail hole.) See Illustration #3. Test the sponge's fit by putting water into the jar and turning it upside down. If it drips, you will need a larger piece of sponge.
- 5. If you want to decorate your feeder, do this before tying any string around the jar.
- 6. For the string hanger, turn your jar upside down. Tie a piece of string around the neck of the jar, just below the lid. Cut two more pieces of string - each about two feet long. Take one end of the string and tie it around the piece of string that is already tied around the neck of the jar. Attach the other end of the string to the opposite side of the jar. This will make a loop so you can hang your feeder upside down. Take the other piece of string and tie in the same way to make a second loop. See Illustration #4. Using a short piece of string, place it through the two hanging loops and tie - now you have a loop to hang your feeder. If

all looks okay, fill your jar with the cooled sugar/water solution. Tightly screw on the lid. Flip your jar upside down to make sure it doesn't leak. See Illustration #5.

7. That's it - now you can hang your feeder outside. The best place to hang your feeder is about six inches higher than your tallest flowers or three feet down from a tree branch. This will make it more visible to the butterflies.



# Summer Jobs For Kids

School is out! If you have some spare time on your hands this summer, you may be thinking about ways to earn some money. There are summer jobs out there, even for kids your age.

It's always nice to have a little bit of extra moolah to save in your SPE Savings Account, or to buy a new toy, game, or movie. Here are good ways to earn some:

- \* Doing a few extra chores around the house
- \* Helping neighbors or relatives with yard work
- \* Selling some of the fresh organic fruits and veggies from your garden at a local farmer's market
- \* Pet sitting for a friend's dog or cat
- \* Walking friendly neighborhood dogs
- \* Having a bake sale
- \* Becoming a Mother's Helper (depending on your age)
- \* Setting up a lemonade stand
- \* Washing cars of family and friends

Keep in mind, for some or all of these jobs you may need some help and/or permission from a grown-up to get started or set them up. Good luck with your summer endeavors!



Jun Flamingo Facts

Flamingos are pretty well known for their vibrant pink color and their long legs and neck. Here are some fun flamingo facts: \* The pink to reddish color of a flamingo's feathers is caused by carotenoid pigments in their food. A wild flamingo's diet includes shrimp, plankton, algae, and small crustaceans.

\* Baby flamingos are born gray or white. It takes up to three years to reach their mature pink, orange, or red feathers.

\* Flamingos legs can be longer than their entire body. The backward bending "knee" of a flamingo's leg is actually the bird's ankle. The actual knee is very close to the body and is not visible through the bird's plumage.

\* They live 20 to 30 years in the wild. In captivity, flamingos can live up to 50 years or longer.

\* Flamingos can fly! They have the ability to fly hundreds of miles a day seeking out food. They can take off very quickly and fly up to 35 miles per hour.





Illustration 3

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Illustration 5