

August 2014

One benefit of summer was that each day we had more light to read by. ~Jeannette Walls, *The Glass Castle*

Coming Events for August

**Monday, August 4**

Movie Madness @ 5pm

**Monday, August 11**

Lego Night @ 5 pm

**Monday, August 18**

"Goo Day" @ 1:30 pm

**Wednesday, Aug, 20th & 27th**

Just Plane Fun! @ 1pm

**Thursday, August 14**

Red Cross "Basic First Aid" @ 1 pm

**Thursday, August 21**

Red Cross "Safe on My Own?" @ 1 pm

**Saturday, August 16**

"Draw Bot" Party @ 11:30  
Reservations required.

**Saturday, August 23**

"Pirate Palooza" Party @ 1pm  
Reservations required.

**Friday, August 29**

Sound Fun! @ 2pm

**Tuesdays Aug. 5-19th**

Laptime @ 10:30 am.

"Summer afternoon—summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language." Henry James



# Kids' Place News

## *We Say Adieu to Summer Reading.*

We officially ended six weeks of 2014 Summer Reading on Saturday, August 1. While it's nice to have time to breathe, it is bittersweet to know we won't see most of the SRP participants again until next year.

We had a total of 504 children ages 2-12 yrs enrolled along with 70 tween/teens. At this writing, we've had 194 finish the course and receive all the great prizes that McDonald's, the Branch Co. Fair and the Coldwater Friends of the Library supplied.

We had over 1300 children/youth and parents attend the 60 plus programs that were

held during our SRP. It was a very satisfying feeling to hear children say how much they enjoyed our Science Clubs in particular. In fact, as I write this I've had 3 families show up that thought we were still holding the Wednesday Club!

Regular scheduled events were as follows:

Monday: Preschool Science & Marvelous Monday regular programs (movies, Lego night etc.)

Tuesday: Laptime, "Mom & Tot Exercise" & "Meet Up & Eat Up"

Wednesday: Elementary Science

Thursday: Self-directed activities & Tween/Teen Science

Friday: Self-directed

Saturday: Special events

We had programs everyday June 21-July 31st! And we even found time to check materials in & out, answer questions, pick up messes, figure out what we were missing to make a project work.....

To say we could have used a



daily nap is putting it mildly.

## *Look at the fun, our friends provided!*

Saturday, June 7: Summer Reading Kick-off with Professor Cody (H.C Starck, Pepsi Co & Monarch Bank)

Saturday, June 14: Kites & Root Beer Floats: )Tri-State Kite Club, Coldwater D.Q & Pepsico.)

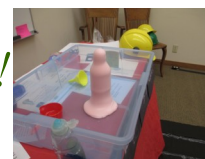
Saturday, June 21: Miss Evie Story time with Evelyn Becker,

Humane Society presentation

Monday, June 23; Martial Arts w/ Kaitlyn Ritter of Elite Martial Arts.

Tuesday, June 24: Ronald McDonald: (Coldwater McD's)

Saturday, June 28: Cartooning w/Jonny Hawkins (Walmart Distribution)



Tuesday, July 8:

Shocking Science (Science Central): Darling International & Asama Mfg.

Saturday, July 12: "Cooking Up a Comet?": (Asama & N.& C. Carpenter.)

Wednesday, July 16: Moo Science: MSU Extension, Meijer's, Kilgore International & Voltek



A young patron showing off her wooden cats made with Miss Evie.

### We have the greatest friends continued.

Tuesday, July 9: Volcanoes by Western Michigan University Geology Department (all branches)

Thursday, July 17 "Good Vibrations or the Science behind Sound: (Infinisource & Southern Michigan Bank & Trust)

Thursday, July 17 Teen program "Earthquakes" WMU Geology Dept. (all branches)

The Dirty Treasures of Archeology: (Meijer & Walmart Stores.)

Wednesday, July 23 & Thursday, July 24: Storm Chasers with Justin Lopshire: (Voltek)

Thursday, July 24: "Be Ready, 1, 2, 3": Red Cross of Calhoun & Branch Co.

Saturday, July 26: "What does the Bird Say?" Evelyn Becker

Wednesday, July 30: Kalamazoo Nature Center @ Coldwater, Quincy & Bronson: (Century Bank & Trust)



Some fun with Shocking Science!



Professor Cody rocks!!

### Pre-school

Every Monday, we hosted an average of 15 preschoolers for some age appropriate Science fun!

Miss Linda usually led the story time portion with several stories, songs and active movement. We then split into two groups and had some hands-on fun!



### Science Clubs

Kala Sperbeck was a great asset again this summer.

Some of the topics we covered were:

Goo: supported by Walmart

Bubbles: supported by Meijers & Walmart

Candy Experiments-yum, yum!: supported by Meijers

Elephant Toothpaste: Meijer's and Matthew Christopher, D.D.S (How disappointed the children were that the elephant left only his teeth!)

Rainbows: Monarch

Robots: Q.S. Togo, Voltek & Cody Littlely

What wonderful adventures we had! Be sure to check out some of the pictures found in this issue.

While learning about the bones of the body, young Ivan McConnell stated that "if we don't use our brain, it goes away!" Moo Science July 2014



Ronald McDonald is excited about science, too!

### Elementary Science Clubs

What a wonderful summer we had exploring Science together. How quickly our six weeks of meeting went. We had a tremendous turn-out for these sessions. In fact these were so successful that we plan to hold at least one Science themed session a month until our sponsorship money is gone!

Topics covered:

Density: supported by Monarch Bank

Fizz, Boom, Goo: Monarch & Walmart

Volcanoes: WMU Geology Dept.

Moo Science: MSU Extension Service, Voltek & Kilgore

Storm Chasers: Voltek

Scientific Method & How things work: Century Bank & Trust.

These sessions included watching a brief DVD clip relating to the topic, reviewing the Scientific Method, a demonstration and then splitting into groups for some hands-on fun!



How exciting that our robot came to life!

## Tweens/Teens

The teens and tweens had a great summer line-up as they also enjoyed the science theme for the 2014 reading program. Seventy students sign-up for the reading portion of the program, competing to complete the 2,500 page requirement to finish the program. Congratulations to Ryan F. for taking the grand prize, a Nook Simple Touch Reader!

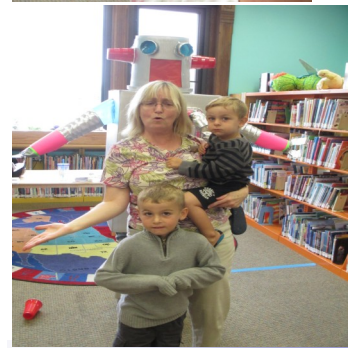
A few of the favorite events included building solar robots and making robot art with recycled materials. We also had fun making all kinds of goo including slime, oobleck and a bouncing polymer ball. It was interesting

doing hands-on experiments with dry ice and other materials—we learned that doing the coke and Mentos experiment outside, was a great idea! A small group of students, with the help of Mr. Cody also built working “brush bots” and had a great time racing their bots.

For special programming, the tween/teen group (with some younger kids adding in) learned a lot about earthquakes from the WMU– Core Science! Crew. Justin Lopshire, from the Branch County Storm Watchers, also explained about his job and what you can learn about the weather

from just looking at the clouds. Finally, Ryan Littley, aka “Bat Man,” shared his collection of Star Wars props and masks with all in attendance. The force was strong that evening!

Our science fair this year, was small, but a great learning experience. Our top winner was Yasmen A. with her project, “Where are the Most Germs in the House?” She earned a gift certificate to Best Buy for her efforts! Makenna Squires took 2nd place honors with her project, “What Does a Forensic Scientist Do?”



## Tuesdays were all about healthy lifestyles!

Tuesday mornings brought our youngest patrons in as we hosted Laptime. We also offered exercise for Moms & Tots which was followed with an opportunity for a healthy lunch provided Chartwell's of the Coldwater School District. The lunch was part of the federal program “Meet Up & Greet Up” . Tamara Santora of

Chartwell's provided free children's books for the families in attendance through a Kids' First grant she had written. According to Chartwell's staff, the library was the most consistent and well attended of the numerous feeding sites this summer. We definitely could not have run this program without the wonderful help of

our volunteer, Cheryl Graham! Thanks Cheryl!

We also would like thank Cassandra Linklater, Rachel and Mikayla Everline for providing direction with our exercise program!

**The mother of a young boy thanked us for showing her son that science was fun! He went from “Do I have to? To “Let's go or we'll be late for the library!”**

## Odds N Ends

And if we didn't have enough opportunities for fun, there were also Reactionary Art day, Zap! Electrical fun, Sound the wonders of Noise!, Recyclable art and making Marble Runs!

These events saw a number of grandparents attending .

Finally, we would be amiss if we didn't mention that the programs this summer would

not have been possible without the special presenters as well as the parents and volunteers who helped hundreds of little hands as they explored the fun of hands-on science!

**VOLUNTEER PRESENTERS:** Nancy Yager, Cody Littley, Justin Lopshire, and Ryan Littley.

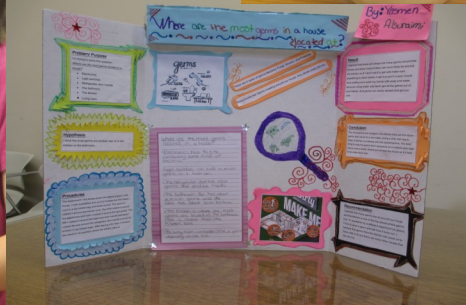
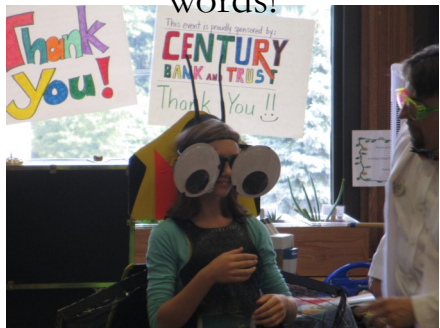
**VOLUNTEER HELPERS:** Carley H. Megan B., Cheryl G.,

Kyoko M., Kala S. , Samantha P., Taylor P., Tiffany S., Charlene R., A. J. A., Mike D. , Steve, L. Austin L., and Jesse G. and many, many parents!

**THANKS TO ALL!** We're already looking forward to next year!



A picture is worth 1,000 words!



## 2014 Summer Reading Sponsors

**Gold Sponsor: \$300 plus**

MSU Extension Service  
WMU Geology Dept.  
Asama Manufacturing  
Century Bank & Trust  
Nathan & Carmen Carpenter  
Walmart Distribution Facility  
Sekisui Voltek

**Silver: \$75-299**

Q.S. Togo  
Pepsico Distribution  
Monarch Community Bank  
Infinisource  
Southern Michigan Bank & Trust

**Bronze: \$50-74.99**

H.C. Starck  
Kilgore International  
Walmart Store  
Meijer Store  
Home Depot  
Coldwater Dairy Queen  
Matthew Christopher, D.D.S

**Presenters:**

American Red Cross of Calhoun & Branch County  
Justin Lopshire  
Cody Littley  
Nancy Yager  
Ryan Littley  
Rachel Everline  
Cassandra Linklater  
Val Albright

**Volunteers:**

Carley H., Megan B., Cheryl G., Kyoko M., Kala S., Tiffany S. , Charlene R ,  
Austin L. , Jesse G, A.J. Appel, Mike D., Steve L. , Lawrence W. (Robo-Man),  
Samantha P., Mikayla E.. Jessica A.