



DAY 5 of STEAM for our Gingerbread House friends.



Enjoy the activities. Have a great weekend. Day 6 and Day 7 of GBH STEAM will be sent next week.

Tip for day five: Children have a hard time communicating feelings. They don't tell you they are scared, mad, or sad, usually they show you. All of us (parents, teachers, kids) are struggling with the changes in our life. If you are noticing more tantrums or new behaviors that your child doesn't usually have, be extra understanding. This is hard on us as adults, but we can talk to a friend or spouse about our worries and we can vent on social media about our frustration. For the most part children do not have that release. Keep reassuring them. Keep loving them. Keep snuggling. Keep doing silly things. You got this. -Tammi

SCIENCE: Your kids get to dance with spaghetti! What you need: water, vinegar, baking soda, & uncooked spaghetti. Put the one cup of water in a clear glass or vase. Add about 2 teaspoons of baking soda and stir (kids love to stir) until baking soda is dissolved. Break spaghetti into approximately 1" pieces and add to water (you only need six or eight 1" pieces). The adding ingredients and breaking of pasta should be done by the kids. Ask child what happened to the spaghetti when it was dropped in the mixture. Add approximately 5 teaspoons of vinegar. Turn on some music and start a dance party. More vinegar and or baking soda can be added to start a new dance party. **THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED:** Baking soda and vinegar make a chemical reaction that produces a gas called carbon dioxide. This reaction forms lots of bubbles on the top of the mixture and smaller ones on the bottom. The bubbles stick to the spaghetti (look closely you might see them) and make the spaghetti float to the surface. When the bubbles pop the spaghetti sinks. Stated simply, the mixture made a lot of bubbles that stuck to the spaghetti. The bubbles acted like a floaty we use in the pool and helped the spaghetti float.



TECHNOLOGY: Remember that technology for preschoolers is a tool that helps us solve problems or enhance learning – it doesn't have to be something on a screen. Let's get active. Use the stopwatch on your phone, timer on stove/microwave, or a watch. It is time to TIME your kids. March around the table for 30 seconds. Jump up and down for 20 seconds. How fast can you run to the mailbox and back (bonus if they get the mail)? Touch your toes for 1 minute. Hold a silly pose for 20 seconds. Get creative and have fun. Be sure to let them time you, too. There are several fun timer apps available with silly sounds and random timers – then you won't know how long you have to do the activity. The app I have is called Game Timer.

ENGINEERING: It's true; kids love forts! I've already seen pretty elaborate forts some of you have been creating. This activity is a little twist, that I hope leads to family fort building fun for the weekend. Your child gets to make a fort for a stuffed friend or toy. Step one: Your child picks out a friend or toy. Step two: Older children will need to know what you will let them use and don't forget to tell them what they can't use (I want you to still have sheets on your bed after this is over). Younger children will need to be given some supplies (a towel, blanket, and chair or blocks and a blanket). Step three: build something amazing. Pose some questions before they start building. How big does the fort need to be so your toy can fit? What does the fort need so your toy can get in and out? Will your toy need to lay down or will they be able to stand up? What can you use to help make sure your fort won't break? GBH would love to see pictures of their creations.



ART: GBH is always happy on collage days in art. It is easy to prepare for and the kids have so much fun! Needed: 1 piece of paper to glue things on, glue, and all the random scrap papers, fabrics, ribbons, buttons, gems, sequins that you want to contribute. That's it. Let your child create a masterpiece or two or three.

MATH: Most of you have a drawer full of measuring cups. If not just find different sizes of cups and bowls. Let your kids measure how many cups (any measuring cup) it will take to fill a glass. Change sizes of the measuring device and see if they can determine if it will take more or less to fill the glass. You can change the size of the measuring device as many times as you want. You also can change the glass to a bucket or bowl. You get to decide what they are using to fill the glass (water, sand, dirt, Legos or other small toys). This activity can be done at bath time – they have plenty of warm water to fill the glass. Students will be counting and estimating during this activity.



Some extra fun:

- *Learn about this animal: Spirit Bear (use the internet)
- *Try this website. Under topic, click on earth, then click on pictures. You and your child can see some amazing pictures of our Earth! www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html
- *Print and use the practice tracing number sheet. Be sure they tell you the numbers.
- *Joke for the day: What type of star is dangerous? A SHOOTING STAR

