



# Stark County Board of DD Early Intervention Newsletter

July 2021

## Playgroup

Explore what's in the grass every Tuesday @ 10AM this month for a different nature activity each week!



### July 6th Art & Playground Fun! *In the Tall, Tall Grass*

Explore what's in the grass with a magnifier. Then, make a grass hat with bug stickers to wear or create an interactive bugs in the grass scene then lift the pieces of grass to find hidden bugs.

**IN PERSON @ Jackson Township North Park  
OR VIRTUAL**

July 12th

### Bugs in Playdough Sensory Play & Storytime *In the Tall, Tall Grass*

Listen as a caterpillar describes what it sees and hears while crawling through the tall, tall grass. Then we can hide, and find plastic bugs in playdough or make bug imprints.

Recipe for homemade playdough is on page 3.



LOOK

July 20th

### Bug Scavenger Hunt & Water Play

Join us on a scavenger hunt today!

Take a scavenger hunt sheet and find the plastic bugs we've hidden in the grass. When you are done hunting we can play on the playground then cool off at the splash pad. Splash pad opens @ 11 AM.

**IN PERSON @ Veteran's Park OR VIRTUAL**



June 27th

### Kids in the Kitchen *Bugs in the Dirt*

Yummy, dirt pudding!!

Join us today to make and eat bugs in dirt. Don't panic, we won't be eating real bugs and dirt!

You will need pudding, cookie crumbs, and gummy bugs or worms. You can use the regular or simple recipe found on page 2.



## IN-PERSON PLAY-GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

This month we will be at...

**July 6th**  
Jackson Township  
North Park  
7660 Fulton Rd NW  
Massillon

**June 15th**  
Veteran's Park  
Previously called Schneider  
Park  
1714 Schneider St. NE  
Canton



In person playgroups are **weather permitting** depending on humidity and rain. A REMIND notification will be sent at 9AM if we need to cancel.



Socialization is such an important part of child development and providing opportunities for small children to socialize and interact with their peers is very important. Playgroup is a great way for you and your child to meet other families and form lasting friendships!! Playgroups are open to all early intervention families and to the community so invite a friend to come with you. We hope you'll join us for playgroup soon!

Any questions call Chris 330-704-2400  
or Paula 330-354-7919.



# July Family Fun

## Tall, Tall Grass Hats

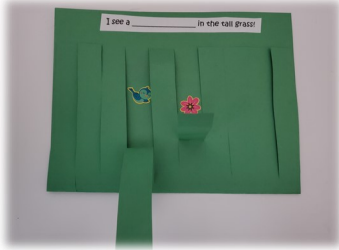
### You will need:

Green paper  
Bug stickers or  
Paint/ink pad  
Crayons  
Scissors  
Glue or tape



Your piece of green paper should be about 4 1/2 inches wide and long enough to go around your child's head (you may need to piece together several pieces of paper to get it the right length to go around their head). Show your child how to cut lines and let them practice cutting skills by cutting lines to create grass strands or fringe. For younger children, you may want to do the cutting then help your child to create fingerprint bugs or add bug sticker's.

## Bugs Hiding in the Grass Activity



### You will need:

sheet of green paper  
Bug stickers or  
Paint/ink pad  
Crayons  
Scissors

Help your child to cut straight lines to create fringe (grass) along the bottom of the paper. Fold the cut paper or fringe up in front of the rest of the paper about 1/3 of the way. Let your child place stickers above the folded line on the rest of the paper or make finger print bugs and add details. Refold the grass up and let your child lift pieces of grass to find the bugs hiding behind it.

## Dirt & Bugs Dessert Cups

A super easy snack kids can make and enjoy!



### Ingredients:

- Package of Chocolate Sandwich Cookies (like Oreos)
- 1- 3.9 oz. Package of instant chocolate pudding mix
- 2 Cups of cold milk
- 8 oz. container of Cool Whip
- A handful of gummy Worms, bugs, or Keebler bug cookies

Pour the milk and dry pudding mix into a large mixing bowl and whisk until the pudding is smooth. Add the whipped topping and gently stir. Scoop the pudding into serving cups and fill until they are about 2/3 of the way full. Put chocolate sandwich cookies in a re-sealable plastic bag and crush them into small pieces, then top the pudding with the crushed chocolate sandwich cookies. Add 2-3 gummy worms on top and enjoy.

### Alternate super simple recipe

Open a snack pack, crush a few cookies and sprinkle on top, add a few worms/bugs and enjoy!

## Get Outside and Explore Your Yard!

Try the Bug Scavenger Hunt on the next page with your child. How many creatures can you find crawling around? What else can you find in the grass?

# LOOK





# More Family Fun

## Playdoh & Bugs



## NO COOK Homemade Playdough Recipe

### Ingredients:

- 2 cups All-Purpose Flour
- 1 cup Salt
- 2 Tablespoons Cream of Tartar
- 2 Tablespoons oil (vegetable or similar)
- 1 1/3 Cup Boiling Water

Optional add: 2 Tablespoon chocolate powder

### Directions:

1. Add all the dry ingredients together in a bowl.
2. Slowly stir in the oil and boiling water.
3. Mix, then knead with your hands until it forms a ball.
4. Let your dough sit for 10 minutes to cool and then it's ready for play.

*Store in a sealed container or Ziploc bag.*

- Make "NO COOK" playdoh using the recipe to the right.
- Add simple props like plastic bugs to promote open-ended unstructured play.
- Try hiding the bugs in the playdough for your child to find.
- Make bug imprints in the playdough.
- Can you roll it? Squeeze it? Poke it? Squish it? Flatten it? Cut it? What else can you do?

**Playdough is an excellent tool for developing fine motor skills!**

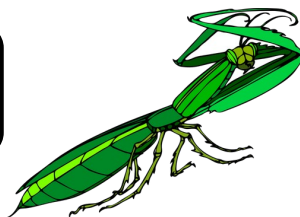


## Playdough Play Benefits

- Squishing, rolling, flattening, shaping, or cutting play dough develops and strengthens hand muscles.
- When playing with play dough, the pincer grip (the squeezing of pointer finger and thumb to grasp an object) improves.
- Squishing and squashing of play dough is calming, soothing, and can provide your child with a safe way to express their emotions.
- Mixing colors and making different shapes or patterns in the playdough encourages creativity and curiosity.
- Asking questions and talking to your child while they are playing increases their language, vocabulary and knowledge.
- Using tools such as cutting tools, shape cutters and rollers develops hand eye coordination.
- Play-dough provides your child with unlimited possibilities encouraging their imaginations and creativity (creating food, animals, decorations, flowers etc.).
- Social skills are learned when playing and interacting with others.

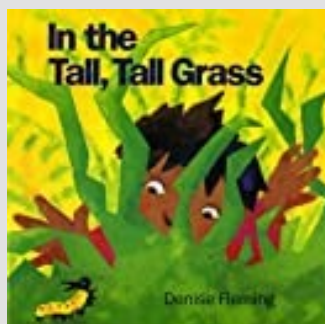
# BUG SCAVENGER HUNT

Try this scavenger hunt with your family. Scavenger hunts in your back yard or on a walk through your neighborhood or at a local park are a great way to spend some time exploring the outdoors and interacting with your children. Use a crayon or pencil to mark which bugs you find. Can you find a centipede, lightning bug, grasshopper, ladybug, earwig, stink bug, roly poly, fly, wasp, Japanese beetle, praying mantis and ants?

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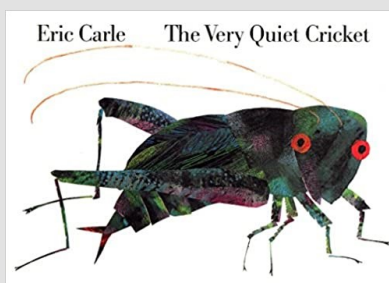
Can you find these BUGS in your  
yard or neighborhood?

## BOOKS TO READ IN JULY

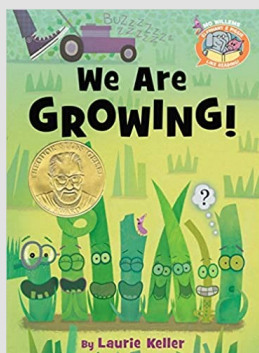


If you were a fuzzy caterpillar crawling through the tall, tall grass on a sunny afternoon, what would you see? Follow the tiny tour guide as he inches his way through the pages; you'll see ants and bees and birds—hip-hopping bunnies too. You'll even hear the sounds some of them make.

*Crunch, munch,  
caterpillars lunch...  
Crack, snap, wings flap...*



One day a tiny cricket is born and meets a big cricket who chirps his welcome. The tiny cricket tries to respond, but there is no sound. The quiet cricket meets lots of insects who greet the little cricket with a cheery hello--the hum of a bee, the whirr of a dragonfly, the whisper of a praying mantis. The cricket rubs his wings together each time, but nothing happens, not a sound. Until the day he meets a female, and something different happens . . .



Walt and his friends are growing up fast! Everyone is the something-est. But . . . what about Walt? He is not the tallest, or the curliest, or the silliest. He is not the anything-est! As a BIG surprise inches closer, Walt discovers something special of his own!

## July Songs and Fingerplays



### Fireflies

Sung to: "The Wheels on the Bus"

The firefly at night goes blink, blink, blink,  
Blink, blink, blink, blink, blink, blink.  
The firefly at night goes blink, blink, blink  
All around the town

Continue with...

The bees in the flowers go buzz, buzz, buzz....  
The ants in the grass go march, march, march...  
The crickets in the leaves go chirp, chirp, chirp...  
The caterpillar in the field goes creep, creep, creep....



### A- Hunting We Will Go



A-hunting we will go  
A -hunting we will go  
We'll catch a (insert any insect here)  
and then we'll let it go!

### There's a Bug on ME!

1, 2, 3  
(hold up fingers)  
There is a bug on me!  
(point to shoulder)  
Where did it go?  
(brush off)  
I don't know.  
(Shrug Shoulder and look really puzzled)



### Take Me Out to the Backyard

Sung to: "Take Me Out to the Ballgame"

Take me out to the backyard.  
Take me out with the bugs.  
Locusts and beetles and dragonflies,  
If I look hard I may even see slugs.  
Let me look, look, look in the bushes  
The trees, 'neath rocks and the lawn--  
For it's one, five, ten flies I see  
And now they're gone!





## Agency Policy



**If the heat index is 86 or above we do not let the kids go outside.**

We will check the heat index when outdoor playgroups are planned and notify families through Remind and email if we need to cancel our outdoor playgroups by no later than 9AM.

You can still join in play with us that day virtually for playgroup if you choose.

		Relative Humidity (%)																			
		5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95	100
Temperature (°F)	80	77	78	78	79	79	79	80	80	80	81	81	82	82	83	84	84	85	86	86	87
	81	78	79	79	79	79	80	80	81	81	82	82	83	84	85	86	86	87	88	90	91
	82	79	79	80	80	80	80	81	81	82	83	84	84	85	86	88	89	90	91	93	95
	83	79	80	80	81	81	81	82	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	90	91	93	95	97	99
	84	80	81	81	81	82	82	83	83	84	85	86	88	89	90	92	94	96	98	100	103
	85	81	81	82	82	82	83	84	84	85	86	88	89	91	93	95	97	99	102	104	107
	86	81	82	83	83	83	84	85	85	87	88	89	91	93	95	98	100	103	106	108	112
	87	82	83	83	84	84	85	86	87	88	89	91	93	95	98	100	103	106	109	113	116
	88	83	84	84	85	85	86	87	88	89	91	93	95	98	100	103	106	110	113	117	121
	89	84	84	85	85	86	87	88	89	91	93	95	97	100	103	106	110	113	117	122	
	90	84	85	86	86	87	88	89	91	92	95	97	100	103	106	109	113	117	122	127	
	91	85	86	87	87	88	89	90	92	94	97	99	102	105	109	113	117	122	126	132	
	92	86	87	88	88	89	90	92	94	96	99	101	105	108	112	116	121	126	131		
	93	87	88	89	89	90	92	93	95	98	101	104	107	111	116	120	125	130	136		
	94	87	89	90	90	91	93	95	97	100	103	106	110	114	119	124	129	135	141		
	95	88	89	91	91	93	94	96	99	102	105	109	113	118	123	128	134	140			
	96	89	90	92	93	94	96	98	101	104	108	112	116	121	126	132	138	145			
	97	90	91	93	94	95	97	100	103	106	110	114	119	125	130	136	143	150			
	98	91	92	94	95	97	99	102	105	109	113	117	123	128	134	141	148				
	99	92	93	95	96	98	101	104	107	111	115	120	126	132	138	145	153				
	100	93	94	96	97	100	102	106	109	114	118	124	129	136	143	150	158				
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	103	95	97	99	101	104	108	112	116	122	127	134	141	148	157	165					
	104	96	98	100	103	106	110	114	119	124	131	137	145	153	161						
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106	98	100	103	106	109	114	119	124	130	137	145	153	162	172							
107	99	101	104	107	111	116	121	127	134	141	149	157	167								
108	100	102	105	109	113	118	123	130	137	144	153	162	172								
109	100	103	107	110	115	120	126	133	140	148	157	167	177								
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123	112	119	127	136	146	157	169	182													
124	113	120	129	138	148	160	172														
125	114	121	130	140	151	163	176														

# Heat Index



Extreme Danger	Heat stroke likely.
Danger	Sunstroke, muscle cramps, and/or heat exhaustion likely. Heatstroke possible with prolonged exposure and/or physical activity.
Extreme Caution	Sunstroke, muscle cramps, and/or heat exhaustion possible with prolonged exposure and/or physical activity.
Caution	Fatigue possible with prolonged exposure and/or physical activity.