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Lois' Corner!

If you have been following us on social media the last month you have probably seen several of our posts are related to the Giving Grid, our online fundraising campaign. The grid is starting to fill up with pictures and we are thrilled about the generous contributions we have received so far. However, we still have a long way to go to reach our goal. Wondering how you can help? Besides a financial donation, you can help us by visiting our [Facebook](#) page every Tuesday and Thursday to like and share our posts. This will increase visibility of the grid and help us in reaching more people and hopefully getting them to click on the Giving Grid. If you're not on Facebook, you can also get to the Giving Grid by visiting our [website](#). Thank you all so much helping to spread the word about Energizing Education!

Energizing Education

Northwest Early Elementary School

Ways to Fill Your Summer with Reading and Fun

School has been out for a few weeks and summer is in full swing! With no shortage of warm summer weather, hopefully you've been able to enjoy the sunshine and do all the summer activities you look forward to each year. Energizing Education remains up and running over the summer months and we'll be busy planning for when school starts in the fall. Although school is out for the summer, that doesn't mean all the fun students and their families had with EE during the year has to end. Because we're still beaming with joy over what a fun year it was, we're going to let you in on some ways you can incorporate ideas from our family nights and mentoring and create your own summer activities.

In-school mentoring began this year in October for Northwest students. After students were matched with their mentor and met each other for the first time, for many it was the beginning of a relationship both would cherish and look forward to as the weeks went by. Although we talk about the importance of reading and writing, being together each week was also about getting to know each other. Students shared stories with their mentors about their school days, weekends, and there was never a shortage of smiles and laughter in the room. If you want to make sure your little ones still get in their reading and writing over the summer, try playing board games, do word searches, hangman, or word bingo. Often times we played games like these that make reading really fun.



Also, this school year Energizing Education introduced a brand new line up of family nights. We started the year with Catch the Reading Bug and Pirate Night and in the second half we had Science Night and our all-school event at the Michigan Theatre. In other

words – lots of opportunities for fun! With Catch the Reading Bug we had live animals, something we've never done before. We had snakes, hissing cockroaches, birds, and frogs. For Pirate Night we dug for gold, decoded pirate phrases, and walked the plank all while talking like pirates and wearing our pirate gear. If you enjoyed our bugs and animal night and want to continue the fun this summer, have your own "Safari Day." Spend the morning outdoors with a journal and write about all the animals you hear and see. Spend the rest of your afternoon drawing pictures of all the animals you found. You can even take it a step further and go to the library and find books about the animals you found. Find some fun facts and write them underneath the pictures you drew in your journal.



If Pirate Night was one of your favorites, look up fun pirate activities or try to find fun things to do with superheroes or something else you're interested in. If science night was your favorite have a day of doing experiments. We made slime at our but there's lots of ways to make your slime even more fun such as adding glitter, buttons, or play around with different colors. You can also look to the internet for more safe and easy experiments to do at home (trust us, there's plenty!). If you enjoyed any of our nights, pictures can be found on our Facebook pages so if you're looking for an idea on how to create your own games, take a look back.



We hope you had as much fun as we did this year, and hope you find ways to keep the fun going all summer long!



There will be no mentor trainings in July.
If you are interested in becoming a mentor please
contact us at energizingeducation@uwjackson.org
for more information.



Literacy Tip of the Month

Avoid the summer slide!

Make sure your children are reading something EVERY DAY! Read the newspaper or comics while eating breakfast in the morning together. Read something from your favorite website in the afternoon or look through a favorite magazine. By evening time when your kids are getting ready for bed, have them read you their favorite book.

Like us on Facebook!



Energizing Education—
Northwest Early
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Summer Reading is in full swing throughout July at all 13 Jackson District Library Branches. Some programs include, Life sized Candyland, Ventriloquist Richard Paul, Engineering science, Chalk science, and much more. Check with your local branch for days and times and don't forget to sign up for Summer Reading. You can earn cool prizes for reading and a chance to win a \$100 Gift card. Check out www.myjdl.com or your local branch for more information.

Find out more!
<http://energizingeducationjackson.org>
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For volunteer information:
Contact Charlie Miller
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To Donate:
Contact Lois Dunning at
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