



# SCS PTU Family Toolkit

## June 2021



## Summer Boredom Busters

As school draws to a close, many of us are filled with fun ideas for our summers. That said, there comes a point in most parents' summers when we begin to look forward to school starting because the kids are bored and we are out of ideas! Besides having them do chores, a wonderful tool can be a **boredom jar**. Have your kids fill sticky notes with things they want to do this summer that they are able to accomplish mostly independently (maybe create a second jar of things that require more supervision for family time). Fold the notes, place in a jar and pull them out when someone utters the dreaded "I'm bored!" Including your kids in creating the ideas increases the likelihood they will be excited to do them. Below are some ideas to get you started. Some of the activities under one age may be great for others (does anyone ever outgrow Lego?). Scan the QR code for more ideas with hyperlinks and things to do around town. **Email us some of your favorites, and we will add them to our QR list all summer.**



### For the Younger Kids (Pre-K through 2nd)

- Create a Zoo with Play-Doh
- Play with Kinetic Sand
- Build a Ring Toss Game out of Duplo Blocks and diving rings
- Make Sidewalk Art (even decorate for a friendly neighbor!)
- Put on a Puppet Show
- Hide "Treasure" and Draw a Map for Someone to Find It
- Catch Bugs
- Learn and Perform a Magic Trick
- Run through the Sprinkler
- Try Out a Bunch of Different Bubble Wands to Find the Best One
- Build a Tic Tac Toe Board out of Legos

### For the Middle Grades (3rd through 5th)

- Make Your Own Obstacle Course
- Create a New Board Game
- Play Ultimate Frisbee
- Write a Comic Book, Story or Poem
- Make Jewelry
- Plant Your Own Herb Garden
- Go Camping in the Backyard
- Do Chores to Earn Screen Time



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## Middle Grades Continued

- Create a Relaxation Corner in Your Room
- Video Chat with a Friend or Relative / Pen an actual letter
- Create a Replica of Your House with Legos

## For the Older Grades (6th through 8th Grade)

- Make a Bucket List
- Earn Money: Babysit, Mow Lawns, Walk Dogs, Referee Your Favorite Sport
- Create a Meal Plan for the Week
- Host a Cooking or Baking Contest with Friends and Family
- Play or Learn an Instrument--So Many YouTube Tutorials
- Consider Volunteering
- Take the a Kayaking, Backpacking or Cycling Class through the Cleveland Metroparks
- Design a Cardboard Boat that Actually Floats
- Take an Online Drawing Class--JJK, EB Goodale and Mo Willems are all on YouTube with lots of tutorials
- Launch a Podcast
- Redecorate Your Room
- Smithsonian Maker Lab Outdoors Book has 25 actually interesting projects from soil-free planter to rain gauge, from air cannon to water rocket and more. Cuyahoga County Library even has a free copy to borrow!

→Remember the Library has the Summer Reading Game for ALL AGES (parents too). Just for signing up (Saturday June 5th) receive a coupon for a free scoop of ice cream. Food and book prizes are halfway and at the end of however many game cards you want to fill. <https://www.cuyahogalibrary.org/Events/Summer-Reading-Program.aspx>

## We Want to Hear from You

Have a topic you want to see covered? An area of expertise that you want to share? Thoughts for ways SCS PTU can support social and emotional wellbeing among students, staff and families? Please feel free to reach out to [kerri.wise@gmail.com](mailto:kerri.wise@gmail.com) or [cobalt915@gmail.com](mailto:cobalt915@gmail.com) to share your thoughts.