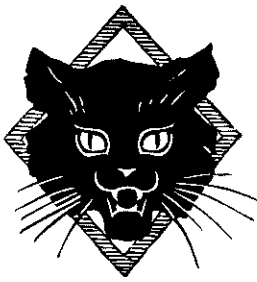


Spring Hill Elementary School
 201 East 15th Street
 Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130
 812-288-4874

Virenda Cunningham-Lester, Principal
www.gccschools.com

Volume 15 Issue 89

April 2017



It's time to apply

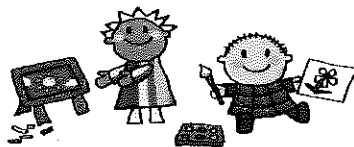


for preschool at
 Spring Hill!!!

Children must be 4 years
 old by August 1.

Preschool meets 2½
 hours a day, 5 days a
 week. There are morn-
 ing and afternoon ses-
 sions. Call 812-288-
 4874 for more informa-
 tion or go to the Greater
 Clark website
 (gccschools.com).

Join us as we play to learn!!



OPEN HOUSE
 For
Kindergarten

April 13, 2017
10:00 AM

The Wildcat Journal

Spring Festival
Friday, April 14th
6:00-8:00



FOOD



Games



Auction



Photo Booth



Just For Parents

Testing

ISTEP+ Part 2 starts April 17th to May 5th for students in grades 3, 4, & 5! You can help your child by:

1. Sending them to school every day on time!
2. Making sure your child gets plenty of rest!



Spring Hill Track

Our track program for students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will begin this month. Try-outs will be held on:
 Tuesday, April 4th-
 Friday, April 7th.

Track practice will begin the week of April 10th. Practice time for track is 3:30-5:00. Mr. Joshua Hammond is the Track Coach for the 2017 season. The Greater Clark County Track Meet is Wednesday, May 3rd at Jeffersonville High School. Regional Track Meet is Monday,

April 17th at
 Jeff High.



April 2017
Dates to
Remember



Report Cards	April 5th
Go Home	*****
Camp Kindergarten	April 13th
10:00 AM	*****
Spring Festival	April 14th
6-8:00	*****
Regional Track	April 17th
Meet 4:00 @ Jeff High	*****

Enrollment

Online registration is open for the 2017-18 school year. The GCCS website homepage (www.gcs.k12.in.us) contains the links for the 2017-18 school registration. You will need your child's snap code to log on. If you have any questions call Ms. Ginger Wilson at 812-288-4874 .

Update your telephone num-
 bers and address for
 your child in the
 school office. We always
 need this information for
 emergencies!!

Spring Hill 's 2017-18
Registration Night
April 18, 2017
4:30-7:00 PM

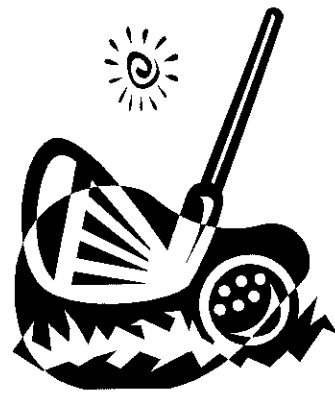
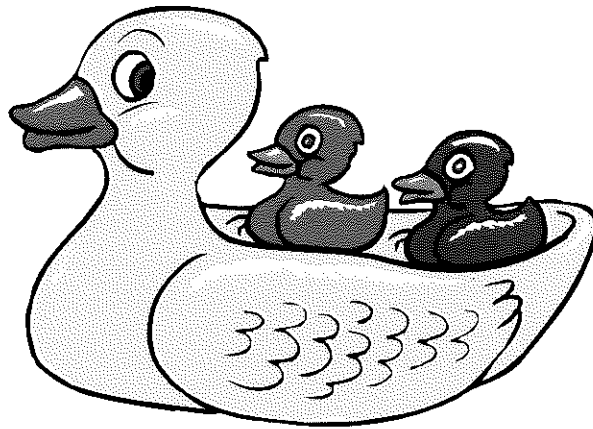


Wildcats

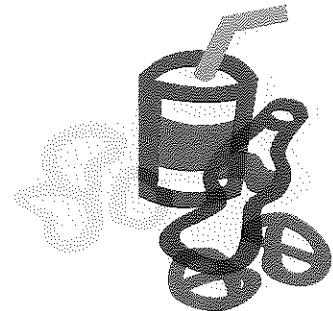
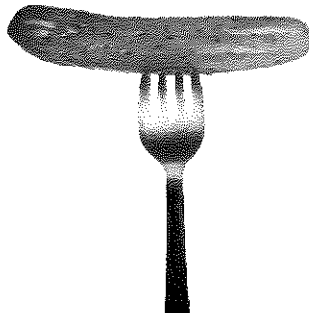
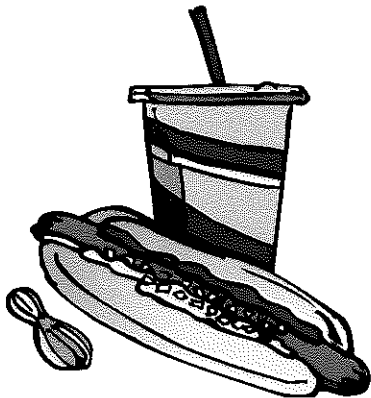
Spring Hill's Annual Spring Festival

Friday, April 14th
6:00-8:00

Games-Video Truck, Photo Booth & More



Food



Silent Auction

"Class Baskets," Gift Cards and many more items!!

Home & School CONNECTION[®]

Working Together for School Success

April 2017

Spring Hill Elementary School

SHORT NOTES

Keep up attendance



Good attendance matters all year. Show your youngster that going to school every day is job number one. If you plan to visit relatives or take a vacation this summer, check the school calendar to make sure your trip won't overlap with the end of this school year or the beginning of the next one.

Siblings as roommates

Have more than one child? Consider letting them share a room—even if they don't need to. Sharing space can help siblings bond and teach them about cooperation and respect. Plus, youngsters may be comforted and find it easier to fall asleep with someone else in the room.

Build observation skills

Boost your child's powers of observation during your next walk. Together, gaze at a scene (say, a playground) closely for 1 minute to observe as many details as possible. Then, turn around and take turns asking each other specific questions, like "How many swings are there?" or "What color is the slide?"

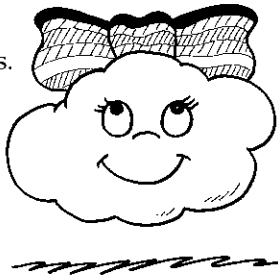
Worth quoting

"It does not matter how slowly you go so long as you do not stop." *Confucius*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What do clouds wear in their hair?

A: Rainbows.



Bring learning home

Help your child feel proud of the skills she's learning by giving her opportunities to use them outside of school. You'll boost her confidence—and she'll see that reading, math, and science are useful in everyday life. Pose questions like these for her to answer.

How can we organize our cabinets?

Your youngster may enjoy giving your kitchen cabinets a makeover. Suggest that she draw a "blueprint" for organizing dishes, pots and pans, canned goods, and other items. Review it together, and try some of her ideas—perhaps arranging spices in alphabetical order or stacking plates by size.

What will we do this weekend?

Let your child plan a fun outing for your family. She could start by checking the weather forecast. Then, encourage her to read newspaper listings and community websites to find activities, such as an arts and crafts fair, a free concert, or a minor-league baseball game. She'll need



to read for details like times, locations, and prices before she presents her idea.

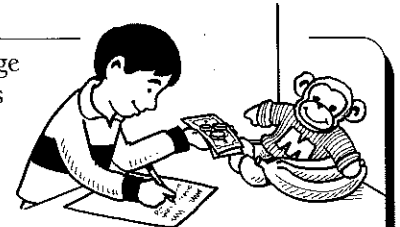
Where should we keep the bread?

Ask your youngster to conduct a science experiment to discover how to keep your bread fresh and mold-free the longest. She could use what she's learning in science class to set identical slices of wrapped bread on the counter, in the pantry, and in the refrigerator. What does she find? She'll be excited when you use her results to decide where to store bread.♥

Develop good money sense

Now is the time to help your youngster manage money wisely—before he gets his first job or has bills to pay. Try these kid-friendly ideas:

- Have regular conversations about money. You might say, "Chicken is on sale this week—we'll save money if we buy extra to freeze," or "I want new curtains, but our car will need tires soon, and I need to save for them."
- Suggest that your child give a stuffed animal a pretend allowance and write a budget for how to manage it. Explain that it should include savings and put *needs* before *wants* (so his stuffed monkey might buy bananas to eat or a tree to live in before purchasing one more ball to play with). *Tip:* If possible, give your youngster a small weekly allowance to work on real-life budgeting.♥



Practicing patience

In today's world, youngsters often have instant access to information, songs, and movies. As a result, they might not learn patience. Encourage your child to get better at waiting patiently with these tips.

Set an example. Let your youngster see you waiting calmly during challenging situations. In a traffic jam, you could say, "It looks like we'll be sitting here for a while. Would you read your story to me?"

Discover strategies. What does "wait a minute" or "wait 5 minutes" look like? Look at your watch, and have each



faster? Your child will learn that staying occupied will help him be patient.♥

family member raise his hand when he thinks 1 minute has gone by. They should raise their hands again when they think it's been 5 minutes. Repeat the activity, but this time, ask each person to do something he enjoys like reading or drawing. Does the time seem to go

PARENT TO PARENT

Write a winning argument

My daughter Lucy has been asking for a cat for months. So when she told me that she was learning to write "arguments" in school, I asked her to write me a letter arguing why we should get a cat.

A few days later, Lucy handed me her letter. She had stated her claim—"Having a pet helps kids become responsible." She even gathered evidence. She talked to three friends and wrote about how they care for their animals.



Finally, she considered my side, saying she knew I was worried I'd end up doing all the work. So she proposed a rule: She would have to feed the cat and scoop out its litter box before going out to play.

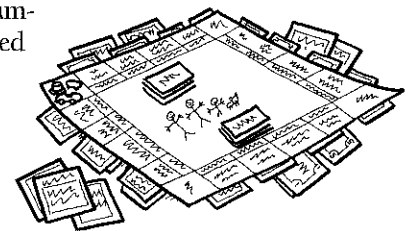
Lucy's letter worked, and we're going to the animal shelter this weekend to adopt her cat. Now she sees that writing a good argument can pay off!♥

ACTIVITY CORNER

Make a personalized game

What's more fun than family game night? Playing a game your child designed herself! Consider these suggestions.

1. Family-opoly. Have your youngster create a personalized Monopoly game. She might name properties after people, places, or things that are important to your family (say, her grandparents' native country or her brother's college mascot). After she makes the board and property cards, use Monopoly money and game pieces to play her version.



2. Trivia, Family Edition. Encourage family members to write questions about your family on index cards, with the answers on the backs. *Examples:* "What breakfast dish is Dad famous for?" or "How did we celebrate Mom's 40th birthday?" Stack the cards with the answers facing down. Your child draws one and reads the question aloud. The first person to answer correctly keeps the card and asks the next question. When all cards have been used, the player with the most wins.♥

Q & A Believe it—or not?

Q: My child believes everything in TV commercials. How can I help him understand what's accurate and what's exaggerated?

A: Try this eye-opening activity. Let your son take photos around your home. Half should make your house look good, and the other half not so good. For example, he could snap a shot of a freshly vacuumed room with the bed made and one of an overflowing trash can and a dirty wall.



Now, look through the pictures. Have him imagine he is "selling" your house by showing only the flattering pictures. Is he giving the full story?

Explain that this is how commercials work, too—advertisers want to show their products in the best light. Together, watch commercials, and talk about the "other" side that you're not seeing.

You could also read product reviews to get a more complete picture. Your son will learn to think critically about information he sees and hears.♥

OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

Resources for Educators,
a division of CCH Incorporated
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800-394-5052 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com
www.rfeonline.com

ISSN 1540-5621

Recipes for Success

Practical Activities to Help Your Child Succeed

APRIL 2017

MEASUREMENT A "handy" ruler

Your child can use her hand as a "ruler" to learn about measurement.

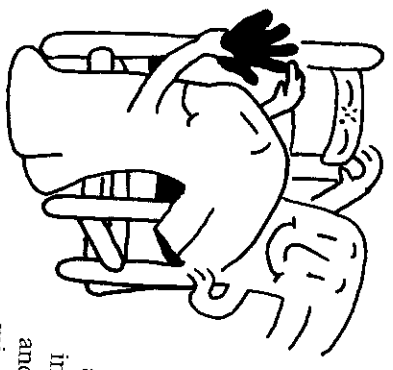
Ingredients: pencil, construction paper, scissors

Have your youngster trace her hand on paper and cut it out. This "hand" will become her unit of measurement.

Next, ask her to find things to measure and write down her results.

Examples: "TV, 5 hands wide," "Chair, 6 1/2 hands high."

Then, suggest that she measure distance. Perhaps she'll see how far she can jump—as far as the width of the TV or as high as the chair? Help her mark starting and landing points for each attempt, and she can use her "hand ruler" to determine the distance between them.

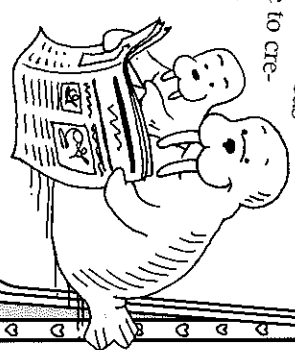


READING I found a poem!

Exploring "found poetry" is a fun way for your youngster to practice reading and explore word choice.

Ingredients: newspaper or magazine, pencil

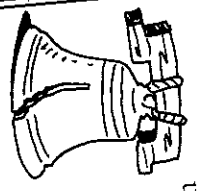
Together, read an article in a newspaper or magazine. Then, encourage your child to "find" a poem in the article. To do this, he should focus on one word at a time and decide which words to use to create a poem. He can circle words he wants to keep and cross out the others. **Example:** Dogs can run and play in dog parks. Leashes are required in all other public places throughout the city. The mayor said to play. Then, enjoy listening to him read the circled words in order ("Dogs run and play / all through the day"). Now you make a poem to share with him!



Refrigerator Poster
Just hang your Recipes poster on the refrigerator and sneak in an activity when you have a few minutes. These fun activities will help develop school success and positive behavior. Check off each box as you complete the "recipe."

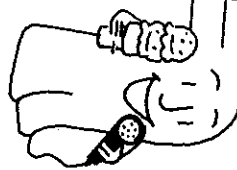
HISTORY

Imagining ways to update a historic landmark may inspire your child's interest in learning about the past. Say she chooses the Liberty Bell. Encourage her to read about it and decide what modern twist she'd add. She might say visitors could use wireless earbuds to listen to audio recordings of what the bell sounded like.



SPEAKING

The more your youngster speaks in front of people, the more comfortable he'll be giving presentations in school. Take turns naming a random topic (cars, ice cream) and giving a 30-second speech about it to each other. Remind your child to speak clearly and at a conversational pace.



SCIENCE Floating liquids

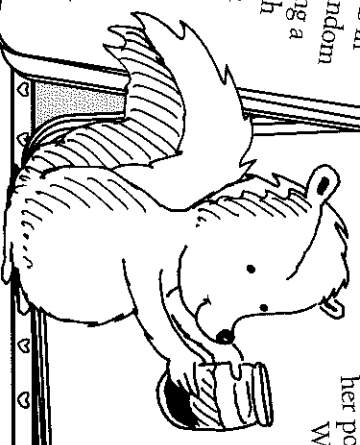
Colorful layers of liquid let your child explore density.

Ingredients: measuring cup, three small cups, corn syrup, vegetable oil, water, three colors of food coloring, clear jar or glass

Help your youngster measure 1/4 cup corn syrup, 1/4 cup oil, and 1/4 cup water into three separate cups. She should add a drop of different food coloring to each liquid (so she will be able to see which liquid is which). Now, have her pour the corn syrup into the jar followed by the oil.

What happens? (The oil is less dense, so it "floats" on top of the corn syrup.) Then she can add the water. What does she observe? Each liquid will be a separate layer, with the densest on the bottom and the least dense on top.

Suggest that your child try the experiment again, pouring the liquids in another order. Do their positions change?



Recipes for Success

Practical Activities to Help Your Child Succeed

APRIL 2017

Character Corner

CURIOSITY

Create a "curiosity zone" where family members can place interesting or unfamiliar objects like a spark plug or a garlic press. Let your youngster try to figure out what they are and how they're used.

DIVERSITY

Learning words in sign language will show your child that people communicate in different ways. Have him write down words you each want to know the signs for, such as *play* or *homework*. Look them up online, and use the signs during conversations.

DECISION MAKING

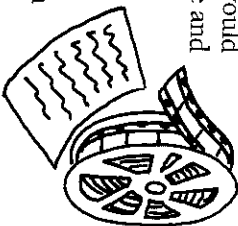
Listing "pros" and "cons" can help your youngster make a good decision. Say she wants to accept a birthday party invitation but has plans with another friend for the same time. A "pro" might be having fun celebrating a birthday while a "con" could be disappointing her friend.



READING

Invite your child to pretend you're a movie producer and he's "pitching" a book to you. He can choose a book he thinks would make a great movie and summarize its plot.

Next, he should explain why he believes audiences would want to see a film based on it.



SORTING

A treasure trove of tools

Encourage your youngster to learn the nuts and bolts of sorting.

Ingredients: tools, nails, screws, nuts, bolts, washers, variety of containers

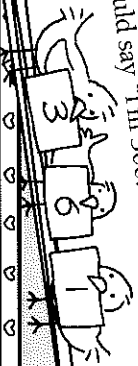
Your child can help you do a little spring cleaning by organizing your tools, screwdrivers, washers, nails, screws, and other hardware. Challenge him to sort them by category into separate containers (say, flathead screws in one box and Phillips-head screws in another).

Next, he could break down the categories even further and sort again. For instance, he might sort each group of screws into smaller boxes according to length—short, medium, and long.



PLACE VALUE

Have each family member write any number, 0–9, and hold up her paper. Your child calls out a number with all the digits (say, 361 or 613 for 3, 6, and 1). Players arrange themselves to form the number and name their values. **Example:** The person holding a 3 in the hundreds place would say "I'm 300."



MUSIC

Ask your youngster to personalize a song for your family. She can make up new words to a familiar tune, perhaps including hobbies or interests. (**Example:** "Ella kicks a soccer ball, soccer ball, soccer ball..." to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb.") Now let her teach her song to everyone.



Congratulations!

We finished _____ activities together on this poster.

Signed (parent or adult family member)

Signed (child)

VOCABULARY

Using your child's vocabulary list, take turns making up sentences and leaving blank spaces where the word goes. **Example:** "The wagon rumbled across the ____." Say your sentence aloud, and your youngster should look at his list to figure out which term belongs in the blank (*prairie*).

