

Giddings GT News

Volume 3, Issue 2

Summer 2022



Planning for Summer It's hard to know how much and what kind of activity your child needs over the summer -- scheduled family activities, community camps, academic programs, or residential camps. That can be determined by you and your child, but it is known that children who participate in summer activities, experience learning gains and those who do not, lose some learning gains from the past school year.

ACE Academy Grades K-4, 5-8 General Enrichment | All Academic Areas | Day Austin, TX
info@austingifted.org www.summerwonders.com Summer Wonders serves bright and curious students in Austin, TX. With over 20 years in existence, this year, camp classes will happen in person and virtually for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Summer Wonders courses are led by ACE Academy teachers and staff who are anxious to explore unique topics and excited to ignite the passions of young learners. This summer's courses include: Origami Design, Diverse Books Matter, Rockhound Adventures, Creative Writing - Focus on the Short Story, Kid Activism and more!

Aquatic Science Adventure Camp Grades K-5, 6-8, 9-12 General Enrichment | All Academic Areas | STEM San Marcos, Texas
eardc_education@txstate.edu
<https://www.eardc.txstate.edu/> Campers learn through exploration and hands-on activities related to water and the environment. Activities are designed to engage our campers' and impart an understanding of the world around them. Campers will experience what scientists do for a living and learn in a university setting in a variety of 1-day to 5-day overnight and day camps.

PEACE GEMS Summer Camp Grades 9-12 STEM | College Prep
San Marcos, Texas peaceinfo@txstate.edu
<https://lbj-stem.education.txstate.edu/PEACE-GEMS-Camp.html>

PEACE GEMS Camp is a virtual summer camp for high school aged young women who have shown a focused interest in STEM fields including engineering or computer science. This program is designed to create community among young women who have been historically under-represented in STEM fields, but all are welcome to apply.



**HATS OFF TO OUR SENIORS! YOU DID THE WORK!
BEST WISHES IN YOUR JOURNEY!**

CAITLYN A. CORREA,
BIANCA ESCALANTE
HECTOR A. GRANADOS
ZOE D. HERNANDEZ
HOLDEN L. JATZLAU
BRADY B. LIND
TAYLOR E. MAJEWSKI
JETT A. MCCLENEY

Elementary

After studying the Egyptian, Greek, Chinese and Aztec civilizations, the 1st-3rd graders are building their own civilizations, making choices about geography, religion, achievements, politics, economics and social structure.

Intermediate School

4th Grade Bug Club-Our 4th graders, with the help of Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Agent Geri Klein have started an entomology project. We have collected, pinned, identified and investigated insects. Texas A & M Professors have zoomed with us to teach us more scientific terms and benefits of insects.



5th Grade Robotics- 5th grade GT students have spent six weeks learning to build and program the LEGO robots. Part of the great thing about this program is it is learned through trial and error. We have learned the importance of teamwork, valuing all members' input and that it is never as easy as it seems. Many thanks go to GHS GT student Braden Meuth for helping us get started.

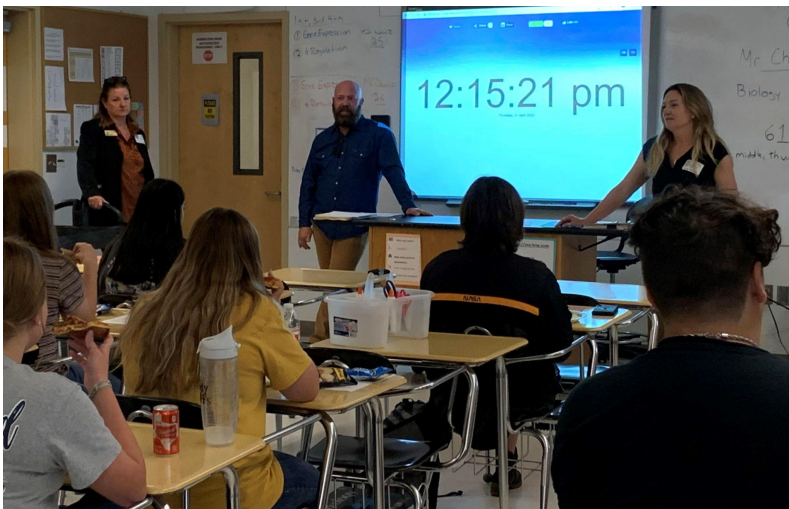
Middle School

6th Grade- 6th Graders are reading "Paradise Called Texas" novel. Creating brochures to entice immigrants to purchase land in Texas.

7th Grade- New territory creating podcasts to present information. Technology plus communication skills help prepare our GT students for the future.

8th Grade-Debates about current issues helped students understand the research process as well as a well formulated argument.

High School- Our final two lunch and learns were on the scholarship process and how to prepare for job and scholarship interviews. Panel of local business leaders: Denice Harlan (Chamber of Commerce), Heidi Exner (Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative) and Lane Jatzlau (Jatzlau Construction) gave



feedback and answered questions about the do's and don'ts of interviewing.

If your high school student would like to pursue an internship in order to help them decide on a career direction, have them apply at <https://www.workintexas.com/vosnet/Default.aspx.aspx> We are excited to be partnering with Workforce Development to be offering this exclusive program for our Gifted and Talented students.

OUR 8TH GRADE GT TEACHER, MR. MIKE BUCK IS RETIRING AT THE END OF THIS SCHOOL YEAR.

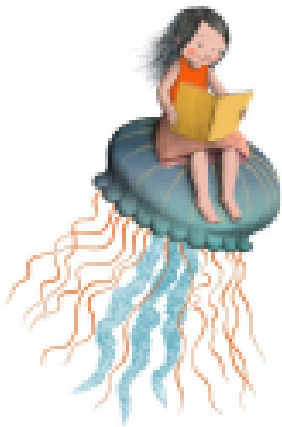
THE CONTRIBUTIONS MR. BUCK HAS MADE TO OUR PROGRAM ARE BEYOND MEASURE! IF YOU WERE TAUGHT BY MR. BUCK, PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE TO TELL HIM HOW IMPACTFUL HE WAS IN YOUR LIFE. EMAILS CAN BE SENT TO:

Michael.Buck@giddings.txed.net or drop a note by Giddings Middle School!

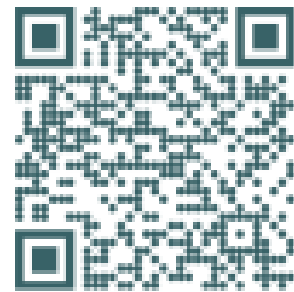


OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES

SUMMER
READING
2022



Register in the month of May during our free book giveaway! Children who register at the library in May receive a bag of books to add to their home library. We'll give away bags of books the entire month, or until all the books are gone. **Scan the QR code to visit our website, which has all the details you need to participate in this summer's exciting program!**



Experience Summer Reading at the Giddings Public Library | June 6-July 15

SAVE THE DATE!
HOUSTON | NOV. 30-DEC. 2

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Connecting Minds. Empowering Futures.

5 Ways to Help Kids See the Positive Side of Boredom

Posted on [May 3, 2022](#) by [Free Spirit Publishing](#)
by [Deborah Serani, Psy.D.](#), author of [Sometimes When I'm Bored](#)



Boredom is generally defined as dissatisfaction, unhappiness, restlessness, and other negative feelings, and children often fight to escape its grip. The solution, however, is for parents and caregivers to teach children how to better define boredom. How to *mindfully* define it.

You see, boredom is a signal that a child needs more—more excitement, more learning, more wonder. So, when boredom hits, help children see it as an opportunity for discovery and creativity to encourage better coping. These five tips can help.

- 1. Embrace Boredom** Encourage children to understand that feeling bored is a typical and healthy experience, and note that boredom is an opportunity for discovery. Help children view boredom as a signal to become curious about their unique needs, desires, and interests.
 - 2. Spur Wonder** Support creativity and imagination in children. Help them find wonder and curiosity with statements like “Think about what you want to do” or “How can you use your imagination to create some fun?”
 - 3. Be Patient** Many children are used to adults scheduling their time, so expect the shift from boredom to self-started decision-making to take some practice. Try not to solve a child’s boredom. Instead, let the moment linger and offer empathetic phrases like “I know you will find something to do” or “It’s hard when you don’t know what to do next.”
 - 4. Model Problem-Solving Behavior** Let children see *you* experiencing boredom, and show them how you move from a moment of passivity to activity. Allow them to hear you express emotions like “Gee, I feel bored today,” followed by solutions such as “I think I’m going to read a book.”
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5. Praise Effort Learning how to use boredom as a starting point for deeper enjoyment is a skill set that requires trial and error and plenty of practice. So be sure to praise children for trying, for efforts that work, and also for ones that fall flat. Remind children that using time for self-reflection is a wonderful thing. Everyone experiences boredom at times. Helping children learn to cope, and move from boredom to activity, is an important social and emotional skill.

Adapted from [Sometimes When I'm Bored](#) by Deborah Serani, Psy.D., copyright © 2022. Free Spirit Publishing, Minneapolis, MN; 800-735-7323; freespirit.com. All rights reserved.

School may be out, but learning and exploration are still in session! **The free, online content from Explore UT 2021 is available through the summer.** These unique experiences provide a chance to explore the creativity and innovation found at a top-tier research institution. Discover content based on interest or age group. From video demonstrations to step-by-step instructions for your own projects, there's something for everyone. Head to the [Explore UT website](#) to "discover what's next" Questions can be sent to exploreut@austin.utexas.edu.

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continued from page 1



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