

Houston Parks and Recreation Department

Youth and Family Engagement Activities

Week of May 11 – May 15, 2020

Stained Glass with Sidewalk Chalk

Start by adding tape to the ground in a fun geometric design. You can let the kids make it by giving each child a long strip of painter's tape & letting them make the next line. Next, give them as many colors of sidewalk chalk as you can find in the house! Then, let each child color a square until you have a beautiful stained-glass chalk design.

Nature Color Hunt (Hands-on Nature)

Gather your materials. An egg carton would work well as a color tray, scissors and a color construction paper for each section. Cut your paper into pieces small enough to line the bottom of the tray/carton. Start finding things to match. Start off by choosing a color with participants, if they have a hard time finding a match find one and go to it but don't announce you have found it. After you have made all your matches, talk about what you have found, how it feels, what it does (rocks line a path for us to walk on, a flower provides pollen for bees etc.).

Group Juggling (Family Fun)

The group stand in an inward facing circle and are asked to throw juggling balls amongst the group in a specific order. As the activity develops more juggling balls are introduced and the pressure to work well as a group increases.

Buddy Reading Relay (Literacy)

Consider a buddy reading relay – it is a great way to help youth improve their reading skills. Each participant reads a sentence from a paragraph. Make sure the number of players on a team represents the number sentences. Once a team is finished ask the group to discuss what the paragraph was about.

Blind Draw

In this activity, the team must instruct their "artist" to draw an item. They must describe their chosen item without revealing what it is, and they are not able to see what the "artist" is drawing.

Community Clean Up 10-Minute Walk

Everyone goes outside together for a 10-minute walk and picks up garbage. Make it a contest to see who can pick up the most trash.