

TALES FROM THE TRAIL

Nature Nuts Summer Day Camp | Summer 2017 | Columbia Springs Environmental Education



In nature, there's no such thing as garbage!

What a concept! Did you know **in Clark County alone we send 6,500 TONS of garbage to the landfill each week?** That's equal to the weight of over 900 elephants!! That's a lot of garbage. We also learned that while recycling is a great way to reduce waste, it's very high energy! Some of our recycling gets shipped to Canada or all the way to Kentucky! So, this week at camp **we drew on the inspiration of the natural world and did our best to buy less, use less, and waste less.**



How'd we do it? We rescued scraps of sparkly material, and turned them into fish scales on our toilet paper roll fish. **We rescued frozen pizza boxes (which, by the way can't be recycled because of the plastic coating that prevents moisture from getting through the box!) and turned them into cool bug shapes using the free die-cut machine at the library.** Then, we cleaned out the nooks and crannies of our craft closet and used all kinds of bits and pieces and treasures from past projects to bedazzle our bugs. It was fun, free and great for the planet! A win-win-win.

Of course, crafting wasn't our only mission this week— we also spent many, many, many hours just **enjoying the cool canopy of the forest**, hiking, digging for bugs, learning about plants and more! And, OF COURSE, camp wouldn't be camp with out games, games and more games! **We even had a chance to show Timber Joey (the Portland Timbers Mascot- pictured above) how to play our favorite game— decomposer tag.**

All in all it was a fun-packed week and it flew by way too fast. From our education team here at Columbia Springs, **thank you so much for joining us at Nature Nuts Summer Day Camp.** See you next year!

- Ms. Fern

Partners Make it Possible

The City of Vancouver and Waste Connections Inc partner with Columbia Springs each year to bring Nature Nuts Summer Day Camp to the community. These partnerships allow students to learn the important skills of caring for our planet, while spending their days outside and immersed in nature.

From feeding lunch scraps to the worms to playing recycle relay and countless recycled art crafts, campers absorb valuable information about waste-reduction, recycling, composting and more!

What household items do you normally cast away that could be used for crafting? Here were some of our favorite recycled art projects from camp!



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