

Turnoff Week Suggested Activities

For the week of April 21st – 27th

What if there were no TVs, computers or video games in your life? That's exactly what the international Turnoff Week is all about. Encourage children to use their imaginations by reading the picture book *Something Shiny, Something Round* by Julie Goulis. Then, do some of the activities below or dream up your own imaginative ways to join 6 million others around the world in spending a screen-free week.

Some Vocabulary Words

Dreamy	Outer space
Melting	Race
Covering	France
Saucer	Fancy
Shiny	Hubcap
Brave	Far
Dreary	Bistro
Icicle	Float
Shield	Ahoy
Unidentified (UFO)	



Ideas for Fun/ Creative/ Educational Activities:

Language/ Literacy:

- ☺ Dictate stories about what the children could do with a shiny, round object
- ☺ Have a letter or word treasure hunt; hide letters or words around the room and have children search for them
- ☺ Find the rhyming sounds
- ☺ Make menus for the French Bistro
- ☺ Stories and experience charts can be completed for many of the listed activities

Creative Arts:

- ☺ Make spyglass telescopes using tubes from paper towel or gift wrap rolls (see the activity guide in the back of the book for more details)
- ☺ Make sailor hats out of newspaper
- ☺ Cut out circles to make their own hubcaps
- ☺ Create prince or princess crowns; decorate them with shiny items (glitter, foil, etc.)
- ☺ Draw what you would do using nothing but your imagination and a shiny, round object
- ☺ Using paper plates and a variety of materials (tissue paper, ribbon, yarn fabric scraps, confetti, flowers) make fancy hats
- ☺ Sculpt with aluminum foil or make a mirror
- ☺ Turn the dramatic play area into a French Bistro
- ☺ Turn body tracings into outer space aliens

- ☺ Decorate large boxes to create a float, UFO, race car, or ship. The children can have a parade, travel into outer space, pretend to be a race car driver, or sail off to explore with their telescopes.

Math:

- ☺ Trace circles
- ☺ Experiment with a compass and protractor making circles and angles and a ruler making lines
- ☺ Practice economic principles in the French Bistro

Science:

- ☺ Outer space – cut out circles for each planet; count the planets
- ☺ Make the planets out of Play-Doh
- ☺ Make ice then show how it melts
- ☺ Investigate the principles of reflection
- ☺ Take a mirror outside (if it is sunny) or use a flashlight to demonstrate how light is reflected. Children can use their aluminum foil mirrors.
- ☺ Freeze and melt – fill a variety of different sized containers with water and freeze the contents overnight. Place the frozen shapes in containers and observe how long it takes for them to melt. Record your findings.
- ☺ Make a light box
- ☺ Bouncing light: Using two paper towel tubes and a mirror set the mirror up to stand independently, hold the paper towel tubes at an angle against the mirror. Shine a flashlight into the end of one tube. The light will be reflected from the mirror through the other tube. (You may want to turn off the lights for this experiment.)
- ☺ Explain how a magnifying glass works
- ☺ Have children look into large shiny spoons and compare the difference between looking into the concave and convex side of the spoon
- ☺ Use a variety of balls (exercise, playground, basketball, soccer, baseball, tennis ball, golf ball, and super balls) to demonstrate the sizes of the planets in the solar system

Music:

- ☺ Make music with a “glass harp” using glasses filled with water (see the activity guide in the back of the book for more details)
- ☺ Rock band – make your own cymbals with cardboard and aluminum foil; make drum sticks out of rolled-up cardboard
- ☺ Form a band and create your own instruments out of ordinary objects

Fine and Gross Motor:

- ☺ Bring in Matchbox cars and have a race
- ☺ Many of the activities listed will provide a variety of experiences for motor development.

Block Area:

- ☺ Build inclines with the large blocks and chart how fast the vehicles move down the hill at a variety of steepness. (This could be a science experience, too.) Or, just race the cars.
- ☺ Build a rocket ship, race car, ship, or sled

Outdoor Area:

- ☺ Hide shiny round objects and have a scavenger hunt. Or, bury shiny round objects in the sandbox and have a dig.
- ☺ Take a circle walk and record how many circular objects you can see

Social/ Emotional Development:

- ☺ Talk about the decision that the children made to return the hubcap to the person who lost it. The characteristics of responsibility, respectfulness, trustworthiness, and honesty can be reinforced by paying attention to the ending of the story.

Visit www.BubblegumBooks.com to learn more about *Something Shiny, Something Round* or call

1-877-471-5718 for information on ordering discounted copies of the book

Visit www.screentime.org for more information about Turnoff Week.