



Summer Reading 2020

Magical City

Because the library isn't open, and everyone is mostly stuck at home, we tried to put together a bunch of activities that you can do at home with your family. All of these are meant to just use things you can find around your house - feel free to use substitutions. Be flexible! If there's a writing prompt, and you'd rather draw a picture, go right ahead. Use these ideas as a springboard, and get creative! Some activities may be more appropriate for younger or for older children, so feel free to pick and choose. If you'd like, take a picture of what you made and send it to us at krose@cwmars.org or post it on the library's Facebook page. We miss you all - and would love to hear from you!

Reading throughout the summer is also important! We will keep track of that online this year. Please go to <https://www.milnelibrary.org/children-s-zone> to log your reading (we are tracking number of minutes). Anyone who logs their reading - or sends us a photo of their creations from these activity packets - will be eligible to receive prizes at the end of the summer.

Summer Reading at the Milne Public Library is sponsored by the Friends of the Milne Public Library.

Magical City

Build / draw / map your own magical city

Create your own magical city. If you want to build, you can use Lincoln Logs, wooden blocks, LEGO, clay, paper boxes, construction paper, craft sticks, glue, scissors, playdough or clay, bottles, recycled materials - whatever you have around and whatever sparks your imagination.

You can tell stories about your city. Questions to ask: Who founded it? Who lives there? What are the people like? What are the best things to do there?

STEM ADAPTATION: See who can build the tallest structure out of newspaper and tape. Adapt building challenges for different age levels.

Write a Quest Letter

Imagine you are playing outside one day when a carrier pigeon drops a piece of rolled up parchment into your lap. You carefully unroll it. Inside it tells you you must save the day! Write what the letter says. Include who/what you are being called to save, why, and what the journey will look like to get there.

Queek (game)

Queek is a simple game that dates back to medieval times. All you need is a checkerboard, or a surface marked off in squares, and some stones. To play, you guess how many of the stones will land on white squares and how many will land on black squares. Whoever is closest, wins!

See details here:

<https://www.medievalists.net/2015/12/five-medieval-games-to-get-you-through-long-winter-nights/>

Paint kindness rocks

Kindness rocks are fun and easy to make! Simply gather smooth rocks - from your yard, when you go on walks, etc. You can just paint colorful designs on them, or leave short messages for anyone who finds them. Acrylic paints tend to work best. To write words you can use permanent markers or paint pens. If you want to leave it outside, it's a good idea to use a sealant over your design so it won't come off.

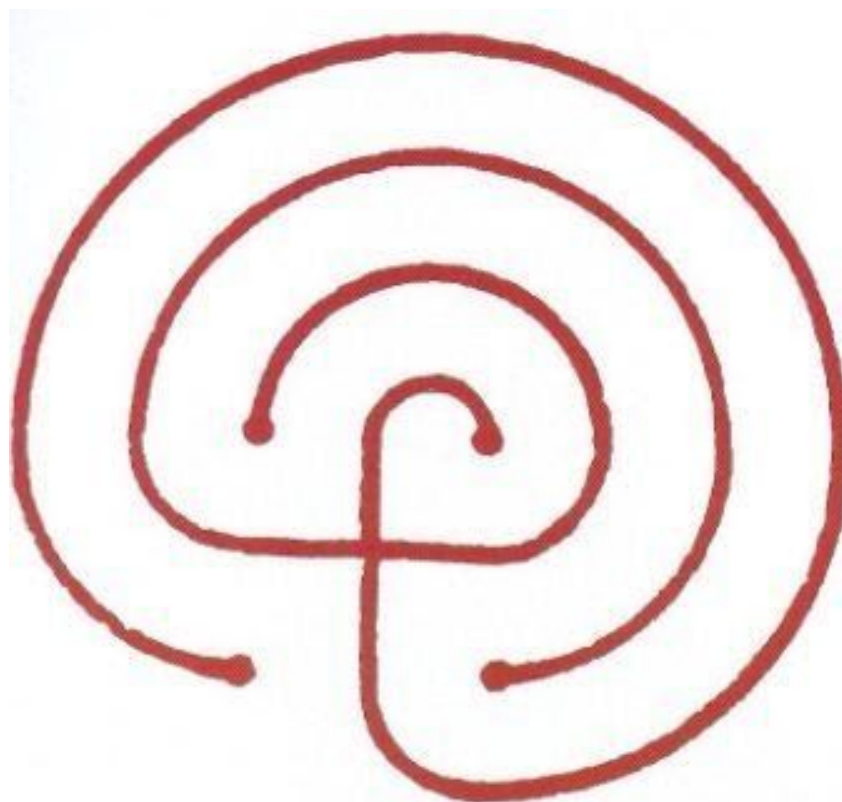
To read about the origins of the project: <https://www.thekindnessrocksproject.com/>

Simple instructions: <https://rockpainting101.com/kindness-rocks-instructions/>

More here: <https://inspirekindness.com/blog/rock-painting>

Build a Labyrinth

Prehistoric labyrinths were used to trap evil spirits or for religious rituals. In Greek mythology, Daedalus constructed an elaborate labyrinth for King Menos of Crete to hold the Minotaur, a half-man, half-bull. Daedalus almost got trapped in his own labyrinth (which was really more like a maze), but Ariadne provided him with thread that he used to wind his way back out again. Do you know the difference between a maze and a labyrinth? A maze is a complex branching puzzle through which the solver must find a route. This is different from a labyrinth, which has a clear path and is not meant to be difficult to navigate. Labyrinths have only one exit and entry; mazes might have several. Make your own labyrinth by gluing cut up straws to a paper plate. You could also use string or yarn instead of straws. You can design it like a maze, but remember that a labyrinth only has one exit. When your pieces are dry, try going through your labyrinth with a marble or small ball. Here's a simple example:



Or you can make a life-size labyrinth. Many modern-day labyrinths are used for meditative walks and for clearing the mind, which has health and spiritual benefits.

You could use:

- Masking tape or painter's tape
- Fabric sheets and fabric paint
- Sidewalk chalk

Create a simple labyrinth on the floor with masking tape or painter's tape. Or for a reusable labyrinth, paint on a fabric sheet. Or if it's a nice day, try drawing one on a sidewalk with chalk.

RESOURCES

How to make a labyrinth <https://labyrinthociety.org/make-a-labyrinth/3446-overview-https://labyrinthociety.org/make-a-labyrinth/>

Make your own printable mazes <https://bit.ly/2NXUVXL>

Background on labyrinths and labyrinth tutorial <https://labyrinthociety.org/resources>

Labyrinth facts <http://www.crystalinks.com/labyrinths.html>

You can do an internet search for "simple labyrinth patterns" to find inspiration.

Color Magic

Have fun with a little color magic.

- Use washable markers to color coffee filters.
- Wet the colored coffee filters with water from a spray bottle.
- Cut the filter into a shape if you wish, such as a heart or diamond.
- When the filter dries, paste the painted filter to a piece of construction paper.

See an example here: <https://www.adabofgluewilldo.com/kid-made-chromatography/>

Recipe | Magic Cookie Bars

Kids should get help from adults for this recipe.

You'll Need:

- 13x9 inch baking pan
- non-stick cooking spray
- 1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 1-14oz can Sweetened Condensed Milk
- 2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 1/3 cups flaked coconut
- 1 cup chopped nuts (walnuts or pecans)

Instructions:

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.
2. Spray a 13 x 9 inch pan with non-stick cooking spray. Make sure to spray the interior sides well.

3. In a medium size bowl, combine graham cracker crumbs and melted butter and mix until well combined.
4. Pour mixture into the prepared baking pan and gently press to create a crust that covers the entire bottom of the pan.
5. Pour sweetened condensed milk evenly over the crumb crust.
6. Evenly sprinkle chocolate chips, coconut and nuts over the condensed milk layer.
7. Gently press down with a fork.
8. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes or until beginning to lightly brown.
9. Remove from the oven and allow to cool for approximately 5-10 minutes.
10. Then, while still warm, loosen bars from the side of the pan gently to prevent them from sticking. Cut into bars. Store tightly covered.

Notes: To make it easier to remove bars from the pan, line the entire pan with foil or parchment paper, using enough that it extends over the sides. Coat the foil with non-stick cooking spray (you don't have to spray the parchment paper). After baking and bars have cooled, the entire pan of bars can be lifted out of the pan by using the foil or parchment edges.

Recipe and picture from <https://www.lovefromtheoven.com/seven-layer-bars/>

