



# Stories Abound

*Upcoming events, ideas and activities for families to do at home from the Monticello Public Library*



## News You Can Use

- We are excited to welcome Steve Belliveau on Wednesday August 4th at 2:00 pm for an afternoon of science, fun and magic. Steve combines his university studies (B.S. Engineering) with his skills as a magician to present a show that captivates students and adults alike. The show is a perfect blend of teaching and entertainment that will be talked about long after.
- Every Thursday from 1-3pm, we have a drop in STEM program for kids of all ages! Each week has a new and different activity and connects with the newest craft in the library entryway. We will be holding them all outside, unless the weather is not cooperating, then we will move inside. We will post any changes on our Facebook page. Our final STEM Day will be on August 19th. We have loved seeing so many coming out and creating some really fantastic projects!
- Our craft and STEM themes for August are: fairy tales, camping, space (the final STEM theme), dinosaurs and back to school.
- Did you know that September is National Library Card Sign-Up? Back to school time is a great time to get your students signed up for their own library card!
- Don't forget to check out <https://www.prek-12resources.com/> for a variety of free resources for all ages and interests. They are perfect for when the pool is closed or on a rainy day!



## Upcoming Events

- July 30th @ Dusk Movie in the Park
- August 4th @ 2:00 pm Getting Excited About Science Program with Steve Belliveau
- August 5th @ 1:00 pm STEM Thursday
- August 12th @ 1:00 pm STEM Thursday
- August 19th @ 1:00 pm STEM Thursday
- August 20th Nintendo Switch Drawing/ Summer Reading Ends
- August 20th @ Dusk Movie in the Park
- August 26th @ 4:00 pm Monticello Public School Open House
- September 1st- First day of school



## School Readiness Tip:

In order to get your kids ready for school, set your kids' sleep schedules back to "School Time" two weeks before the first day. This gives them time to get used to a new schedule before the first day of school.



## Did You Know?

Until the 1930s, most Americans only completed eight years of school. "High School" only became popular during the Great Depression when job-strapped communities saw benefits to keeping teenagers in class and out of the workforce where they'd only serve as low-cost competition to adults.



## Try It At Home: Edible Ice Cream Play-doh Recipe

### You will need:

- 1/2 can funfetti frosting
- 2 cups powdered sugar
- bowl
- spoon
- Sprinkles, Ice cream cones (optional)



### What to do:

1. Mix together 1/2 can of funfetti frosting and 2 cups of powdered sugar. If it is too dry, add in a spoonful more frosting. If it is too sticky, add a little powdered sugar. (If you want more colors, make 1/2 batches so you can make several different colors. The extra frosting is great for an impromptu batch of cupcakes!)
2. HINT: If you are looking for a big batch you mix one can Funfetti frosting with 4 cups powdered sugar.
3. Use an ice cream scoop to scoop up this amazing frosting playdough. It scoops just like real ice cream! This 2 ingredient playdough recipe is non-sticky and easy to play with and mold, so you can use your hands to play as well.
4. Chill it slightly to make it feel cold like ice cream too. (optional)

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## Do you know the benefits of playing with play-doh?

1. **It develops fine motor skills**-The acts of squishing, rolling, flattening, and more help your children develop muscles used in their hands for fine motor movements useful in the future, such as holding a pencil or using scissors.
2. **It's calming for children** -Playing with the clay can help ease tension, release excess energy, improve focus, and express emotions
3. **It encourages creativity**- No matter how many colors you have, there is an unlimited number of creations your kids can make from play dough. Creating objects from scratch encourages your kids to stretch their imaginations and think in new and innovative ways.
4. **It enhances hand-eye coordination**- tools help develop your child's hand-eye coordination by forcing them to manipulate the materials to fit their ideas
5. **It improves social skills**- When your child works with other kids or even adults while playing with play dough, it's great practice for social settings.
6. **It supports literacy and numeracy**- play dough is an awesome tool for teaching your children about counting, shapes, descriptions, and more.
7. **It promotes playtime** -Play dough helps kids slow down and focus on playing while using a number of senses and skills in the process.