

NATIONAL CENTER FOR FAMILY LITERACY LAUNCHES FREE, VIRTUAL SUMMER CAMP TODAY, THROUGH SUPPORT FROM TOYOTA

Third Camp What-A-Wonder makes summer learning fun with daily learning opportunities for kids and parents

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (June 17, 2013) – Today, the National Center for Family Literacy (NCFL) kicks off its third annual, virtual summer camp, [Camp What-A-Wonder®](#), encouraging families to explore the Wonder in everyday life and learn together over the summer. The program uses online and offline activities, virtual field trips, and other Wonder-filled opportunities to combat summer learning loss and build concrete learning skills (reading, background knowledge, vocabulary, mathematics, critical thinking). Camp What-A-Wonder 2013 is generously supported by Toyota.

Springing from the award-winning website [Wonderopolis®](#), Camp What-A-Wonder 2013 is a six-week program offering daily content Monday through Friday, June 17 through July 26. The theme for this year's Camp is "Uncover the Wonder Around You," building on the idea that Wonder can happen anywhere, at any time.

Weekly themes include:

- June 17 – 21: Ant Farms, Spider Webs, and Underwater Coves — Dig in to the Wild Kingdom!
- June 24 – 28: Buildings, Bricks, and Bulldozers – Scout out some Superstructures!
- July 1 – 5: Planes, Trains, and Rockets that Go – Count the Ways to Wander!
- July 8 – 12: Tidal Waves, Volcanoes, and Waterfalls: Explore the Big Blue Marble!
- July 15 – 19: Robots, Gizmos, and Sci-Fi Adventures: Unlock Your Inner Inventor!
- July 22 – 26: Storm Chasers and Planet Hunters – Adventure into the Atmosphere!

"Camp What-A-Wonder shows how learning can be fun and can happen wherever you are. We want to encourage parents and children to do something every day to learn and grow together," said Emily Kirkpatrick, vice president of NCFL.

"At Toyota, we are deeply committed to helping families learn together, which is why we're so excited to support Camp What-A-Wonder and help children and their parents discover that the joy of learning doesn't have to stop just because school is out," said Latondra Newton, Toyota group vice president of philanthropy and chief diversity officer.

On average, American students lose one month of progress in math and reading per year while out of school during summer months; and low-income students are disproportionately affected, falling behind two months in reading (RAND Corporation, 2011). Camp What-A-Wonder addresses summer learning loss by providing daily learning material and supporting Out of School Time (OST) in a variety of formats.

Campers are encouraged to sign up for free online at www.wonderopolis.org/camp to be an official member of Camp What-A-Wonder 2013 and receive the Camp What-A-Wonder e-newsletter and special Camp extras by mail. However, Camp What-A-Wonder online content will be available to all users, whether registered or not.

ABOUT WONDEROPOLIS

Created by the National Center for Family Literacy, Wonderopolis® is an online destination where people of all ages can learn through curiosity, discovery, creativity, and imagination. Fun, daily posts are delivered as "Wonders of the Day®," each exploring an everyday mystery in a variety of ways. Camp What-A-Wonder 2013 is a special summer program of

Wonderopolis and is generously supported by Toyota. Ongoing support for Wonderopolis.org and its content is provided by the Verizon Foundation.

ABOUT NCFL

The National Center for Family Literacy, founded in 1989 and based in Louisville, Ky., is the worldwide leader in family literacy. More than 1 million families have made positive educational and economic gains as a result of NCFL's work, which includes training more than 150,000 teachers and thousands of volunteers. Visit www.familieslearning.org for more information.

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