

KIDS' ZONE

Williamsburg Elementary

Big things are happening...

From enrichment to the Kids' Zone Bank, clubs to Character Counts at home; read about all the new and exciting thing happening at Kids' Zone!

Money, Money, Money Williamsburg Debuts the Kids' Zone Bank

As a parent, I am sure that you have seen plenty of Kids' Zone cash (you know, that neon colored currency handed out to children for a variety of reasons) floating around your house. Hopefully this will no longer be the case, because on January 17 we opened the Kids' Zone bank. The children will have the opportunity to deposit their money into the bank whenever they would like. Just like a real bank, they count the money and fill out a deposit slip. A staff member will the count and record the money on their personal account ledger.

The purpose of the Kids' Zone bank is to help the children apply some of the things they recently learned in the money management enrichment. While we do encourage the children to save (they will be earning interest, after all) they will also have the chance to withdraw money once or twice a month before the Kids' Zone Store. At the end of the year on the very last withdrawal day, whatever remains in their account will be doubled, essentially earning them

Things to Remember!

If your child is going to be absent from the program, please leave a message at (630) 945-7334



Winter has finally arrived and there is snow on the ground, in addition to being prepared for the weather outside, please send gym shoes for inside.



There is no school on Monday February 20, 2012. There will be a day off trip to Lazer X. Make sure you sign up soon, spots fill up quickly!



Character Counts...

Highlight on **Respect**

As many of you know, Kids' Zone is a program based around the Character Counts philosophy. We do our best to accentuate the six pillars of character here at Kids' Zone (respect, responsibility, caring, fairness, trustworthiness and citizenship), but we are asking that you help us enforce them at home. We will be starting an incentive program at Kids' Zone that focuses on respectful behavior and you can help. Take some time while you are waiting for your children to gather their things to write down an example of the showing good character at home. For each at home example we receive, the children will earn a marble in their jar. They will also earn marbles for having a good quiet time and showing good character at Kids' Zone as well. Please encourage your children to use manners, help clean up at home and speak to adults with respect.



Ingredients

- 1 (18.25 ounce) package white cake mix
- 1 (16 ounce) can prepared vanilla frosting
- 6 drops green food coloring, or as needed
- 1/4 cup green decorator sugar
- 12 large marshmallows
- 48 semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 drop red food coloring

Directions

1. Bake cupcakes according to the directions on the package. Allow them to cool completely.
2. Scoop 2/3 of the frosting into a small bowl and mix with green food coloring. Frost the cupcakes. Sprinkle some of the green sugar over the tops.
3. Cut the marshmallows in half to make two circles. Dip half of each marshmallow piece into water and dip into the green sugar to make the eyelids. The remaining white will be the eyes. Place on the cupcakes. Use a little bit of white icing to glue a chocolate chip into the center of each eye for the pupil.
4. Mix the remaining frosting with red food coloring to make pink. Use the pink icing to draw smiling mouths and nostrils or even tongues on the frogs.

A Note from the Coordinator...

As we get back into the swing of things there are a couple of things that I would like to remind you of. First of all, this is the time of year that after school enrichment begins. If your child is going to be attending an after school club, please fill out a lavender colored extra- curricular form to help us keep track of them. You can find them in the Parent Resource folder next to the sign in sheet. In addition, please utilize the snack calendar. If your child does not like a snack or they have an allergy please send an additional snack. Participants are always allowed and encouraged to eat a snack from home. Thanks!

-Stephanie Larson Site Coordinator