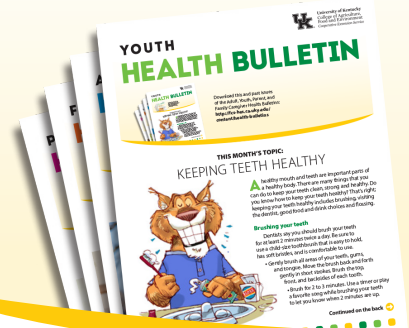


YOUTH HEALTH BULLETIN



JUNE 2024

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THIS MONTH'S TOPIC

STEP INTO NATURE, SUMMER EDITION

School is out, and the sun is up in the sky! You may have lots of plans for how you want to spend your summer break, or not many plans at all. Whether you are planning a big trip, staying busy with camps, or have plenty of time to relax at home, spend some time outside this summer.

Maybe you like to **S**plash at the pool, **U**nwind on a hammock, **M**ake forts in your backyard, or **M**ow the lawn for your family. Perhaps you **E**njoy a picnic in the shade or **R**ide your bike with friends. There are so many ways to step outside and into nature!

Your body needs to move for at least one hour each day. Moving helps your bones and muscles grow

and helps your whole body feel its best. We were made to move, and being active is easy outside! When you run, jump, climb, swing, and play, you are helping your muscles and bones get stronger and more stable. Is there a skill that you can't quite do just yet? Maybe a handstand or shooting a 3-point shot in basketball? The more you use your muscles and practice those skills, the better you'll get.

Your brain also benefits when you spend time outside in nature. Whether you are climbing a

Continued on the next page →



Whether you are climbing a tree, sitting in the grass, or hiking on a trail in the woods, being outdoors helps our bodies feel calmer, be able to pay attention more, and feel happier.

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tree, sitting in the grass, or hiking on a trail in the woods, being outdoors helps our bodies feel calmer, be able to pay attention more, and feel happier. If you have a bad day, or feel sad or upset, try spending some time outside: playing, reading, or just resting on the ground.

When you go outside, it is also important to protect yourself from too much sun. Remember things like:

- Sunscreen
- A hat
- Protective clothes or swimwear
- Sunglasses

You may even want to keep these things by the door in your home, in a basket or bag. That will make them easy to reach and to remember. This summer, step outside into nature, and get ready to have a good time!

REFERENCE:

<https://www.healthychildren.org/english/family-life/power-of-play/Pages/playing-outside-why-its-important-for-kids.aspx>



There are SO many things to do outside when it is warm and sunny! Try to think of one activity to do outside that starts with each letter below:

S: _____

U: _____

M: _____

M: _____

E: _____

R: _____

T: _____

I: _____

M: _____

E: _____



ADULT
HEALTH BULLETIN

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