

LINK UP

KIDS @ HEARTLAND

June/July/August 2010

HEY LAUNCH FAMILIES!

The sun has returned and summer has (almost) officially begun! Do I hear a woohoo?! Summer is so great because it means lemonade stands, visits to the pool and for some of us, family vacation. Although things change quite a bit around home, let me assure you that Launch remains just as exciting and engaging as ever. We're already at work, putting plans together to make each weekend this summer memorable.

We've had a great year with your kids. We started "On the Trail," traveling through Exodus. We then spent time in "Dr. Tomorrow's Repair Shop," seeing how our body teaches us all about Biblical truths. After that came 8 fabulous weeks with "Center Stage" learning how to live a life of worship. We have concluded with "The Great Skybridge Showdown," learning about many of the great building projects in the Bible.

Our summer programming is going

to look a little different. We're stepping back from live programming to focus on a pretty big project: writing our own Launch curriculum to be introduced in the fall. We'll still have connection time, but our teaching will come from video and our small group time will be replaced with activity stations. But, again, let me assure you that we are approaching summer with the same energy and commitment to excellence.

In this issue of Link Up you're going to hear from Ty and Mindy as they give you more details about the summer experience. You'll also get the scoop on what's waiting for you on the web, some suggested family activities to do, and finally a way to make your Launch check-in experience even quicker. So, keep reading!

As always, we are privileged to spend time with your kids each weekend. It's the best part of our week!

Sharon Sherbondy
Director of Launch

LAUNCH MISSION STATEMENT

To help kids know what it means to be a Christ-Follower, and learn how to follow Him in their daily lives.

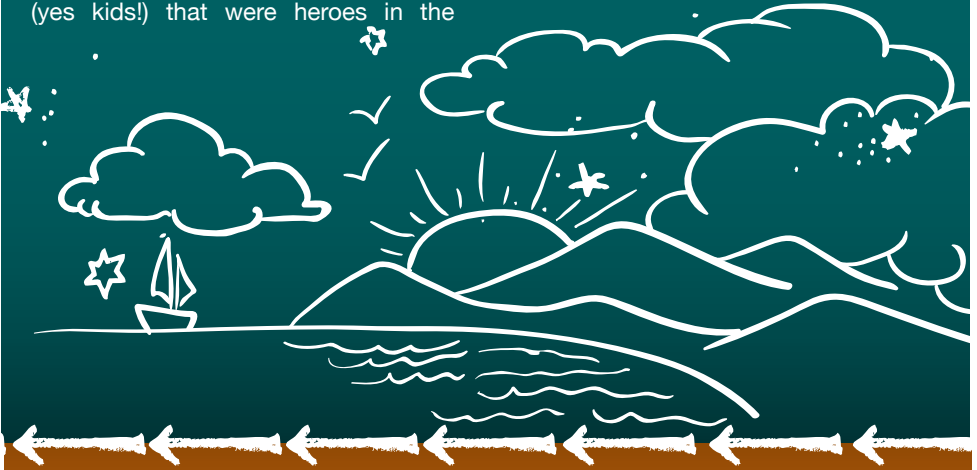
MISSION

EARLY CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM

We are gearing up for an exciting summer with the Moon Walker and Shooting Stars kids in Launch this year! This summer we will be learning many new Bible stories as we hear each week from The Bed Bug Bible Gang! Your kids won't want to miss out as we meet some of the Amazing Animals of the Bible...as we get to know kids – (yes kids!) that were heroes in the

Bible...and we will even be setting sail together as we learn about the big boats in the Bible! We will be doing some cool crafts and playing some fun games too. So bring your smiles and we will see you at Launch!

Mindy Hellyer
Early Childhood Ministry Leader



ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM

Adventures in **ODYSSEY**



This summer in elementary we will be experiencing the wonderful and exciting world of Adventures in Odyssey. This great series from Focus on the Family presents biblically based life lessons in a fun and creative way. We also will have a group activity each week that will encourage connection and community between the kids and volunteers. These activities will range from crafts to large group games. So bring your kids to Launch so we can keep growing closer in community.

Tyler Johnson
Elementary Ministry Leader

STUFF TO DO THIS SUMMER!

Pull out the fancy dishes or ceramic tea set and have a tea party in the backyard!

Make a homemade card for an elderly neighbor – just to show you care – deliver it with a small plate of sweets and a smile!

Go for a “rock collecting” walk with your preschooler. See who can find the prettiest rocks!

Make a leaf collage – collect leaves and notice how God made them all so differently. See how many different leaves you can find!

Make some awesome paper airplanes!

Check out www.10paperairplanes.com. Wait for a not-so-windy day and have a contest to see which ones fly the furthest!

Check out the Discovery Center on North Main in Rockford...they have a surprise exhibit coming this summer!

Make a batch of homemade play dough. Combine: 1 c. flour, $\frac{1}{2}$ c. salt, $\frac{1}{3}$ c. water and 1 tsp. vegetable oil – knead until smooth. If this is too messy for inside the house, spread a bed sheet on the lawn and place the dough on a cookie sheet!

Stop by “Do Something Now” here at Heartland on the weekend – check out some local ways to volunteer as a family this summer!



Thanks for taking the time to read this issue of the

LINK UP

LAUNCH IS ONLINE!

We realize that staying connected and up to date with what's going on in our ministry is very important. So what better way than our very own website as well as a Facebook page? On these pages, you can find the all of the latest news and information about LAUNCH. So whether you're a parent or a kid, come check us out!

visit us at
launchkids.cc
or
facebook.com

GOT BARCODE?

Barcodes are a great way to check your kids into LAUNCH. Instead of using the last 4 digits of your phone number you just wave the key tag barcode in front of the

reader and your family information shows up, making check-in faster & easier. If you don't have a barcode, look for your chance to get one at LAUNCH in the near future.

COMING THIS FALL...

Pre-Teen Ministry – a brand new ministry designed specifically for the 4th and 5th Grader. Keep on the look out for more details coming in August.

Launch Curriculum – original curriculum written by our own Launch staff.

The Mighty Family Smashup – returning in October with a new time, space and look.