

PAWS UNIVERSITY

— HOME EDITION —



The Great Outdoors

After three busy weeks of secret agent training, preparing for Summer Olympics 2021, and flying all around, Louie decides to slow down his pace. This week Louie wants to spend his time outside visiting parks, walking trails, and taking in the nature around him. He will fill his days with flowers, trees, and wildlife and his nights with campfires and constellations. On Saturday Louie is even planning to participate in the **Great American Campout Day!** Get ready to enjoy a week in THE GREAT OUTDOORS!

VIRTUAL ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

Monday	Great Outdoor Workout led by UNK Football Team ¡Veo, Veo! with Dr. Michelle Warren Puppet “How To” Video presented by Crane River Theater
Tuesday	Watercolor lesson by Professor Ziemke and guest Game and Parks Wildlife Biologist Nic Fryda
Wednesday	UNK Rock Climbing Wall with Justin Stout and Mackenzie Eubank UNK Outdoor Adventures
Thursday	Plant Talks and Greenhouse with Dr. Twigg Book Read Aloud with UNK student Stuart Wilke
Friday	Outdoor Fire Safety Demo with Firefighter Jeremy Fuesner Book Read Aloud with Dr. Twigg

unk.edu/pawsuniversity

Special Thanks: UNK’s Biology, Art and Design, and Modern Language Departments; UNK Wellness Center; UNK Football Team; PAWS U Art Teacher Dana Dietz; Crane River Theater; Kearney Volunteer Fire Department; Nebraska Game and Parks



Nature. Fresh Air. Camping. Louie loves nothing more than being in the Great Outdoors! We would love to see you enjoying the outdoors with Flat Louie, so be sure to have an adult share pictures on our **PAWS University Facebook** page!



** Kit may contain small objects. Additional themed activities are available online at www.unk.edu/pawsuniversity, including: virtual enhancement videos, live experiments/interviews, virtual tours, “celebrity” readers, workouts, and more! We encourage you to post photos to our PAWS University Facebook group throughout the week.*





THANK YOU

Thank you for participating in PAWS University: Home Edition. We hope that you had fun throughout the past four weeks and learned some things along the way! Although our PAWS University camp looked a lot different than we had originally planned, we enjoyed creating these themed activities and videos for you. We hope to see you on campus next summer! Please stay safe and healthy. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

STEM: Shelter Engineering

As Louie was out enjoying one of the Kearney Trails, he noticed a lot of different wildlife. He saw squirrels, butterflies, and even a turkey hiding in the trees! While Louie enjoys the sunshine on his fur, some animals do not like sunshine and are sensitive to it. Help Louie create a wildlife creature, and then build a shelter to keep the creature safe and out of direct sunlight.

Make a wildlife creature.

1. Gather the following items from your kit: Beads, pipe cleaners, and googly eye stickers.
2. Create a wildlife creature by putting the beads on the pipe cleaners. Get creative! Do you want to make a mammal or a reptile? Or maybe an undiscovered species? Finish off the creature by adding googly eyes.



The sun produces many types of light, including white light and ultraviolet light. The sunlight we see is called white light. Ultraviolet is light you cannot see, but it is what causes you to get a sunburn if you are in the sun too long. The beads you are using to make your wildlife creature are special ultraviolet (UV) beads. When the beads are exposed to UV light, they will change colors!

Build a shelter

1. Gather some recyclables from your kit and your home to create your shelter.
 - This Kit: popsicle sticks, dixie cups, surprise items
 - Previous Kits: masking tape, paper, yarn, tissue paper, glue, pipe cleaners, etc.
 - ITEMS FROM HOME: paper plates, tin foil, cereal boxes, toilet paper rolls, egg cartons, etc.
2. Design and create a shelter that will protect your critter from the sun. What will be the best materials to protect your animal? What will be the most sturdy structure? You decide!
3. Go outside and test out your shelter. Place your wildlife creature under your shelter. Was your creature protected from UV light? If your beads remained clear, that means no UV light from the sun touched your wildlife creature and your shelter protected your animal! If the beads change colors, make adjustments to the shelter until your animal is fully protected.

Challenge: What could you do to improve your shelter? Can you make it so more animals could be sheltered from the sun? Could you add features that would protect your creature from possible predators?

Additional activities available at unk.edu/pawsuniversity: Build a Raft, Rookie compass, and more!

SNACK: Banana Boat S'mores

Banana Boat S'mores

Courtesy of Kearney HyVee

Ingredients for 2 s'mores

- 2 bananas
- ¼ cup mini marshmallows
- ¼ cup semisweet chocolate chips
- ¼ cup Honey Chex cereal or graham crackers



Try the recipe again with different toppings like peanut butter drizzle, teddy grahams, strawberries, white chocolate chips, or chopped Reese's peanut butter cups.

Directions

Wash your hands.

Have an adult slit each banana lengthwise through the peel. (Try NOT to cut all the way through the banana!)

Stuff the marshmallows and chocolate chips into the banana.

Wrap each banana in aluminum foil. You can cook with or without the peel on.

Have an adult place wrapped bananas over a fire, on the grill, or in an oven (300°F) for 5-8 minutes or until chocolate melts.

Crush the cereal or graham crackers and sprinkle over warm banana. Eat with a spoon.

ARTS: Sculpture, Watercolor, and Puppets

Leaves, rocks, grass, sticks, trees, flowers - Louie believes all elements of nature are beautiful in their own ways. With the following activities, you will try to capture some of nature's beauty.

Activity 1: Found Object Nature Sculpture

Locate some of nature's most beautiful objects. Let your creativity grow as you use those objects to build a sculpture. You can design your sculpture to resemble something or it can be abstract.

There is a [handout in your kit](#) with more details. Be sure to have an adult post pictures of your Nature Sculpture on the PAWS University Facebook group!



Activity 2: Blow and Splatter Paint Trees

***Adult supervision is recommended for this activity. The splatter paint portion should be done outdoors in the grass or with a table covering.**



There are numerous types of paint (acrylic, oil, gouache) available for artists to use. This week you will use various painting techniques with watercolor paints to create a tree.

Watercolors are created when water is added to color pigments. When the watercolor is put on paper and the water evaporates, the colored pigments remain. Many people enjoy the fluid and transparent qualities of watercolor artwork. And various painting techniques can be combined with watercolor to create masterpieces. Be sure to check out the watercolor video tutorial.

Materials from your kit: watercolor paper, watercolor paints, cotton balls, straw

Materials from home: pencil/pen, extra paper (for additional pictures), 2 cups/bowls with water

1. Obtain the materials above. Start with one piece of watercolor paper and 2 cups/bowls of water. One cup of water will be kept clean. The other cup will be what used to wash out your paintbrush when switching colors.

Blow Painting Technique



2. Dip a cotton ball in the water and squeeze water into the brown paint. Mix it around until the water in your cotton ball is brown.
3. Squeeze drops of brown watercolor onto the paper.
4. Then take your straw and blow on the paint to create the trunk of your tree.
5. Continue the process of refilling your cotton ball, adding drops of brown watercolor, and blowing the paint with your straw until you are happy with your tree trunk.
6. OPTIONAL: Use the same process with different cotton balls and the various watercolors to blow paint grass, clouds, sun, etc.

Splatter Painting Technique ***Adult supervision recommended**



7. Place your paper either outside in the grass or on a completely covered table. Splattering can get messy!
8. Use a clean cotton ball to put water into any color you choose for the tree leaves. Use your paintbrush to mix the water and color.
9. Put a pencil/pen in one hand and your paintbrush with color in the other hand.
10. Gently tap the paintbrush on the pencil, which will cause the paint to splatter on your canvas.
11. Experiment with different colors (even mixing colors), tapping motions, and paint amounts on your brush.

Activity 3: Crane River Theater presents **Sock Puppets: An Outdoor Adventure.**

In your kit you will find a [handout with more details](#). Begin by watching a video (unk.edu/pawsuniversity) of a puppeteer explaining how to create your own puppet, elements of puppeteering, and how to participate in an outdoor puppet music video to the song *Bear Necessities*. Then create your own puppet to star in the music video!

Additional activities available at unk.edu/pawsuniversity: Terracotta Pots, Negative Space Leaf Art, and more!

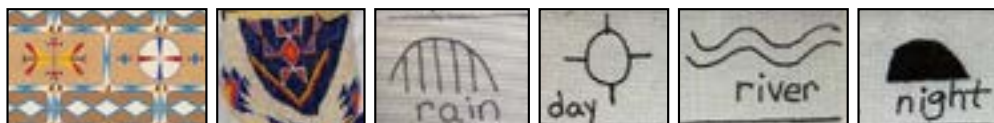
**Registration for next summer's PAWS University
Camps will open March 2021. Continue to watch
our website and Facebook group for details.**

HUMANITIES: Native American Sticks Game

Sometimes when Louie looks around, he sees trash left on the ground. By recycling and throwing things away correctly, we can help keep the outdoors beautiful! Before you, me, and Louie lived in this area, there was a large group of people known as Native Americans who lived here. Native Americans relied on nature to supply everything they would need. In their everyday work and play they would use all parts of nature, a sort of recycling.

The [Sticks Game](#) was a game played by many different tribes. Although Native Americans often “recycled” buffalo ribs or other bones, we are going to use popsicle sticks and rocks. This game is played with 2 people and the goal is to be the player who collects all 10 rocks.

To begin, you will need to decorate ONE SIDE of each popsicle stick using your markers. (Leave the other side blank.) You can decorate them with Native American symbols or things you might find in nature (like leaves, flowers, grass, etc.). Once all of your popsicle sticks have been decorated, gather the 10 rocks in your kit and put them between the 2 players.



To start, Player A picks up all 6 of the sticks and then lets them drop vertically out of their hand. How the sticks land will decide how many rocks that player takes.

Examples:

All 6 Face Up = 3 Rocks

All 6 Face Down = 2 Rocks

3 Up and 3 Down = 1 Rock

Any other Combination = 0 Rocks



Take 3 rocks



Take 2 rocks



Take 1 rock

Next, Player B picks up all 6 of the sticks and lets them drop vertically out of their hand. How the sticks land will decide how many rocks that player takes.

Continue taking turns. If there are no more rocks in the middle, you start taking rocks from the other player. The player who collects all 10 rocks WINS!

Additional activities available at unk.edu/pawsuniversity: Buffalo Hide Painting, Mini bow and Arrow, and more!

READING: Compass Reading

One of Louie’s favorite things to do in nature is read. Head outside and use your compass to find a direction. The needle on your compass will always point north due to the magnetic pull from the North Pole. Once you are facing a certain direction, read in the fun way indicated on the compass below.

Cardinal Directions

N - Take a blanket outside and read.

S - Read while laying under a tree.

E - Read in the dark with a flashlight.

W - Read in a tent (either indoors or outdoors).



Ordinal Directions

NE - Eat a s’more while you read.

SE - Read with your toes in the grass.

SW - Make binoculars with toilet paper rolls and read a book with them.

NW - Find a cute bug to read to.

FAMILY ACTIVITY: Great American Campout Day

Saturday, June 27, is the Great American Campout Day. This day was created in 2005 by the National Wildlife Federation to encourage families to get outside and enjoy nature. This Saturday (or any day this week) we encourage you to CAMP OUT. This could be in your backyard or at your favorite campground. (Or if the weather doesn’t cooperate, you can camp in your living room even.)

Take some time to enjoy the great outdoors while you reflect on your 4 weeks of PAWS University:

Home Edition. What do you see and feel that reminds you of flying? How is being outside in the fresh air helping you feel fit? Can you use your secret agent skills and flashlight to investigate the various sounds you hear while camping? Ask an adult to share any pictures you take while camping with us! We would love to see them.

