

Educational series to start June 13

WOE to offer fun summer programs



PHOTOS SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

Kids will make slime during the July 18 program at Wednesdays at the World of Energy.

BY JASON EVANS
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SENECA — As school wraps up for the summer, parents are left with the task of finding activities that keep kids entertained and, if they're lucky, educated.

Wednesdays at the World of Energy seeks to combine both elements with its free programming geared toward kids ages 6-12. All the activities require parental supervision and there's no need to leave siblings at home, but the selected age group will likely be the most interested.

All events are free and open to the public. Each program begins at 10 a.m., and the June 13, 20 and 27 programs require registration beforehand. Register by emailing worldofenergy@duke-energy.com or by calling (864) 873-4600.

"All the events are rain or shine, but in the event of severe weather we'll put safety before fun," World of Energy communications consultant Mikayla Kreuzberger said.



A Duke Energy engineer will lead the June 20 program where kids will turn plastic bottles into rockets. Each child should bring a 2-liter plastic bottle — preferably an RC Cola one.

The series kicks off on June 13 with "Buddy's Safe House," sponsored by Safe Kids Upstate.

"We partner with them for several events throughout the year," Kreuzberger said. "Buddy's Safe House will be set up at the World

of Energy. It teaches kids about safety in the home. It's a great, fun educational tool for children."

Electrical safety and bath and water safety are among the topics that will be covered during the program.

"Blast Off with Rockets" is the June 20 program. Children will build and launch rockets.

"The rocket event is led by one of our Duke Energy engineers," Kreuzberger said. "Kids love it."

Each child is asked to bring a 2-liter plastic bottle to the event.

"They tell us RC Cola bottles are the best to work with," Kreuzberger said. "Something about the shape of the bottle, the aerodynamics."

The bottles will be transformed.

"They'll turn it into a rocket using bread and rocks," Kreuzberger said. "Then we'll take the rocket and we launch it on a pressurized water table."

The June 27 event is "All About Water." A Clemson Extension water resource agent will conduct water

quality experiments with children.

"It's a great time to get wet and have fun learning about what's in our water," Kreuzberger said.

The series concludes July 18 with a program that gets an early start on the World of Energy's 50th anniversary.

"We'll be giving out World of Energy 50th anniversary T-shirts," Kreuzberger said.

"We opened in 1969. We're very proud of our 50th anniversary. We want the 50th anniversary out in our community."

Children will be tie-dyeing T-shirts and making slime.

"Part of what we do is provide free, fun, educational programs for the people in our community," Kreuzberger said. "We're very proud to do that. We're very humbled to be a neighbor in Oconee County and nearby Pickens County. This is one way we can give back to those neighbors."