



# Learning at Home

## *Volunteering at Great Plains Zoo*

August 2009

Several SDHSA families volunteered at the Great Plains Zoo ([www.gpzoo.org](http://www.gpzoo.org)) on July 24th. Everyone picked up twigs and garbage off the grounds in the Savannah area for an hour and half. The area is generally closed to the public; but they are getting ready for their Jungle Jubilee.

Photos on  
Secure SDHSA  
Site

Before the clean-up started Heather, the zoos volunteer coordinator, talked to the group about safety and what we would be doing. She then led us through the back where we saw an African Leopard. This leopard is not currently on display but he/she will be given a home with the expansion. As we walked to the Savannah Heather also told us about the Rhino display and the plans for that. After the volunteering was completed several families enjoyed the zoo.

For anyone interested in volunteering the minimum age to volunteer by yourself is 16 years. Kids can volunteer with their parents and the minimum age is 10. We were able to volunteer as a group with younger kids because it wasn't an ongoing thing. If you would like to contact the zoo about volunteering ongoing Heather's email is: [hwest@gpzoo.org](mailto:hwest@gpzoo.org)

Our next volunteering activity is the Food Bank in August—a poll will be set up closer to the date. Also, you can bring unexpired and unopened goods to donate to our Tuesday meetups. Any questions please email [becky@sdhsa.org](mailto:becky@sdhsa.org).

## Tye-Dying

SDHSA Families were invited to tie dye an article of clothing. The process was spread out over a few park days. Everyone had fun making their own colorful masterpiece. In the picture to the left is a SDHSA member coloring his shirt—the kids in the background made their shirt the prior week. The picture to the right is holding her new shirt in a bag.

Photos on  
Secure SDHSA  
Site

## Craft Corner

Submitted by Gina (SDHSA Craft Coordinator)

Blow your kids away by making their very own Homemade Bubble mix with dish soap.

What you'll need:

- \* 1/2 cup Dishwashing detergent (120 ml)
- \* 4 1/2 Cup Water (1.1 liter)
- \* 4 Tablespoons glycerin (available at pharmacies) (60 ml)
- \* Container with a tight fitting lid in which to keep the bubbles
- \* Measuring devices
- \* Spoon

How to make it:

1. Gather all your supplies.
2. Measure out the water, detergent, and glycerin into container.
3. GENTLY stir the mixture together. If a foam forms, gently skim it off the top.
4. Find something with which to blow bubbles and begin to have fun.

Tips:

As in all recipes, results can vary depending on humidity, conditions, etc. Please try any recipe out before attempting in a group setting.

## Rhubarb Strawberry Jam

Recipe found on allrecipes.com submitted by Becky

Prep Time: 30 Minutes

Cook Time: 12 Minutes

Ready In: 8 Hours 42 Minutes

Servings: 24

Ingredients:

5 cups chopped fresh rhubarb

3 cups white sugar

1 (3 ounce) package strawberry flavored gelatin

Directions:

1. In a large saucepan or stockpot, stir together the fresh rhubarb and sugar. Cover, and let stand overnight.
2. Bring the rhubarb and sugar to a boil over medium heat. Boil, stirring constantly, for 12 minutes on low heat.
3. Remove from heat, and stir in dry gelatin mix. Transfer to sterile jars, and refrigerate.

\*\*We have made this recipe a few times—you can use different fruit or another flavor of gelatin for a different flavor. We also used about 1/2 of the sugar that it called for. Lastly, instead of doing step one—we combined the fruit & sugar in a food processor then proceeded to step 2; we didn't wait overnight.





# August 2009

Please note some activities have an additional fee, have a minimum age, or a respond by date—please see online for full information

**Contact:**

questions@sdhsa.org

All messages will be returned by a SDHSA Leader

**Web Site:**

<http://www.sdhsa.org>

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 1:30pm Park Day (Homeschool Q&A)	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 1:30pm Park Day	12	13 6:30pm Thursday Night Dine, Plan, & Chat	14	15
16	17 6pm NBTS Picnic	18 1:30pm Park Day	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 1:30pm Park Day	26 5pm Summer Swimming	27 2pm Volunteer Activity at the Food Bank	28	29
30	31					

Our Tuesday meet-ups this spring/summer will either occur at McKennan Park or at Pioneer Spray Park. Please check out the temperature at our group homepage (<http://www.sdhsa.org>) during the noon hour, if it is in the mid 80's by noon we will meet at Pioneer Spray Park. A message will also be sent to the yahoo group after noon regarding where to meet.

Thanks to the families who  
have renewed!

If you have any gently used craft supplies that you would like to donate to SDHSA please email [gina@sdhsa.org](mailto:gina@sdhsa.org).

Thanks.

August Birthday

In an effort to spread the word about homeschooling and our group, we have created an SDHSA fan page on Facebook. You can go here: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-South-Dakota-Home-School-Association/88895526726?ref=nf> to check out the page and become a fan, and feel free to let any interested friends or relatives know about the page, too!

Names on Secure  
SDHSA Site

Just an FYI -- we will use the Facebook page to announce activities to which the public is invited, such as our Q&As, but all SDHSA activities will be announced, as usual, using the Yahoo group.

Thanks!



## Ad Space

If you would like ad space please see the link:  
<http://www.sdhsa.org/Misc/Ads.html>

If you have any questions please contact:  
[becky@sdhsa.org](mailto:becky@sdhsa.org)