

Hot, Hot, Hot! A Celebration of Air Conditioning Appreciation Days: July 3 – August 15



(Image from Creative Commons)

Bastyra, Judy – *Fun Food*

Instructions for making ten edible treats, including an ice cream clown, a jolly Jell-O caterpillar, a shortbread house, an egg man, and a melon crab.

Blake, Quentin – *Mrs. Armitage and the Big Wave*

Mrs. Armitage and her dog Breakspear head out surfing, but each time they paddle out they think of another outlandish thing they need. This makes a fine flannel board story.

Bridwell, Norman – *Clifford Keeps Cool*

On a hot summer's day, Clifford finds that standing under a waterfall is the best way to keep cool.

Broach, Elise – *Wet Dog!*

A dog's attempts to cool off on a hot day get him into trouble with a series of people and finally lead him to interrupt a country wedding.

Crews, Nina – *One Hot Summer Day*

The heat of a summer day is punctuated by a thunderstorm.

Inches, Alison – *Just like Dora*

Dora leads her friends on an expedition that ends at an ice cream party.

Inkpen, Mick – *Hissss!*

On a hot summer day Kipper the dog discovers a leak in his wading pool and fixes it in a very unusual way.

Koller, Jackie French – *Peter Spit a Seed at Sue*

One hot summer day, four bored children start a watermelon seed-spitting battle that soon spreads throughout their town.

Komoda, Beverly – *Too Hot Day*

Mama takes her little rabbits for a walk to the lake on a very hot summer day.

Layton, Neal – *Hot Hot Hot*

Oscar and Arabella, two woolly mammoths, try to cool off during a very hot summer.

Perry, Elizabeth – *Think Cool Thoughts*

On the hottest night of the hottest part of a very hot summer, Angel, her mother, and aunt drag their mattress to the rooftop to sleep and hope for cooler weather.

Spinelli, Eileen – *Heat Wave*

Abigail, Ralphia, and the other citizens of Lumberville struggle to endure a week-long heat wave.

Thompson, Lauren – *Mouse's First Summer*

Mouse tries many new things when he and Minka celebrate summer by enjoying a picnic in the park.

Willems, Mo – *Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog!*

Pigeon learns about sharing when a curious duckling keeps asking questions about the hot dog Pigeon has found.

Projects:

Cool Your Head Hat – Check your collection for hat craft ideas or websites such as thebestkidsbooksite.com, enchantedlearning.com, or familyfun.about.com for ideas and directions.

Sun Fan – Give each child pieces of yellow and orange construction paper. They trace their hands and cut them out to make the rays of the sun. Glue them together in a circle and then cut a circle to glue in the middle. Add glitter or other decorations as desired.

Ice Cube Science – Search your own collections for experiments involving ice. The intriguingly named thenakedscientists.com site has the directions and visuals for how to lift ice cubes with a piece of thread. Another site, theteacherscorner.net tells how to revolve an ice cube over and over in a bowl of water.

Sponge Crown – If your budget allows, purchase sponges to cut into shapes which can be strung together to create wet crowns. See the Disney Family Fun site for directions and pictures.

Games:

Slow Motion Hot Dog Hunt – Hide a picture of a hot dog – food or animal – somewhere in the children's area or wherever you are holding your program. Make sure everyone knows what they are looking for and then the search is on.

Ice Cube Toss – Partners stand face to face and toss an ice cube back and forth. The one who catches it takes a small step backward. The team that gets the farthest apart before the ice melts is the winner.

Pass the Wet Dog's Bone – Knot two dish or hand towels together and get them soaking wet. Ring them out a bit. Have the children sit in a circle and pass the towels a la Hot Potato. Another version is Under Over. Teams stand in lines and pass the wet towels over their heads to the next person who passes it

between his or her legs to the next. Teams alternate passing patterns. When it reaches the end, that person comes to the front of the line. The first team to get its original person to the front is the winner.

Mattress Toss – Decorate a box to look like an apartment building. Place it upside down on a table. Glue two or three rectangular pieces of fun foam together to form a mattress. Stand or kneel in front of the “apartment” and toss the “mattresses” so they stay on the roof. Play as teams or individuals.

Just for fun – If your budget allows, purchase a Make Your Own Snowman World kit available from Dune Craft for \$10 or a jar of Insta-Snow, available for purchase on-line at beamazing.com or at some teacher’s supplies stores, including CM School Supply.

Music - Play the music of a “hot” artist (kids’ choice)

Snacks – Popsicles, watermelon



Willis Carrier, inventor of the world’s first modern air conditioning system on July 17, 1902

For more information on these festive days or for tips on a/c maintenance, write Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute, 4100 N Fairfax Dr. Suite 200, Arlington VA 22203. Website: ari.org.

Pam Carlson, pam.carlson@lbpl.org, Long Beach Public Library

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