

# Summer Fun At Home

Ages 2-7

At Home With SICM is now celebrating our summer camps! This week we were inspired by our Summer Fun camp. We hope your family enjoys doing these outdoor activities together!

## Do

### Experiment with a Sundial

What is a Sundial? A sundial is a device used to tell the time of day by using the position of the sun in the sky. It is the oldest known instrument to tell time. Each sundial consists of a gnomon, a long thin cylinder shape object used to cast a shadow onto the dial, and a flat surface. Telling time is tracking the rotation of the sun around Earth's axis. It appears that the sun is moving but we are actually moving! You will create your own sundial and track time through the sun's movement.

**Materials:**  
Paper plate  
Pencil  
Sidewalk Chalk (optional)  
Found objects (optional)

#### **Objective:**

This project works best when started early around noon. Start by marking 12 on your plate. Next using your pencil poke a hole in the center of your plate. Put your pencil in the plate and tilt it slightly towards the 12 marked on your plate earlier. Put your plate outside. You can see that the pencil is casting a shadow! Leave your plate outside. Check back in one hour. Did your pencil's shadow change position? You will record every hour your shadow changes position as the sun's position changes.

**Bonus:** Make a life size sundial with your own shadow! With the help of a family member or friend stand on a clear concrete area with no other objects close by. Outline your footprints. Have a partner outline your shadow. Mark the time at the time of your shadow. Record the movement of your shadow for every hour it moves.

## Create

### Create Marbled Shaving Cream Paintings

What is marbling? Marbling is an art form using floating pigment or dye on water to transfer patterns onto paper. It has been around since the Middle Ages and can be seen in many civilizations such as Japan and Turkey.

**Materials:**  
Shaving cream  
Watercolor Paper/Mixed Media paper  
Watercolor/Food Dye  
Disposable aluminum pan/newspaper  
Cardboard/Scraper  
Tooth picks(optional)

#### **Objective:**

Using your disposable aluminum pan or newspaper spray the shaving cream in the center. Drop some color from your watercolor or food dye in random spots of the shaving cream. If you want to control your patterns you will use your toothpicks to swirl the colors mixing in the shaving cream. If you want it more abstract and random you can just add the color on top of the shaving cream. Once satisfied place your paper on top of the shaving cream and colors. Slowly peel it off and place on newspaper. Using your scraper or a piece of cardboard scrape off the excess shaving cream. It will reveal colorful patterns!

## Play

### Backyard Games

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjwF8qwrMQM>

## Explore

### Family Adventure Walk

[https://sichildrensmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/SICM-Family-Adventure-Guide\\_PRINT.pdf](https://sichildrensmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/SICM-Family-Adventure-Guide_PRINT.pdf)



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AT HOME!

For more At Home! activities and information about our exhibits visit us at [sichildrensmuseum.org](http://sichildrensmuseum.org)

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