



### **The Club was Buzzing with Activities during April Vacation!**

An exciting mix of dynamic, engaging activities brought the Club to life both inside and out during school vacation week. Athletics collaborated with “Soccer Without Borders” for the second year in a row, offering both members and community participants three hours of hands-on soccer experience. On any given day 45-60 kids attended and were separated by age

into three groups (9 y.o, 10-12 y.o. and 13-14 y.o) for instruction. The April showers (and cold!) could not keep this crowd down! Each day was a mix of skills and scrimmages out on the Clark University turf. When the weather really interfered, the soccer kids headed into the gym for continued fun. During the week it was amazing to see the kids’ skills progress to serpentine dribbling, powerful kicks and stellar goaltending!

The Club members in the Teen Program put together a busy and engaging vacation week for themselves. The Creative Arts program engaged members in creating clay figurines, hosting a dance club, and performing skits. Teens participated in music trivia, competitive tournaments such as pool, air hockey, and foosball, and enjoyed a movie day complete with a popcorn bar. In the Game Room, members competed in Super Smash Bros. and Mario Kart tournaments, completed puzzle challenges, and watched *Luck of the Irish*.



The Learning Center focused on hands-on STEM activities, including experiments like “rain clouds in a jar” and oil vs. water. They also



participated in a LEGO program involving building and coding and concluded the week by hosting their own mini science fair.

For the School Age Child Care (SACC) program the week's activities took them out of the Club to places near and, what must've felt like, far-flung. Student athletes at Worcester State University treated Club members to a "Spree Day" with the students. About 43 kids, spanning ages from 5-12, got to enjoy a full morning

on John Coughlin Memorial Field engaging in all sorts of athletic activities such as relays, soccer drills, yard games (like Cornhole) and that all time elementary school favorite, Four Square.

Ten youth from our Great Brook Valley site enjoyed a special trip to Old Sturbridge Village, generously sponsored by Consigli Construction. They explored the expansive, interactive 19th-century village and took part in engaging, old-fashioned games and activities. The kids noted that the best part of their time at OSV was interacting with the educators "to get the real experience of what it was like back then." The day concluded with a traditional turkey dinner in the delightful Pumpkin Room at the Publick House Historic Inn, compliments of the Inn's management. When they weren't on field trips the SACC kids were enjoying "Spirit Week." Each day had a focus and a creative activity. The Club started the week with "Make Your Own Jersey" and ended with "Crazy Hair Day." April vacation at the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester was action packed. Our kids kicked, toured, sprinted, cheered and sampled their way through a week of fun. Seeing the kids smiling reminds us that the Club provides a safe, welcoming space where kids can learn, grow, and have fun, all guided by caring mentors who turn everyday moments into meaningful experiences.



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